MINUTES

Agenda for Magnet School Council
Mount Vernon Exploratory School
Thursday, September 25, 2025
9:30 a.m.

I. Call to Order - Roll Call @9:37

Courtney Allgood (not in attendance)
Jennifer Carney
Dr. Kelly Lathem (zoom)
Crystal Schlieman (not in attendance)
Kaitlin Smith
Michael Weaver
Jennifer Westbrook

II. Approval of April Minutes (attached) @9:38

III. New Business

A. Principal's Report (see attached)

B. New Council Members - Election of New Officers for the 2025-26 School Year
Approved @10:03
   a. Chairperson (must be a parent)-Kelly Lathem
   b. Vice-Chairperson-Michael Weaver
   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
   Jennifer Carney – June 2027
   Dr. Kelly Lathem – June 2026
   Crystal Schlieman – June 2027
   Kaitlin Smith – June 2026
   Michael Weaver – June 2027

D. Next Meeting –

Thur., Nov. 6 at 9:30 am

Thur., Feb. 19 at 9:30 am

Thur., March 26 at 9:30 am

IV. Adjournment

Magnet School Council Meeting Minutes

Agenda for Magnet School Council
Mount Vernon Exploratory School
Thursday, April 24, 2025
12:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order - Roll Call @12:38

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

II. Approval of February Minutes (attached) @12:39

III. New Business

E. Principal's Report

F. Service Years and New Members for 2025-26
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

G. Next Meeting –

TBD 1st Quarter 2025-26 School Year

IV. Adjournment @1:08

Motivating, Valuing and Empowering Students for Success

Magnet School Council
Principal's Report
April 24, 2025

- April enrollment update – 646 students enrolled
  - K-3rd – average class size 22 (18-25)
  - 4th-5th – average class size 26 (25-28)

- 4th Quarter Update:
  - Teacher teams are planning for a strong finish to 2024-25 and beginning to plan for 2025-26 school year
  - New 2025-26 team members participating in Spring and Summer planning as much as possible:
    - Amanda Nichols, Kindergarten
    - Faith Bixler and April Crocker, 1st Grade
    - Julie Anne Smith and Linzie Thompson, 2nd Grade
    - Jennifer Carney and Christa Livingston, 4th Grade
    - Jessyca Nash, Special Education

- Spring assessments – April and May – focusing on growth and information for differentiation and planning
  - GKIDS K
  - (completed) MAP K-5th
  - MAP Reading Fluency K-3rd-reports coming home in Tuesday Folder 4/29/25
  - EOG Milestones 3rd-5th
  - Hall County Math Fluency 1st-5th

- Future Explorers – last visit May 1st for registered families
  - 10:00-11:30-upcoming kindergartens will eat lunch in lunchroom

- 2025-26 CNA/SIP (Consolidated Needs Assessment/School Improvement Plan)
  - Stakeholder survey shared through newsletter and website
  - Input from Magnet – What are some areas of strength? Growth areas?
    - Strengths
      - Good/smooth year
    - Growth
      - Car Rider Clings-could they correlate with the middle/high school
      - More field trips (making sure to have two)
      - Question: Will 5th grade remain self-contained? How do the middle schoolers do with the change to changing classes?

        - Have teachers complete a “My Favorite Things” sheet for parents (possibly keep in the front office)
    - Sign-in sheet

- Jennifer Carney and Michael Weaver will be joining Magnet Council. Mollie Stowe and Collete Hollifield will be rolling off.

Upcoming Dates

- April 22-May 2 – Online Art Show
- April 24 – Talent Show
- April 29 – 3rd-5th Grade Progress Reports & K-5th Grade MAP Reports
- May 5-9 – Staff Appreciation Week



Motivating, Valuing and Empowering Students for Success

Magnet School Council

Principal's Report

September 25, 2025

- September enrollment update – 653 students enrolled (8 more than last year)
    - K-3rd – average class size 22 (19-25)

- 4th-5th – average class size 25 (23-26)

- New Staff:
  - Kindergarten: Amanda Nichols
  - 1st Grade: Faith Bixler, April Crocker, Rebecca Fisher
  - 2nd Grade: Linzie Thompson
  - 4th Grade: Christa Livingston
  - Special Programs: Jessyca Nash and Amy Pardue
  - SRO: Bob Watterson (we share Officer Bob with Wauka Mountain)

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

- Families – next meeting next Friday morning

- Benchmark Workshop – K-5th grade core literacy curriculum (2nd year full implementation)

- Eureka Math^2 – K-5th grade math curriculum (3rd year full implementation)

- Completing beginning of the year assessments and 1st quarter instructional planning
  - GKIDS
  - Amira K-3rd Reading Fluency Screener (Family report came home 9/25/25)
  - MAP K-5th (Family report came home 9/12/25)

- Literacy and Math professional learning continues
  - Benchmark Coach sessions (Kayla Holmes)
  - RESA Coach sessions (Barbara Coleman from RESA)
  - Eureka walkthroughs
    - Eureka specialist has been very impressed with the critical thinking that the students are participating in.
  - Peer observations

- Math Fluency Masters – will recognize 1st and 2nd semester
  - Great success last year and the math fact mastery increased with this incentive.
  - New t-shirt design this year.
  - This is helping students work towards academic goals.
  - All students have a celebration folder where they monitor goals (for several areas).

- 1S1B
  - Mrs. Schlieman gives a good recommendation for a book.
    - One concern-how they talk about when the dog uses the restroom (says something similar to “he pees on thing.”)

Upcoming Dates

- October 2 - 6:00 Watch DOGS Pizza Night

  School Custodian Day
- October 3 -
  - Families
  - Pumpkin Picnic
- October 10 - 1st Quarter Report Cards
- October 13-14 - Holiday for Students/Staff
- October 15 - Teacher Workday (no school for students)
- October 20-24 - Bus Driver Appreciation Week
- October 27 – 31 – “Be Kind, Be Strong, Be Well” theme/dress-up week
- October 27 – November 7 - Food Drive Challenge

