Agenda for Magnet School Council
Mount Vernon Exploratory School
Thursday, September 24, 2026
9:30 a.m.

I. Call to Order - Roll Call – all members introduced themselves

Courtney Allgood
Jennifer Carney
Dr. Kelly Lathem
Crystal Schlieman
Ronnice Stephens
Michael Weaver
Jennifer Westbrook

II. Approval of April Minutes (attached) - @ 9:39

III. New Business

A. Principal's Report

B. New Council Members - Election of New Officers for the 2026-27 School Year - @ 9:44
   a. Chairperson (must be a parent) – Michael Weaver
   b. Vice-Chairperson – Courtney Allgood
   c. Secretary – Ronnice Stephens

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 2028
   Jennifer Carney – June 2027
   Dr. Kelly Lathem – June 2028
   Crystal Schlieman – June 2027
   Ronnice Stephens – June 2028
   Michael Weaver – June 2027

D. Next Meeting –

Thur., Nov. 5 at 9:30 am

Thur., Feb. 4 at 9:30 am

Thur., March 25 at 9:30 am

IV. Adjournment

Magnet School Council Meeting 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

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.

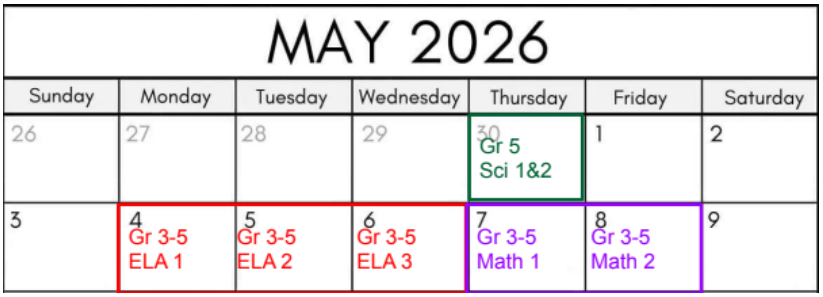
- Spring assessments – April and May – focusing on growth and information for differentiation and planning
  - GKIDS K
  - MAP K-5th (Parent Report will come home 4/24)
  - Amira Reading K-3rd (will be taken after Spring Break)
  - EOG Milestones 3rd-5th
  - Hall County Math Fluency 1st-5th

- 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!

Motivating, Valuing and Empowering Students for Success

Magnet School Council

Principal's Report

September 24, 2026

- September enrollment update – 639 students enrolled (14 less than last year) – attendance has held steady for this school year; lower numbers in elementary schools across the county
  - K-2nd – average class size 21 (18-23)
  - 3rd-5th – average class size 24 (23-26)

- New Staff:
  - Kindergarten: Melissa Hester
  - 1st Grade: Aubrie Pilcher (Ocasio substitute); Jessica Ramirez
  - 5th Grade: Faith Turner
  - Special Programs: Marleigh Galt, Catie Lucas, Cheryl Seymour
  - Literacy Coach: Holly Dorough

- Communication – similar format as last year –
  - Friday classroom folders/newsletters
  - Thursday principal newsletter – Since newsletter is shared through ParentSquare, parents can share newsletter link with grandparents. Many of our grandparents like to know what is happening at school.
  - School website, Twitter, ParentSquare (replaced Messenger and Remind in May) – concerns were shared about receiving many messages through ParentSquare (not from MVES), but from our cluster schools; messages marked Urgent should only be about safety concerns

- Families – next meeting next Friday morning

- Benchmark Workshop – K-5th grade core literacy curriculum (3rd year implementation)

- Eureka Math^2 – K-5th grade math curriculum (4th year implementation)

- UFLI Phonics – K-2nd grade (HCSD pilot – 6 schools) – Teachers are excited about piloting this new curriculum. Going well; engaging; hands-on

- Completing beginning of the year assessments and 1st quarter instructional planning with new literacy coach
  - GKIDS
  - Amira K-3rd Reading Fluency Screener – will go home on Friday
  - MAP K-5th

- Literacy and Math professional learning continues
  - Benchmark Coach sessions
  - Literacy Coach sessions

    - Peer observations and district walkthroughs – focus on student discourse (student-student academic talk)

- Math Fluency Masters – will recognize 1st and 2nd semester

- Students are excited about their new playground equipment! PTO has done a great job with this project!

Upcoming Dates

- September 25 – NHHS Homecoming
- September 28-October 2 – Unicorns vs Dragons (Childhood Cancer Awareness)
- October 1 - 6:00 Watch DOGS Pizza Night - Encourage dads to attend
- October 2 –
    - Families
- Go Gold for Childhood Cancer Awareness – The NH Community Foundation will make a contribution.

- October 12-13 – Fall Break (no school)
- October 14 - Teacher Workday (no school for students)
- October 16 –
    - 1st Quarter Report Cards
    - 5:30-7:30 Pumpkin Picnic
- October 19-23 - Bus Driver Appreciation Week

Interest was expressed about the title for this year's One School, One Book.

Mt. Vernon

exploratory School

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

GOAL 1

COMPETENCY AND RIGOR

By the end of FY27, the overall CCRPI score for MVES will **increase by 2 points**, demonstrating measurable improvement in school performance across content mastery, progress, closing gaps, and readiness.

ELA

50% of K–5th grade students will meet the ELA MAP expected growth goal by Spring 2027.

MATH

50% of K–5th grade students will meet the Math MAP expected growth goal by Spring 2027.

GOAL 2

CHARACTER, COMPETENCY, AND RIGOR

During the 2026–27 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

TIER 1 INSTRUCTION
STUDENT DISCOURSE

Motivating, Valuing, and Empowering Students for Success.