MINUTES

Agenda for Magnet School Council
Mount Vernon Exploratory School
Thursday, October 10, 2024
12:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order - Roll Call @ 12:40

Courtney Allgood
Colette Hollifield
Dr. Kelly Lathem
Kaitlin Smith
Mollie Stowe
Jennifer Westbrook

II. Approval of April Minutes (attached) @ 12:40

III. New Business

A. Principal's Report

B. New Council Members - Election of New Officers for the 2024-25 School Year
   a. Chairperson (must be a parent)-Collete Hollifield
   b. Vice-Chairperson-Courtney Allgood
   c. Secretary-Kaitlin Smith

Article XI: Officers of the School Council

The officers of the school council shall be a chairperson, vice chairperson, and secretary. Officers of the school council shall be elected at the first meeting of the school council following the election of school council members. The term of the officers of the school council shall be one year.

The chairperson, which shall be a parent, shall develop the agenda for all meetings, preside at all meetings of the school council, and perform such duties as may be required by the school council.

The vice chairperson shall, in the absence of the chairperson, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the chairperson and shall perform such other duties as may be required by the school council.

The secretary shall act as the clerk of the school council, record all votes and minutes of all proceedings, give or cause to be given notice of all meetings of the school council, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the council.

C. Service Years –
   Courtney Allgood – June 2026
   Colette Hollifield – June 2025
   Dr. Kelly Lathem – June 2026
   Crystal Schlieman – June 2025
   Kaitlin Smith – June 2026
   Mollie Stowe – June 2025

D. Next Meeting –

Thur., Dec. 5 at 12:30 pm

Thur., Feb. 20 at 12:30 pm

Thur., April 24 at 12:30 pm

IV. Adjournment @1:33

Magnet School Council Meeting Minutes

Mount Vernon Exploratory School

Thursday, April 25, 2024
12:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order - Roll Call Meeting Called to Order @12:44

Courtney Allgood (Vice-Chairperson)
Colette Hollifield (Chairperson)
Dr. Kelly Lathem
Crystal Schlieman
Kaitlin Smith (Secretary)
Mollie Stowe
Jennifer Westbrook

II. Approval of February Minutes (attached) Approved @ 12:45

III. New Business

E. Principal's Report
- See Principal Report notes below.

F. Service Years and New Members for 2024-25
Courtney Allgood – June 2024 (June 2026 agreed to serve another term)
Colette Hollifield – June 2025
Dr. Kelly Lathem – June 2024 (June 2026 agreed to serve another term)
Crystal Schlieman – June 2025
Kaitlin Smith – June 2024 (June 2026 agreed to serve another term)
Mollie Stowe June 2025

G. Next Meeting –

TBD 1st Quarter 2024-25 School Year

IV. Adjournment @ 1:36

Magnet School Council Principal's Report
April 25, 2024

- April enrollment update – 633 students enrolled
  - K-3rd – average class size 21
  - 4th-5th – average class size 25 (24 in 4th grade; 26 in 5th grade)

- 4th Quarter Update:
  - Teacher teams are planning for strong finish to 2023-24 and beginning to plan for 2024-25 school year
  - Allotments for next year: K-5; 1st-5; 2nd-4; 3rd-5; 4th-4; 5th-4
  - New 2024-25 team members participating in Spring and Summer planning as much as possible:
    - Chase Armour, Assistant Principal
    - Rebecca Ann Goebel (moving to Kindergarten)
    - Rebecca Bowman (moving to 2nd Grade)
    - Mandy Moyers (moving to 2nd Grade)
    - Anna Edwards (moving to 4th Grade)
    - Tina Burrell (moving to 5th Grade)
    - Teresa Barnett (moving to Connections)
    - Helen Scovill (moving to ESOL)
    - Kaitlin Smith (EIP)
    - Morgan Gunter, Special Education
    - Stephanie Gibson, Media Clerk (part-time)
    - Christin Simmons, Kindergarten Paraprofessional
    - Jennifer Vandiver, Special Education Paraprofessional
    - Opening, Special Education Paraprofessional

- Spring assessments – April and May – focusing on growth and information for differentiation and next year's planning
  - GKIDS K
  - MAP K-5th
  - MAP Reading Fluency K-3rd
  - EOG Milestones 3rd-5th
  - Hall County Math Fluency 1st-5th

- 2024-25 CNA/SIP (Consolidated Needs Assessment/School Improvement Plan)
  - Stakeholder survey shared through newsletter and website
  - Input from Magnet Council – What are some areas of strength? Growth areas?
    - Strengths
      - Security of the School

        - Growth
            - Parental concern about students not changing classes in 5th grade.
            - Mental Health Awareness
            - Social Media Instruction
            - Books on approved book list-"Wait 'Til Helen Comes"
    - Sign-in sheet

- Welcome to Kindergarten Program (thanks to PTO for sponsoring!)
    - July 22-23
    - Families can register for the one-day morning session following their K registration confirmation.
    - Nonresident K applicants will be included following acceptance for the 2024-25 school year.

Motivating, Valuing and Empowering Students for Success

Magnet School Council

Principal's Report

October 10, 2024

- October enrollment update – 645 students enrolled (5 more than last year)
    - K-3rd – average class size 22 (19-24)
    - 4th-5th – average class size 26 (24-29)

- New Staff:
    - Administration: Chase Armour
    - Special Programs: Morgan Gunter, Sophie Bethke, Raeha Berbert
    - Paraprofessionals: Kathryn Fitzgerald, Tammy Gaddy, Kendall Martin, Jessica Morales, Christin Simmons, Jennifer Vandiver
    - Learning Commons: Stephanie Gibson

- Communication – similar format as last year –
    - Tuesday classroom folders/newsletters (some grade levels are doing a monthly newsletter)
    - Thursday principal newsletter
    - School website, Twitter, Remind

- Families – 3rd meeting on Nov. 1st

- Benchmark Workshop – K-5th grade core literacy curriculum (1st year full implementation)
    - County wide implementation
    - Council Member Concerns:
        - How long will it last? Multi-year contract
        - Science and SS not having their own designated time and the topics Benchmark does cover does not match GA standards.

- Teachers are integrating and being creative; Connections teachers are pulling a lot of the weight of science and social studies standards.

- Eureka Math^2 – K-5th grade math curriculum (2nd year full implementation)

- 1st Quarter assessments
  - GKIDS (kindergarten)
  - MAP Growth K-5th
  - MAP Reading Fluency K-3rd

- Literacy professional learning continues
  - Benchmark Coach classroom sessions K/1, 2/3, 4/5
  - Grade level sessions on PL/teacher workday
  - GA Literacy Modules – all certified teachers completing 25+ hours training by May 2025
  - Peer observations

- Math Fluency Masters – will recognize 1st and 2nd semester.
  - Decision to do this was based on math fluency data from last year.

- NHCEF Proposal shared last week (see copies)

- Council Member Questions/Concerns:
  - Have students talked about school shooting?-some students have expressed sad feelings

Upcoming Dates

- October 7-18 - Food Drive Challenge
- October 11 -
    - NHHS Homecoming Parade
    - $1 Hat Day for PBIS
    - 1st Quarter Report Cards
- October 14-15 - Holiday for Students/Staff
- October 16 - Teacher Workday (no school for students)
- October 17 - 6:00 Watch DOGS Pizza Night
- October 21-25 - Bus Driver Appreciation Week
- October 28 – November 1 – Sources of Strength Week
- November 5 - Teacher Workday (no school for students)

Mt. Vernon exploratory School

School Improvement Plan

Competency & Rigor

50% of K-5th grade students will meet the ELA MAP expected growth goal by Spring 2025.

Competency & Rigor

50% of K-5th grade students will meet the Math MAP expected growth goal by Spring 2025.

Character, Competency, and Rigor

During the 2024-25 school year, 100% of students will develop their character, collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking skills through project-based learning and other school-wide programs.



Positive Relationships

Teach, Assess, Respond