



WEEKLY UPDATE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

June 24, 2021

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT CARLTON D. JENKINS

Dear Board Members,

This week, which marks the first week of our summer semester, has been eventful. During this week, our district engaged in planning and advocacy to accelerate learning for all students, while addressing educational disparities. These efforts continued while we prepare to adopt our preliminary budget for 2021-2022, an exercise which attempts to align our financial commitments with our values.

Throughout the 2020-2021 school year, MMSD relied on the innovation and determination of our students, staff, and families as we worked to address the twin pandemics of COVID-19 and racial/social injustice. Our efforts involved taking novel approaches to address the instructional, social-emotional, and other needs of our community, including providing millions of meals at a remote distribution center; coordinating vaccination and testing resources; providing access to technology devices and internet hotspots; and connecting our students and families to community resources for basic needs. Unfortunately, our state legislature's Joint Finance Committee's budget resolution seeks to stem our momentum by providing resources which do not cover inflationary increases in our costs. Therefore, we were encouraged by the participation in (and largely positive media coverage of) the Wisconsin Public Education Network's Day of Action on Monday.

As we plan for the 2021-2022 school year and beyond, we are working to assure coherence between our planned investments and our values. Therefore, this week we have continued engaging students, families, staff, and community partners around refining our policies and practices for delivery of instructional, co-curricular, and operational services. During the month of July, this engagement will include hosting myriad focus groups, conducting interviews, and analyzing data as part of an Equity Audit. We are delighted to work in partnership with Dr. Jerlando Jackson of the Wisconsin Equity and Inclusion Laboratory (WEILab), who is spearheading this audit by using novel approaches which limit our district's outlay of expenditures. The findings from this audit will assist our efforts to ensure we are engaging in anti-racist practices which affirm our respect for diversity and difference. We look forward to sharing more updates in the coming weeks.

Thanks for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to providing you with more updates on our district's progress next week.

Sincerely,

Carlton

Carlton D. Jenkins, Ph.D.

BOARD OF EDUCATION QUESTIONS

- **Operation Fresh Start Funding**
In response to a board member question about Operation Fresh Start (OFS) funding for the 21/22 school year, last fall this budget was reduced by \$75K. This was primarily due to the difference between paid seats and filled seats. This money was set aside for the Office of Youth Re-Engagement during last year to be used on other needs for students related to COVID. This money can be reset back into OFS without issue for next year.

OTHER INFORMATION

- **Weekly News Report**
Attached is the weekly News Report which includes a curated list of local news stories directly related to MMSD over the course of the previous week with links provided.

➤ **Community Events:**

All dates for community announcements are posted on the [Board Community Activities Calendar](#)

- Madison's Central Business Improvement District is beginning to host **Lunchtime Live** from **June 1-August 31** recurring **weekly on Tuesdays** from noon-1 p.m. on the Capitol Square Lawn at N. Hamilton Street. Local bands and performers will perform live during this time for observers. More info. can be [found here](#).
- **La Follette High School Theater Presents Twelfth Night: Streaming Through June 25**
Cost: \$5 per ticket
Where: Streaming online
What: William Shakespeare's Twelfth Night tells the story of Viola, a young heroine who is shipwrecked on the shores of the mythical city of Illyria. Fearing her twin brother lost in the shipwreck, to survive this strange new country she disguises herself as a man, is sent to court a countess, but falls hard for a Duke. As she navigates this strange and wonderful new land, she finds her true self and true love in the process.

This production will showcase the amazing talents of La Follette students, including seniors Tziah McNair as Viola, Annabelle Reynolds as Feste, Lydia Burke as Malvolio, and Mina Linsenmayer as Olivia. It features original lyrics and a jazz-funk score by rising Broadway star, Shaina Taub. [More information and tickets available here.](#)

- The Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center and GSAFE are hosting the 25th annual **Celebration of Leadership 2021** on **Saturday, June 26**, from 2-8 p.m. in person on the rooftop of the terrace. This event will honor six high school seniors and one Educator of the Year for their LGBTQ+ activism across Wisconsin. More info. can be [found here](#).
- The **2021 Monona Community Festival** will take place from **Friday, July 2-Sunday, July 4** at Winnequah Park. There are many events plus regional music entertainment, food, drink, and fireworks. More info. can be [found here](#).
- Rock Paper Scissors, etc. is hosting the 42nd Annual **Madison Art Fair Off the Square** on **July 10 and July 11** from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. both days. There will be dozens of vendors selling unique items and wearables. This event is free, and more information can be [found here](#).
- The Wisconsin Conservation Voters group is hosting **We Are Young. We Are the Future of Climate Action** on **Wednesday, July 14**, from 6-7 p.m. online. Panelists will include Stephanie Salgado from Youth Climate Action, Amanjot Kaur from Sunrise Movement Brookfield, Molly McGuire from UW Divestment, and Nada Elmikashfi, former candidate for WI Senate District 26. More info. can be [found here](#).
- **Free breakfast & lunch meal boxes for children 18 and younger: various days and times**
Cost: FREE
Where: various locations around Madison
What: MMSD is offering curbside meal service at 12 Madison sites for all children 18 years of age and younger. Each Meal Box contains 7 breakfasts and 7 lunches. Families may either refrigerate or freeze any portion of the meal components in the boxes to provide flexibility for households. Fresh produce will be packaged separately from the Market Boxes and milk will continue to be optional. More information, including pick up sites and times, available at [MMSD.org/food](https://mmsd.org/food).

➤ **Madison School & Community Recreation (MSCR) Events:**

- ✓ **MSCR Mobile Meetup: Friday, June 25, 2021 • 9 a.m. to noon**
Cost: FREE
Where: Amund Reindahl Park
What: Fit2Go and Art Cart will both be at Reindahl Park Splash Park on June 25 providing free recreational activities. [More information here](#).
- MSCR Learn 2 Ride: Sunday, June 27, 2021 • 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.**
Cost: \$15 MMSD resident / \$30 non-resident
Where: Memorial High School

What: Learn easy, hands-on techniques to get your child riding solo on two wheels! This innovative approach includes balancing, gliding, and pedaling. Participants receive instruction from volunteers and then practice what they've learned with the help of a parent or grown up on a closed course. [Registration and additional information here.](#)

- ✓ **MSCR Pontoon Boat Rides: Weekdays and Sundays • various times**
Cost: \$5 per person suggested donation
Where: Olbrich Park, Tenney Park, Warner Park
What: Drop in pontoon boat rides. All drop-ins are subject to cancellation due to high water levels, or weather. Please call the MSCR weather line for the most current program information: 608-204-3044 (ext. 4). The 2021 schedule and additional information is [available here.](#)

- ✓ **Behind the Scenes-Fancy Feet & Pottery Treats: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 • 10 - 11 a.m.**
Cost: FREE
Where: Online event - [registration here](#)
What: Get a backstage pass with Madison School and Community Recreation (MSCR) youth classes! We'll discover their pottery studio and learn how a ball of clay mud turns into a colorful cereal bowl. Then, we'll meet the instructors and dancers of their Scottish Highland Dance classes, where we'll learn some new moves and discover the meanings behind their elaborate outfits!



Other Events:

- ✓ **Kids Fishing Adventure: Recurring Weekly on Fridays • 1 to 3 p.m.**
Cost: \$5 per person
Where: Jenni & Kyle Preserve
What: Is your child interested in learning how to fish? This is the program for them. Learn how to cast, bait, and catch fish along the shore or on one of our fishing piers. Staff will assist participants with removing fish and releasing them back into the water. Learn to identify common Wisconsin fish. Fishing equipment is provided. [More information here.](#)

- ✓ **Disney Trivia Night: Sunday, June 27, 2021 • 3 to 5 p.m.**
Cost: FREE
Where: Sheehan Park, Sun Prairie
What: Join us at Sheehan Park Athletic Field for a fun filled two hours of family friendly trivia! Bring your own chairs, blankets and food and drink. We will provide all trivia supplies including a team name sign. Prizes awarded to the top three teams! [Register here.](#)

- ✓ **Lakeside Cinema-Finding Nemo: Monday, June 28 • 9 to 11 p.m.**
Cost: FREE
Where: Memorial Union
What: Pull up a Terrace chair, grab a snack and join us for Lakeside Cinema's "Seriously Summer" 2021 lineup. [More information here.](#)

- ✓ **Kids Bike Adventure: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 • 1 to 3 p.m.**
 Cost: \$5 per person
 Where: Lussier Family Heritage Center
 What: Join us for a bike ride through William G. Lunney Lake Farm County Park on the Lower Yahara River Trail. This trail features the longest inland boardwalk bridge constructed solely for non-motorized transportation in North America! Enjoy a break along Lake Waubesa followed by a trip up to the top of our tower overlook. This gentle bike ride with minimal hills is fun for all ages and ability levels. Training wheels are available. Use our bikes and helmets or bring your own. Helmets are required to be used during the program. This event is offered weekly in the summer. A parent/chaperone is required to attend the activity (the chaperone is a free attendee). [More information here.](#)

- ✓ **Movies in the Park - Disney Nature Earth: Thursday, July 1 • 7 to 9 p.m.**
 Cost: FREE
 Where: Lussier Family Heritage Center
 What: Come to the Lussier Family Heritage Center for an outdoor screening of Disney Nature's Earth. Please bring your own chairs and blankets and set-up 6 ft. from other movie viewers. Gates will open at 7:00 and the movie will start at 8:00 p.m. Dogs are allowed but must be on a 6ft. leash and not disruptive. Movies are free with a suggested donation of \$5/person. [More information here.](#)

OUR UPCOMING BOARD CALENDAR

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| ➤ | Mon., Jun 28, 9 a.m. | Board Officers
Virtual |
| ➤ | Mon., Jun 28, 6 p.m. | REGULAR meeting
Virtual and Doyle 103 |
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| ➤ | Mon., July 5 | MMSD Holiday |
| ➤ | Wed., July 14, 5:30 p.m. | City Education Committee
Virtual |
| ➤ | Week of July 19 | Board Member Briefings
Virtual |
| ➤ | Mon., July 26, 9 a.m. | Board Officers
Virtual |
| ➤ | Mon., July 26, 6 p.m. | REGULAR Meeting
Virtual |

ITEMS ATTACHED FOR INFORMATION

1. Weekly News Report



WEEKLY NEWS REPORT

Edition: 6.24.21

DATE	NEWS ORG	HEADLINE/LINK
6/21/21	WI State Journal	Teachers worry of legislation limiting race discussion - Ali Muldrow
6/21/21	NBC 15 News	MMSD rolls out summer food service program
6/22/21	WI State Journal	District leaders blast GOP's Education Budget
6/22/21	WI Public Radio	School officials and families push back against state funding plan
6/22/21	Mil Journal Sent (Milwaukee)	State budget action impeding pandemic recovery
6/22/21	HGN News	Sun Prairie School District joins MMSD to object to state budget proposal
6/22/21	WI State Journal	Mobile Madison brings free accessible activities to city neighborhoods
6/23/21	WISC News 3	State of Oregon artist inspires black youth portrait drawings by local students