

McDougle Middle School Improvement Team 2015-2016  
2nd Monday of each month @ 5:30pm  
Agendas and Minutes

September 21, 2015

**In attendance:**

Robert Bales, Principal, [rbales@chccs.k12.nc.us](mailto:rbales@chccs.k12.nc.us)  
Melda Dunn, Assistant Principal, [melda.dunn@chccs.k12.nc.us](mailto:melda.dunn@chccs.k12.nc.us)  
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Joann Case, Parent Representative/Co-Chair for 2014-2016  
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Nicole Walker, Teacher Representative 2015-2017 [nswalker@chccs.k12.nc.us](mailto:nswalker@chccs.k12.nc.us)  
Joanna Lauen, parent  
Lisa Decesaris, MMS Social Worker

•**Approval of minutes** from last meeting

•**Public Comments** - Mom of 6th grade girl, Joanna Lauen has a concern with the dress code. In particular the impact that it has on girls. Wording in the framing are shaming and send wrong message to boys and girls. Message is problematic. Are issues disproportionate amongst girls? Appreciate offer to work on wording at Safe Schools meeting on 9/30. Can send suggestions for Safe Schools committee.

No one has ever been written up for dress code infractions.

Ms. York: When asked what is the biggest discipline issue that comes up, she mentioned dress code, with the intent that things don't seem quite so bad, if that is the biggest problem. Often dress code is addressed as a passing comment to students in hallway. Comment was meant to let parents know that kids are in a safe place. Look at re-wording "distracting" (?) More dress for success was intended.

Ms. Decesaris: She dealt with violation with student in violation-1" in seam distracting boys wasn't the issue, issue was appropriateness. Must have standards, a policy that "fits"

Safe schools would love to have help with wording

Ms. Gray: Lots of schools dealing with the issue of dress code

Policy comes through Safe Schools and then goes through administration

•**Student Announcements** - none

•**PTA Announcements** - none, meeting in the morning

•**Chair Announcements** - Goal to start at 5:30, end 6:30

•**Principal's Announcements** -

Ms. Decesaris - Safe Schools- Had annual staff crisis training last week. Watched crisis video and had 2 police officers train staff about things in the video. Asked staff to post and include crisis procedures in sub plans. Today students saw a video on lock down procedures. What do you do if..

in classroom

in cafeteria

Teachers talked about it afterwards.

There will be a lock down drill. Mr. Bales will send out email informing parents.

Video was made by Mr. Wharton and kids, so kids paid more attention

[School](#) Performance Ratings-Only school in CHCCS that exceeded growth. MMS is fully teacher staffed! Now looking for a math coach to fill Ms. Dunn's spot. Also looking for ELA coach. Recommended Math candidate to Lincoln Center.

Great start to the year. Starting WIN classes. 31 clusters and every student got one of their 5 choices. Another chance next semester. 30 min 2x per week. R-word campaign- students go into the EC classes and interact with EC students.

[Principal Search Survey Results](#)-see what community thinks our strengths and weaknesses are. Valuable to SIT. For SIT information that we may be able to use later on.

**MMS Areas of Strength**

Strong staff-no new core teachers this year

TSA program

**MMS Areas of Weakness**

none mentioned

•**School Board Member Sharing** - none

•**Items from May 2015 agenda:**

Follow-up on curriculum issues related to race -

Related to ECHHS issues. Staff has been re-trained on how to lead discussions

Every teacher has "starter questions" on their ID card. Get students to think through their decisions and how it reflects upon others. Starting in grade 6 on Mondays and Fridays, plan to roll out a grade level at a time. Give teachers a bank of things to talk about. Time to express feelings. If issues come out, counselors could be alerted.

When students have "issues," have them email Ms. York or their counselor to remain anonymous

Empower students to speak up, Ms. York has no tolerance for bullying

Possible Google form to report bullying to counselor, issues with time being wasted by counselors on non-true issues. MMS used to have forms, but it went away because of previously mentioned issue.

**•Items for next month's agenda:**

Review the new School Improvement Plan

Present to staff then to SIT and any changes taken back to staff

Vote on new SIP