



WEEKLY UPDATE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 22, 2021

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT CARLTON D. JENKINS

Dear Board Members,

This week, which marks the third week of our 4th Quarter, has certainly been eventful. On Tuesday, we continued implementing our phased reopening plan by welcoming our students in grades 6, 9, and 12 back into our buildings for in-person instructional options. Next week, we look forward to welcoming back our students from the remaining secondary grades.

Throughout this week, our community, state, and nation have experienced a range of emotions related to the ongoing injustice pandemic. While the outcome of the Chauvin trial brought a sense of relief and hopes of long-awaited justice for many, our nation remains divided over recognizing the human dignity of all people. Our district, however, remains resolute about the potential for continued engagement to bring about greater understanding of the elements needed to elevate human decency. The ideals of our Strategic Framework and Core Values provide a needed compass for our journey to value every member of our community regardless of their race, gender, transgender status, home language, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, immigration status, religion, or disability status.

Our national conversations about injustice are mirrored by district dialogues about eliminating disparities and accelerating learning for all students. For example, during Wednesday's Title VI Parent Committee meeting, rich dialogues spanned topics such as: culturally respectful titles; recruiting and retaining diverse staff; land acknowledgement; and Act 31 professional development. These conversations yielded useful insights which will help refine our efforts to ensure all our schools are places where all students, staff, and families thrive. Even the statements shared, which highlighted portions of our district's culture not matching the rhetoric of our ideals, provided valuable reflection on how our district might use an equity lens to narrow the gap between excellence and non-excellence.

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.

PARTNERSHIPS AND GRANTS

- **Hmong Individual Growth and Development Indicators for Hmong Preschoolers: High Quality Screening Tools for Diverse Learners**
The University of Minnesota and St. Paul Public Schools wrote a \$2M Institute of Education Sciences (IES), U.S. Department of Education research grant to develop and pilot an assessment designed to predict English performance in kindergarten and beyond among Hmong DLLs and clarify where intervention and support are needed. The MMSD has been invited to be a participating district. The team has advanced to the next level of review, which is a promising indication that IES is interested in funding this work. If awarded, IES grant funds would be available August 2021 through June 2025.

- **Teachers and Parents as Partners project (TAPP, also known as Conjoint Behavioral Consultation)**
UW-Madison faculty member Andy Garbacz wrote a 5-year, \$4M Institute of Education Sciences (IES), U.S. Department of Education grant for the "Systematic Efficacy Replication Study of Teachers and Parents as Partners (TAPP)/Conjoint Behavioral Consultation in Elementary Schools" project. In this project, up to 15 elementary schools will receive support to implement TAPP, including training and coaching support to school-based specialists who can work with families and teachers to support students who have emotional and behavioral concerns in the context of a randomized controlled study. Dr. Garbacz has advanced to the next level of review, which is a promising indication that IES is interested in funding this work. If awarded, IES grant funds would be available August 2021 through June 2025.

BOARD OF EDUCATION QUESTIONS

- **What is the Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZAB)?**
In addition to the memo provided in the board packet for the vote to call our QZAB loan for pre-payment, board members had questions about what the bond was for and the total amount of the bond. Attached is a document from 2009 that summarizes the Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZAB), how MMSD became eligible, and our submitted project list. The QZAB was a bond that MMSD became eligible for in 2009 due to our low-income school district status. This was essentially a 'project' at the state level to provide very low interest rate loans with favorable payment terms totaling \$2.7M with the intended effect to fund facility projects at the local school level.

MMSD applied and submitted plans for Welcome Centers, a playground, kitchen upgrades, science classroom investments, and wireless infrastructure needed back in 2009 and 2010. Those projects have all been implemented and now the district is paying off the loan and interest. Overall, this was a very successful effort to fund projects at a time when our fund balance was at the lowest end of our policy threshold and when revenue at the state level was very limited and volatile. Today, however, we are in a stronger fiscal state and thanks to the referendum have more predictable funding. Paying off this bond at this time makes sense, it will save us in our local

budget operating expenses of over \$100,000 per year and will open up future revenue limit authority.

➤ **Class Size Update for Fall 2021**

A board member asked for more information regarding class size projections for fall during the April Operations Work Group meeting. We are happy to report that our post-workbook analysis (after principal placement decision-making is done) we remain in a very healthy place for class sizes in the fall. At this point, all of our sections K-12, we are looking at 32 out of nearly 600 sections or 5.3% of all sections at or below the policy minimum class size of 15 or less. For all sections K-12 at optimum +1 or larger, our projections show 20 out of nearly 600 sections at optimum +1 or above, or 3.5% of all sections. All of these sections are on our "watch list" for August decision-making based on actual enrollment. We have a healthy unallocated for any problem solving needed and we have a healthy number of sections below minimum that give us flexibility for decision making in small sections as well if they are needed. 3.5% of sections being at optimum+1 is well within any normal year's range for this time of year and sets us up well for problem solving and decision making this fall when our estimate actualize. It's also worth noting that many of our principals' instructional strategy is to have designed their schools with some classes below the class size policy limits and some classes above the class size policy limits. This was done in collaboration with teacher teams, SBLTs and Chiefs of Schools. This was an intentional strategy at the local school level to best meet the needs of students.

OTHER INFORMATION

➤ **Multi-year Budgeting Homework - Due 4/28**

During the April Operation Work Group meeting, you were asked to spend some time reviewing and reflecting on the attached slide and then emailing Kelly and Richard with three ideas from this list that you feel are high value for the Board and Administration to work on together. If you have other budget saving ideas, please feel free to send them as well. We will use your responses to plan for our ongoing work for the summer and fall as we move into 2022-23 budget planning. Longer term planning work is critical to the district as we aim to align our resources for best use in support of our students and with mutual goals of reaching maximum base wage in the future. Please let us know if you have any questions.

➤ **COVID-19 Federal Funding Update**

Attached here is a nice summary that the MMSD Budget Team put together of all our federal funding sources for your review and understanding. We will be discussing this in much greater depth during the May Operations Work Group meeting; however, we thought this document might best help now. Overall, our strategy has been to spend ESSER I and GEER funding in 2020-21 and summer 2021; use ESSER II for 21-22 and summer 2021 and 2022; and then use ESSER III for 2022-23, summer 2023 and 2023-24. All funding will then no longer be available for the summer of 2024.

➤ This Week's Recorded Meetings

4.20.21 (11:00-12:00) Developing and Reviewing Metrics Meeting: [Agenda](#) & [Recording](#)

4.22.21 (8:45-10:30) School-Central Office Administrator Operation Meeting: [Agenda](#) & [Recording](#)

➤ 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](#)

- The Madison Black Chamber of Commerce is hosting the virtual **Virtual Black Business Resiliency Showcase on Thursday, May 6**, from 4-6 p.m. This showcase event will consist of an awards ceremony and there will be an opportunity to connect with the local business community. More info. can be [found here](#).
- YWCA Madison is hosting the 46th Annual **Women of Distinction Awards Celebration on Friday, May 21** beginning at 7 p.m. on Facebook Live. The awards are presented to women who represent a diversity of race, age occupation and endeavor. This is one of Dane County's most well-known Women's Empowerment events, taking place since 1974. More info. can be [found here](#).
- **Ride the Drive 2021**, hosted by Madison Parks, will take place on **Sunday, June 6**, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. This event promotes a healthy and active lifestyle. The routes are still being finalized and more info. can be [found here](#).
- The Native Governance Center is hosting **Language Matters: How to Talk about Native Nations on Wednesday, May 12**, from 3:30-4:30 p.m. This event will focus on terminology and take a deep look into the wide range of opinions on native language. This event is free and will take place on Zoom. More info. can be [found 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](#).

OUR UPCOMING BOARD CALENDAR

- Mon., Apr. 26, 9 a.m. Board Officers Virtual

- Mon., Apr. 26, 6:00 p.m. Regular BOE Meeting
Doyle 103

- Mon., May 3, 5 p.m. Special meeting in closed session
Doyle 103
- Mon., May 3, 5:30 p.m. Instruction Work Group
Doyle 103
- Tues., May 4, 2:30 p.m. Student Senate
Virtual
- Mon., May 10, 5 p.m. Special meeting in open session WORKSHOP
Doyle 103
- Mon., May 10, 5:15 p.m. Operations Work Group
Doyle 103
- Wed., May 12, 5:30 p.m. City Education Committee
Virtual
- Wed., May 12, TBD Student Senate Candidate Public Forum
Virtual
- Week of May 17 Board member briefings
- Tues., May 18, 2:30 p.m. Student Senate
Virtual
- May 18-20 Student Senate Election
- Fri., May 21, 11 a.m. Board Retreat
Virtual
- Sat., May 22, 10 a.m. Board Retreat
Virtual
- Mon., May 24, 9 a.m. Board Officers
Virtual
- Mon., May 24, 6 p.m. Regular BOE Meeting
Doyle 103
- Mon., May 31 Memorial Holiday

ITEMS ATTACHED FOR INFORMATION

1. QZAB summary
2. MMSD CARES Act grid of stimulus packages 4/16/2021
3. Weekly News Report—4/22/21

Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZAB)

Eligibility Criteria

1. A minimum of 35% Free and Reduced lunch
2. A minimum of 10% private matching contribution
3. Funds can be used for:
 - a. Equipment, computers, furniture, heating & cooling, etc.
 - b. Rehabilitation or repair of public school facilities
 - c. Develop course materials, train teachers, and other school personnel
4. What DPI will look at when awarding funds:
 - a. Ability to start construction quickly
 - b. Job creation and retention
 - c. Project objectives (some or all) - Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), Early Childhood, 4-year-old kindergarten, Green and Healthy Schools, Safe and Healthful Schools

Recommended Project List

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>F&R %</u>	<u>SCOPE</u>	<u>ESTIMATE</u>	<u>COMPLETION DATE</u>
1. LaFollette HS	42.63%	HVAC Office Suite	\$154,570	September 1, 2009
2. LaFollette HS	42.63%	Welcome Center	\$100,000	September 1, 2009
3. East HS	47.65%	Welcome Center	\$65,000	September 1, 2009
4. Leopold Elem.	65.51%	Playground	\$143,685	September 1, 2009
5. East HS	47.65%	Kitchen Update	\$75,000	September 1, 2009
6. Whitehorse MS	43.86%	Data wiring upgrade	\$15,000	September 1, 2009
7. East HS	47.65%	Science ventilation hoods	\$49,500	September 1, 2009
8. LaFollette HS	42.63%	Science ventilation hoods	\$49,500	September 1, 2009
9. Sennett MS	53.18%	Science room upgrades	\$500,000	September 1, 2009
10. District Wide	various	Wireless infrastructure (wiring)	\$1,620,000	June 30, 2010
GRAND TOTAL			\$2,772,255	

All estimates we would expect to publicly bid at the appropriate time, and should be considered estimates at this time

Madison Metropolitan School District CARES ACT - Stimulus Packages 4/16/2021

Program	Public School Amount	Private School Amount	End Date	MMSD Recommended Spending Dates	Federal Allowable Costs	DPI Planning Recommendations
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund - ESSER I	\$ 5,054,135.00	\$ 210,357.00	9/30/2022	2020-21 and Summer 2021	Preparedness and response to COVID-19, outreach and services to special populations, addressing long-term closures, education technology, mental health supports, addressing afterschool and summer activities, and continued staff employment.	Allowable costs from WI DPI. MMSD planning from Lisa Kvistad, Kelly Ruppel, and Chad Wiese. Programs supported were Special Education, MSCR CARES, Food Service, C&I materials and PD for virtual learning, OMGE support for ELL students and families, advanced learning virtual learning, and private school equitable share.
Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund - GEER	\$ 3,732,335.00	\$ 157,808.00	9/30/2022	2020-21 and Summer 2021	Health and safety, Infrastructure and schedule modifications, and remote and distance learning. Detail at website listed below.	Allowable costs from WI DPI. MMSD planning from Lisa Kvistad, Kelly Ruppel, and Chad Wiese. Programs supported were MSCR CARES, PLLD summer kickoff week, tech services chromebooks, instructional technology materials and supplies for virtual learning, operations signage and headphones, health services tracers, medical supplies, building services scrubbers and touchless bathrooms, and private school equitable share.
CRRSAA - Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act - ESSER II	\$18,949,599.00	LEA will not handle	9/30/2023	Summer 2021 and 2021-22	Comprehensive action to mitigate learning loss, to restore and maintain high-quality learning environments, and to safely reopen elementary and secondary schools as soon as possible. LEAs should especially consider the needs of its most vulnerable students including low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care.	Compensatory/Recovery Services for students with IEPs, early learners, expanded learning time (before/after school, summer), family and community engagement, food service, gifted and talented learners, high quality instructional materials, interim and formative assessments, mental health services, gap closure for specific student groups, reduce digital gap, school environment, transportation, STEM, and well-rounded education.
ARPA - American Recovery Plan Act - ESSER III	\$42,555,593.00 estimate DPI Information 4/1/21	LEA will not handle	9/30/2024	Summer 2022 and 2022-23 and 2023-24	20% of grant must align to mitigate learning loss and ESSER II Allowable Costs -pending updates on private school equitable share	Same as for ESSER II until we have more information. Mental health services included through the implementation of evidence-based full-service community schools.
Dane County ESSER Funds to Dane County Entities	\$464,986.00	Equitable Share not part of this grant	12/31/2022		Grant application only allowed for social/emotional health. MMSD applied for two mental health navigators. This funding is not guaranteed, but is likely.	Not from DPI - Federal CARES Act regulations applied to allowable costs along with direction from Dane County for specific mental health programs

Notes:

EANS - Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools; ESSER II Equitable Services to Private Schools

DPI - reference for GEER Allowable Activities

<https://dpi.wi.gov/cares/governors-emergency-education-relief-geer-grant-program>

DPI - reference for ESSER II Allowable Activities and Planning Recommendations

[COVID Response and Relief Planning Recommendations | Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction](#)

[DPI - overview of ESSER I, ESSER II, and ESSER III](#)



WEEKLY NEWS REPORT

Edition: 4/22/21

DATE	NEWS ORG	HEADLINE/LINK
4/16/21	Cap Times	Students push for Madison School District to put free period products in all middle, high school bathrooms
4/19/21	Madison365	Freedom Inc. launches Black Sanctuary Pledge for MMSD teachers
4/19/21	WI State Journal	MMSD Launches Big Idea Campaign
4/20/21	Cap Times	MMSD high schools planning in-person graduation ceremonies
4/20/21	WISC News 3	Doctors say sports have led to covid outbreaks
4/20/21	WKOW 27 News	MMSD continues phased return
4/20/21	WI Public Radio	Day of Silence Rally at MMSD Doyle Building
4/21/21	Madison365	Petition to rename James Madison Memorial High School Building Momentum
4/21/21	Cap Times	'Opportunity of a lifetime': Madison School District seeks 'big ideas' for \$9.5 million grant
4/22/21	Madison365	Jorge Covarrubias looking to center student voices and experiences as MMSD's Chief of Leadership Development
INTERNAL NEWS		
April	MMSD	Parenting students find support during pandemic from SAPAR community
April	MMSD	Sennett student delivers Project Soapbox speech about racism against Asian Americans
April	MMSD	West High P.E. teacher teams up with pro soccer athletes to keep students active during pandemic