MINUTES

Agenda for Magnet School Council
Mount Vernon Exploratory School
Thursday, April 2, 2026
9:30 a.m.

I. Call to Order - Roll Call @9:39

Courtney Allgood
Dr. Chase Armour (attending)
Jennifer Carney
Dr. Kelly Lathem – Chairperson (attending)
Crystal Schlieman
Kaitlin Smith – Secretary (attending)
Michael Weaver – Vice-Chairperson (attending)
Jennifer Westbrook (attending)

II. Approval of February Minutes (attached) @9:41

III. New Business

A. Principal's Report

B. Service Years –
Courtney Allgood – *June 2028*
Jennifer Carney – June 2027
Dr. Kelly Lathem – *June 2028*
Crystal Schlieman – June 2027
Kaitlin Smith – June 2026 *(Ronnice Stephens June 2028)*
Michael Weaver – June 2027

C. Next Meeting –

TBD 1st Quarter 2026-27 School Year

IV. Adjournment @10:20

MINUTES

Agenda for Magnet School Council
Mount Vernon Exploratory School
Thursday, February 19, 2026
9:30 a.m.

I. Call to Order - Roll Call @9:35

Courtney Allgood
Jennifer Carney
Dr. Kelly Lathem – Chairperson
Crystal Schlieman
Kaitlin Smith – Secretary
Michael Weaver – Vice-Chairperson
Jennifer Westbrook

II. Approval of November Minutes (attached) @9:37

III. New Business

A. Principal's Report

B. Next Meeting –

Thur., March 26 at 9:30 am

IV. Adjournment @10:06

Motivating, Valuing and Empowering Students for Success

Magnet School Council
Principal's Report
February 19, 2026

- February enrollment update – 644 students enrolled
  - K-3rd – average class size 21 (19-25)
  - 4th-5th – average class size 24 (23-26)

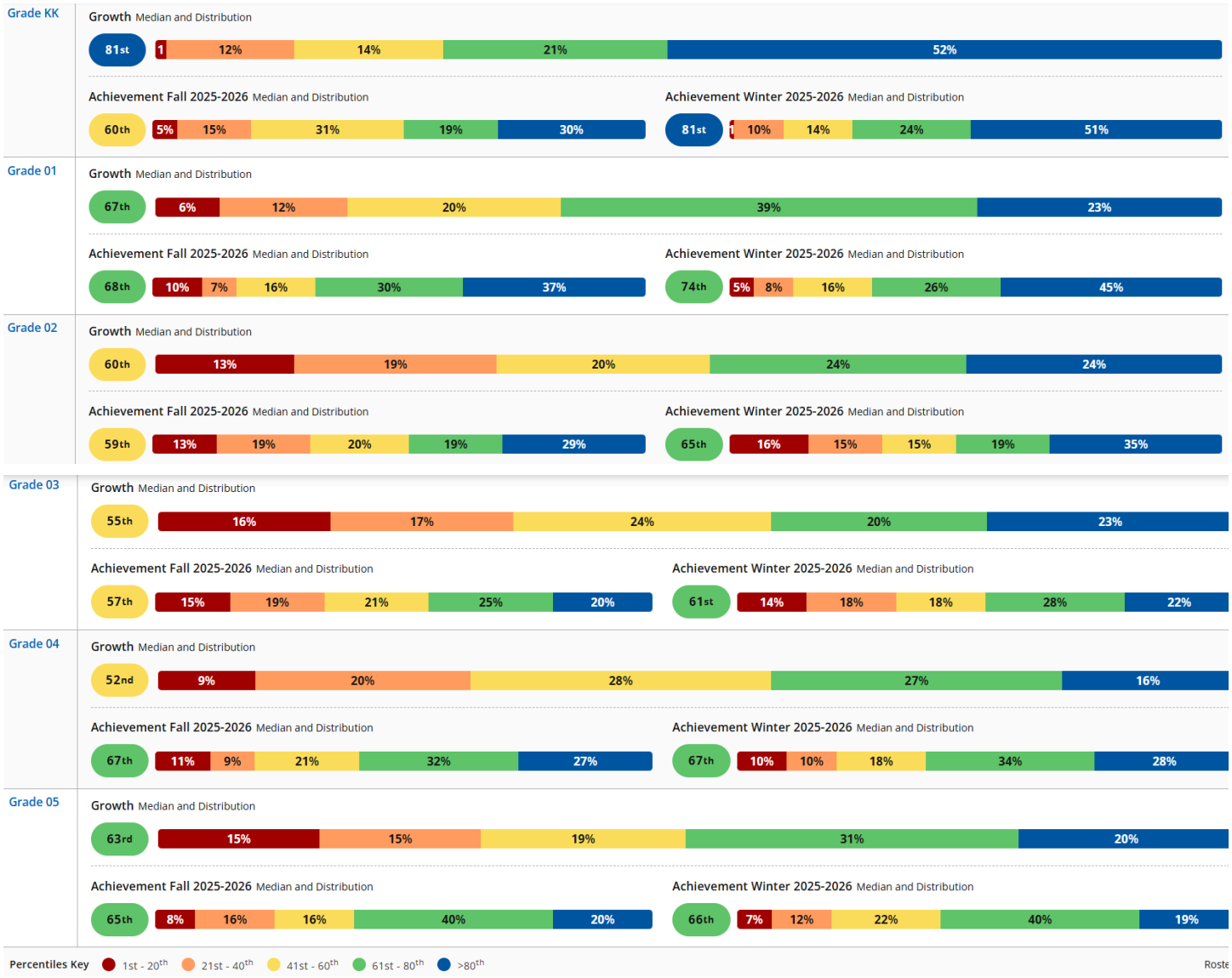
- One School One Book – success!
  - Feedback: It was a great thing to see older and younger siblings reading together. The real world connection with the Humane Society and Author Zoom.
  - Idea: Make a book suggestion list of other books that would be good for families to read together.

- Congrats MVES Technology Competition participants and winners! (see 1/29 newsletter)

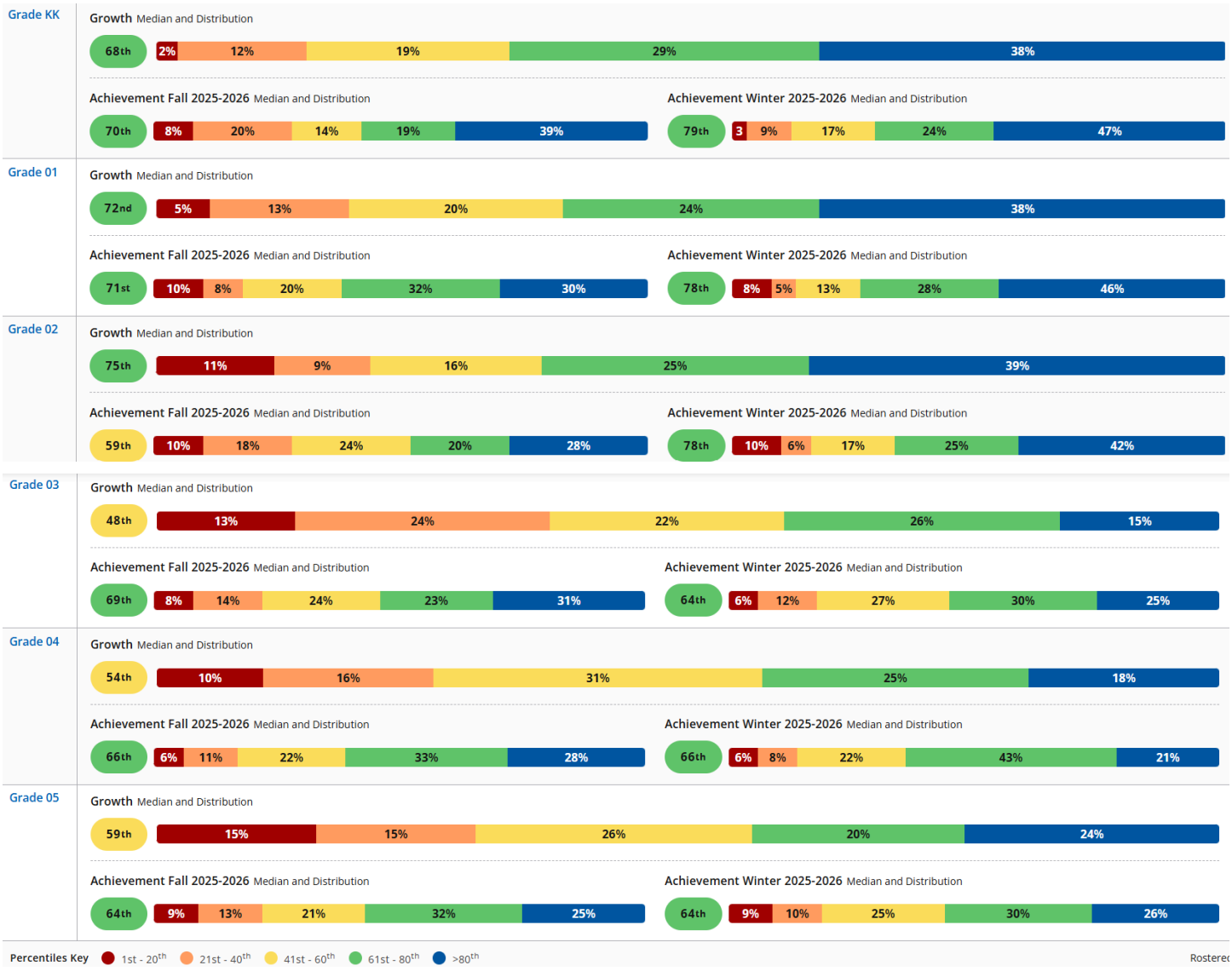
- February Professional Learning
  - ELA:
    - Benchmark Coach classroom sessions K/1, 2/3, 4/5
    - Benchmark and Milestones sessions on PL/workday 3rd-5th grade
    - Foundational reading and sound wall K-2nd grade
  - Math - Eureka and Milestones sessions on PL/workday K-5th grade
  - Peer observations
  - Grade level professional learning community (PLC) teams

- **MAP Midyear Achievement and Growth**
  - Feedback: Students are aware of their goals, but in a healthy and not stressful way.

READING



MATH



- **CCRPI (ccrpi.gadoe.org)**

  CONTENT MASTERY **74.1** (*achievement* - down 2.2 from 2024)

  PROGRESS **84.1** (*growth bubbles of like peers* - down 13.7 from 2024)

  CLOSING GAPS **14.3** (*subgroup growth* - down from 93.8 in 2024)

  READINESS **87.0** (*lexiles, attendance, fine arts* - down .5 from 2024)

  Overall **71** (down from 88.7 in 2024)

  Avg of 2024-2025: **80** *(average below 67.5 for MVES, NHMS or NHHS would qualify as Promise School)*

  - MVES performed above all 2025 district scores except Closing Gaps
  - Subgroup improvement targets set based on prior year
  - Working towards more students with IEPs making progress and meeting improvement target

- Math Fact Fluency Masters – will recognize again first week in March
- Museum Nights continue next week!
- Spring dates will be shared before Spring Break

Upcoming Dates

- February 20
  - 3rd-5th grade Progress Reports
  - HCSD Elementary Girls Sports Day
- February 26
  - Spring Pictures
  - Kindergarten and 3rd Grade Museum Night
- February 27 - Last day to order a yearbook
- Week of March 2 – Read Across America
- March 12 – 1st and 2nd Grade Museum Night
- March 16 – Harlem Wizards at NHHS
- March 16 – Kindergarten Registration begins
- March 19 – Report Cards
- March 20 – Student holiday
- March 23-25 – Math Mania
- March 27-28 – Musical at NHHS
- March 30 – Future Explorers at 1:15 (connection class)
- March 31-April 2 – Spring MAP Growth testing
- April 6-10 – Spring Break
- April 21 – Future Explorers at 1:15 (connection class)
- May 1 – Future Explorers at 9:45 (lunch and visit kinder class)

Motivating, Valuing and Empowering Students for Success

Magnet School Council

Principal's Report

April 2, 2026

- April enrollment update – 640 students enrolled
  - K-3rd – average class size 22 (19-25)
  - 4th-5th – average class size 24 (21-27)
- Enrollment for next year is expected to remain around the same.
- The county has closed transfers for grades 1st-5th due to current enrollment size.

- 4th Quarter Update:
  - Teacher teams are planning for a strong finish to 2025-26 and beginning to plan for 2026-27 school year.
  - New 2026-27 team members participating in Spring and Summer planning as much as possible.

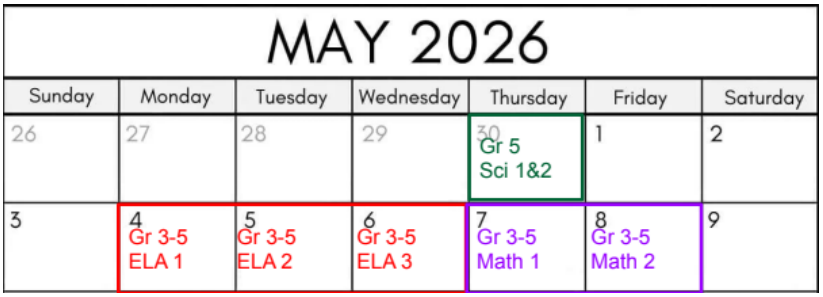
- Spring assessments – April and May – focusing on growth and information for differentiation and planning
  - GKIDS K
  - MAP K-5th (Parent Report will come home 4/24)
  - Amira Reading K-3rd (will be taken after Spring Break)
  - EOG Milestones 3rd-5th
  - Hall County Math Fluency 1st-5th

- Future Explorers – last visit May 1st for registered families (see upcoming dates below)
  - Let families know that they must be registered for kindergarten to attend Future Explorers.

- 2026-27 CNA/SIP (Consolidated Needs Assessment/School Improvement Plan)
  - Stakeholder survey shared through newsletter and website
  - Input from Magnet Council & PTO – What are some areas of strength? Growth areas?
    - Strengths:
      - Students love coming to school each day at MVES.
      - The School Musical was very successful.
      - One School, One Book was a success. The school/home/community connection was strong.
      - Watch Dogs
      - Good amount of communication
        - Thursday Parent Newsletter works well
      - Friday Folders have been a positive change
      - 7:00 am drop off is successful
  - Sign-in sheet
- Parent Square will begin at MVES after Spring Break (this will replace Remind as parent communication)

Upcoming Dates

- April 6-10 – Spring Break
- April 14-Career on Wheels Day
- April 24 – 3rd-5th Grade Progress Reports & K-5th Grade MAP Reports
- May 4-8 – Staff Appreciation Week
- April 21 – Future Explorers at 1:15
- May 1 – Future Explorers at 9:45
- EOG Testing for 3rd-5th Grade:



MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30 Gr 5 Sci 1&2	1	2
3	4 Gr 3-5 ELA 1	5 Gr 3-5 ELA 2	6 Gr 3-5 ELA 3	7 Gr 3-5 Math 1	8 Gr 3-5 Math 2	9

2026 MVES Spring Events

* **April 23** : K-2nd Grade Field Day
* **April 24** : 3rd-5th Grade Field Day
April 30 - May 13 : EOG Testing (3rd-5th Grade)
May 1 : Families
May 11 : 5th Grade Trojan Olympics @ NHMS
* **May 14** : 5th Grade Frances Meadows Trip
* **May 14-15** : Class Parties
Thursday, May 14 : K, 1st, & 2nd Grade
Friday, May 15 : 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade
* **May 18** : 5th Grade Walk & Awards

*** RSVP Events ***

Due to staff scheduling, safety and supervision concerns, student checkouts following special event days will not be available unless prior approved by administration. We want all of our students to enjoy these special days at school!

Mount Vernon Alumni Senior Walk and Reception

Seniors who attended Mount Vernon are invited to wear their cap and gown on **Wednesday, May 13 at MVES** for the annual Senior Walk!

STUDENTS:

1:30 - Park in the lower lot and check in at the front office
1:45 - Senior Walk
2:30 - Reception with MVES teachers

PARENTS:

2:30 - Park in the lower lot and check in with ID at the front office
Parents will not be permitted in the building until 2:30.
This will allow bus dismissal to continue as normal for our students.

Congratulations Class of 2026!

MVES End Of Year Class Parties

Thursday, May 14 – K, 1st & 2nd Grade

8:10-8:40 Kindergarten
8:55-9:25 1st Grade
9:40-10:10 2nd Grade

Friday, May 15 – 3rd, 4th & 5th Grade

8:10-8:40 3rd Grade
8:55-9:25 4th Grade
9:40-10:10 5th Grade

Due to staff scheduling, safety and supervision concerns, student checkouts following special event days will not be available unless prior approved by administration. We want all of our students to enjoy these special days at school!

Mt. Vernon Exploratory School

PRESENTS

CAREERS ON WHEELS

TUESDAY APRIL 14TH
8:45am-11:00am

Mt. Vernon Exploratory School

Join us for Mt. Vernon Exploratory's Careers on Wheels! You will get the chance to share your vehicle and career with Jr. Trojans grades K-5th. Any career is welcome! Please contact bethany.nix@hallco.org with any questions.

SIGN UP HERE!

SIGN UP HERE!



5th grade families can purchase a yard sign that will be available in May. Please send $20 cash by April 15 to order.

CONGRATS

WE ♥ OUR 5TH GRADE MVES JR. TROJANS!