

# Mooreville Graded School District

# MIWAYE Program

Dr. Jason Gardner - Superintendent

Dr. Michael Royal - Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Instruction

Ms. Melanie Allen - Principal, MIWAYE Program

Mr. Tim Anselmo- Teacher, MIWAYE Program

Jakariah Miller- Former Student, MIWAYE Program





# ABOUT OUR DISTRICT

- Located approximately 30 minutes north of Charlotte, NC.
- One of 15 city districts in North Carolina.
- One of the first districts nationally to roll out a 1:1 initiative (2008).
- One comprehensive high school in the district.
- Student achievement data and graduation rate data consistently in the top 10 for NC districts.



# ABOUT OUR DISTRICT

MGSD has 5,905 students in grades pre-K through 12.

- Economically Disadvantaged - 37%
- White - 58%
- Black - 19%
- Hispanic - 13%
- Multi-racial - 8%
- EC - 13%
- ML - 6%

# An Overview of the MIWAYE Program

- The program began in 1996 with 6 students and has grown to an enrollment of over 100 students each year.
- The vision of the program is to provide a safe, caring, individualized approach to education that addresses the needs of the whole child, breaks all barriers to graduation, and sets the foundation for postsecondary success.
- The program is staffed with a principal, counselor, teachers in each core area, teacher assistants, an academic and behavioral support teacher, an exceptional children's case manager and an in-school suspension assistant.



# An Overview of the MIWAYE Program

- The process for placement is referral based and not mandated.
- Student make-up consists of a hybrid of primary and secondary referral reasons.
- District Social Services Counselor housed at MIWAYE.
- School based mental health therapy on site twice a week.



# MIWAYE - An Individualized Approach

## ***WHAT DOES THIS REALLY MEAN?***

- Every student has a personalized plan that outlines the entire day. Least restrictive is considered for each student.
- Contact is consistent and parents are part of the team and are often called to be problem solvers.
- Staff spends time with each student and family before placement not only outlining expectations but discussing the needs and strengths of each student.
- Small staff to student ratio.



# MIWAYE - An Individualized Approach

## ***WHAT DOES THIS REALLY MEAN?***

- Staff are accessible and involved beyond the classroom.
- The MIWAYE Professional Learning Community is student centered where each student is discussed in detail and no need is insignificant.
- Service learning opportunities and activities are a continual focus.
- Summer Program runs for six weeks - credit recovery/acceleration.



# Real-Life Experiences/Success Stories

**Mr. Tim Anselmo** - History Teacher in the Mi-Way Program. Teaches all four core History classes in the program, and has been employed in the program 11 years.

For the past 10 years, the program has recorded a graduation rate above 90% with the majority of years, above 95%. Many of our students now graduate, on the average, a semester early from the program (December graduates) which opens up the doors for serving more students each year.

**Jakariah "Kari" Miller** - Former Student currently attending A&T University in Greensboro, North Carolina.





# Potential Enhancements

- At times, our students struggle once they graduate from our program. They are leaving an environment with intensive support.
- We have discussed the need for a community liaison and/or stronger partnerships with local agencies to create a continuum of support.
- We would also like to provide additional job shadowing and/or apprenticeship opportunities as part of our effort to create a plan after graduation.



# Closing

We believe that, with the right systems of support in place, an alternative education program can be:

- Student focused
- Flexible
- Positive
- Successful





# QUESTIONS?

