



WEEKLY UPDATE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

August 26, 2021

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT CARLTON D. JENKINS

Dear Board Members,

This week marks the last full week before the start of our fall semester. During this week, our district staff have been leaning forward together in preparation for opening schools this fall, focusing on excellence, equity, humanity, and intentionality.

During Monday's Administrative Leadership Kick-off, our principals and district administrators were encouraged to embrace James Baldwin's famous challenge to educators and "go for broke" as they demonstrate their care and concern for students. During this professional development, David O'Connor from the Department of Public Instruction provided key insights from an American Indian perspective on infusing a truly inclusive cultural lens in our work. In addition, our administrators had the opportunity to have an extensive dialogue with the esteemed scholar Dr. Carl Grant about his book James Baldwin and the American Schoolhouse where Baldwin's work was interpreted from a historical and contemporary perspective.

On Tuesday, district leaders had a discussion with our medical advisory panel about refining policies and practices to enhance strategies to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. During this meeting, current research was shared and discussed. In addition, there was vigorous dialogue about emerging policy issues related to the strategy of mandating vaccinations for employees. The participants in the meeting seem supportive of our district being prepared to implement a full 4K-12 virtual option given the rise of the Delta variant. The insights from this discussion will certainly assist our efforts to keep students, staff, and families safe as we open schools this fall.

On Wednesday, our district participated in events which illustrated the promise of "bringing the community into the schools, and the schools into the community." During the Madison Out-of-School Time (MOST) Awards Program, our district partnered with the City of Madison to thank volunteers and employees for their efforts to engage and nurture our students in the midst of tumultuous times where our world is facing a global health pandemic and a pandemic of racial/social injustice. In addition, students, staff, and families throughout our district had the opportunity to engage our larger community and consider the themes of excellence, equity, humanity, and intentionality during the Anana Elementary School renaming celebration.

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

Sincerely,

Carlton

Carlton D. Jenkins, Ph.D.

OTHER INFORMATION

➤ **4K-5th Grade Virtual Elementary Option**

The following information was shared with you via email on Thursday, August 26. We are including here for your reference:

Thank you for your continued leadership as we lean forward together in preparation for the 2021-2022 school year. After reviewing feedback from multiple stakeholder groups, including our families, we will be opening up a virtual option for elementary (4K-5th grade) MMSD students. Some expressed concern over the rising incidence of the Delta variant with students in this age group not being eligible for vaccinations, which is compounded by instances of family members who are immunocompromised. As such, there is a need to provide a virtual option for 4K-5th grade students.

This elementary virtual option is rooted in doing what is best for all students while ensuring our young scholars can thrive. The deadline for families to complete an interest form is this Monday, August 30. Below, you'll find the communication we are sharing with elementary families.

Additionally, our local health care experts continue to express confidence in our [health and safety plan](#), and we are excited to welcome students to in-person learning, five days a week. We will be utilizing key universal strategies such as masking when indoors and on buses, physical distancing, frequent hand washing and sanitizing, respiratory etiquette, symptom screening, and contact tracing.

The message to families is attached to this [Weekly Update](#).

➤ **Personal Property Aid Update**

The good news is our allocation is much better for 2021-22. The correction from last year was a one-time adjustment, and we are now back up to our "standard" amount to be used each year in this calculation - \$1,191,029.48. In addition, there are two TID adjustments noted on the Department of Revenue (DOR) Estimate that bring our personal property aid estimate up to \$1,327,105.24. This amount is a positive adjustment for MMSD, as under the revenue limit it will help reduce our tax levy for this fall. We will be incorporating this information into the fall budget approval work. **Attached is a copy of the DOR estimate letter dated August 18, 2021.**

➤ **Here are the community metrics for the most recent two-week window (Aug 2-15):**

1. Average daily case count is 91 and the trend is stable
2. Average daily percent positivity is 3.9%
3. Percent with at least one vaccine dose is 71.5% - 82.6% of the eligible population (12+)

4. Percent fully vaccinated is 68.4% - 79.0% of the eligible population (12+)

We still see disparities in vaccine access and uptake by race/ethnicity, with our rates for one vaccine dose lowest among our Black population at 40.7% for all and 52% for eligible residents (see p. 1 & p. 3). You can learn more about this and other trends in the [PHMDC Aug 19 Data Snapshot](#) and other associated resources on the PHMDC website.

I also want to highlight the 100 Black Men of Madison's Back to School Celebration at Alliant Energy Center this Saturday from 9-12 a.m. (flyer attached). Free school supplies, COVID vaccines and voter registration are available in a drive-thru format. Thanks to our awesome partners for hosting this event and if you can, please help spread the word!

➤ **Weekly Metrics and Ops Recordings and Agendas:**

- Tuesday, August 24 - Weekly Metrics Meeting [Agenda](#) & [Recording](#)
- No School/Central Office Ops. meeting this week

➤ **Community Events:**

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

Madison School & Community Recreation (MSCR) Events:

✓ **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](#).

Other Events:

➤ **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).

✓ **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.](#)
- ✓ **Friday Evening Classical Guitars: July 9 and recurring every other Friday • 5 to 7 p.m.**
Cost: FREE
Where: Lisa Link Peace Park, Downtown Madison
What: Madison's Central BID presents this "Summer in YOUR City" FREE outdoor concert series. Come join us at Lisa Link Peace Park for a concert every other Friday from 7-9 p.m. from June - August. [More information here.](#)
 - ✓ **Mad Lit Event Series: July 16 and recurring every other Friday • 8 to 11 p.m.**
Cost: FREE
Where: 100 block of State Street
What: Join us every other Friday, starting July 2 through October 8, on the 100 block of State Street for Mad Lit, a new free concert series featuring live music and highlighting local artists, and businesses of color. The series will run from 8 p.m. until 11 p.m., and will include pop-up shops, visual exhibits, and community-led workshops. [More information here.](#)
 - 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.](#)
 - **Dane Dances at Monona Terrace: August 13 and recurring every Friday in August**
Cost: FREE
Where: Monona Terrace Rooftop
What: Live music every Friday in August at the Monona Terrace! There is a wide variety of music and bands and food available. These dances follow COVID guidelines. More info on the music schedule and further info can be [found here.](#)
 - **Black and Latino Unity Picnic - Sunday, August 29**
Cost: Free
Where: Penn Park
What: This is a community event unity Black and Latino workers in the common struggle for better working, housing, employment and living conditions in our neighborhoods. There will be live music and local entertainment, giveaways & door prizes, food carts, kids activities, and more. More info can be [found here.](#)

- **Taste of Madison Off the Square at Breese Stevens: Sept 4 & 5**
Cost: FREE
Where: Breese Stevens Field, Downtown Madison
What: Labor Day weekend's annual Taste of Madison will feature 40+ vendors and live entertainment all day on both Saturday, Sept. 4 and Sunday, Sept. 5. Normally this event is held right on the square, but this year will be held at Breese Stevens Field. [More information Here.](#)

- **Monroe Street Festival: September 25 from 10am-5pm**
Cost: FREE to attend
Where: Monroe St. Madison, WI
What: During this annual festival, there will be celebrations of entertainment, children's activities, street sales, and "grab and go" food specials. The full schedule and more info can be [found here.](#)

- **YWCA Racial Justice Summit: September 28-September 30**
Cost: Registration Fees
Where: Monona Terrace Convention Center and virtual online community spaces
What: This year's 2021 annual summit will be held in a hybrid model of in-person and virtual participation. The summit consists of keynote speaker presentations and a wide variety of workshops. More info on this year's theme and further details can be [found here.](#)

- **NAMI Walk Day - Saturday October 9, from 10:30am-2:30pm**
Cost: Free - but fundraising efforts are suggested
Where: In person at Olin-Turville Park and/or virtual participation
What: The annual 5k walk along lake Monona will be socially distanced and participants can choose to participate virtually as well. NAMI Walks support the collective effort for mental health awareness. More info can be [found here.](#)

OUR UPCOMING BOARD CALENDAR

- Mon., Aug. 30, 9 a.m. Board Officers
Virtual

- Mon., Aug. 30, 5:30 p.m. Special meeting in open session WORKSHOP
Virtual

- Mon., Aug. 30, 6 p.m. REGULAR Meeting
Virtual

- Tues., Aug. 31, 5 p.m. Memorial Renaming Citizens' Ad Hoc Committee
Virtual

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- Wed., Sept. 1, 5:30 p.m. City Education Committee
Virtual
- Mon., Sept. 6 Labor Day Holiday
- Mon., Sept. 13, 9 a.m. Board Officers
Virtual
- Mon., Sept. 13, 5 p.m. Instruction Work Group
Virtual
- Tues., Sept. 14, 5 p.m. Student Senate
Virtual
- Mon., Sept. 20, 5 p.m. Operations Work Group
Virtual
- Week of Sept. 20 Board Member Briefings
Virtual
- Mon., Sept. 27, 6 p.m. Regular Meeting
TBD
- Wed., Sept. 29, 5 p.m. Student Senate
Virtual

ITEMS ATTACHED FOR INFORMATION

1. Message to families re: 4K-5th grade virtual option
2. Personal Property Aid Estimate for 2021/22

Message to Families regarding 4K-5th Grade Virtual Elementary Option- 8.26.2021

Dear MMSD Families,

School begins next week, and I hope you and your child are excited about the new school year. Earlier this summer, we announced our plans for students to begin the school year learning in person, five days per week. Today, I am writing to provide an important update for our **4K-5th grade** families who have been asking about virtual learning options for students.

After reviewing feedback from our families and stakeholder groups, we will now be offering families with 4K-5th grade elementary students a *virtual option* to start the school year. This decision comes after considering concerns over the rising incidence of the Delta variant; children under 12 years-old not eligible for vaccinations, and associated risks with family members who are immunocompromised.

The elementary virtual option is rooted in doing what is best for all students, while ensuring our young scholars can thrive. If you are interested in the 4K-5th grade virtual program, families will need to submit an [interest form](#) for consideration -- the deadline to complete a form is noon (12 p.m.) on Monday, August 30. Families will be notified by Tuesday, August 31, if their child will be in the elementary virtual program.

Please note, if you want your child to attend school in person, you do not need to do anything (besides completing the annual [enrollment process](#)) - the form should be completed **only** if you are interested in a virtual option for your elementary student.

Additional details:

- Students will need to commit to virtual instruction for one (1) entire semester.
- 4K students will participate in age-appropriate learning for 3.5 hours per day, which will include a mix of synchronous (live) and asynchronous (recorded) instruction.
- Kindergarten through 5th grade students will participate in synchronous (live) instruction for up to 3.5 hours per day (math, science, language arts, social studies) and asynchronous (recorded) instruction for specials (music, art, PE).
- Kindergarten through 5th grade students will have small group instructional time as directed by the teacher.
- Students will receive instruction from an MMSD, DPI-certified teacher.
- Students in the virtual program, and students participating in school/in-person, will follow the same scope and sequence of instruction.
- Teachers will use Zoom for meeting times.
- Seesaw will be the platform students and teachers use for schoolwork and assignments.
- The virtual option will have a limited capacity for the 2021-2022 school year to ensure instructional supports are available for all students.

For more information about the elementary virtual option, including answers to frequently asked questions, please visit our [website](#).

Please note, our local health care experts continue to express confidence in our [health and safety plan](#). For students attending school in person, we will be utilizing key universal strategies such as masking when indoors and on buses, physical distancing, frequent hand washing and sanitizing, respiratory etiquette, symptom screening, and contact tracing.

**Message to Families regarding 4K-5th Grade Virtual Elementary Option-
8.26.2021**

Once again, thank you for your continued partnership and ongoing feedback. You can reach out to your child's teacher, principal, or connect with us through our [Let's Talk platform](#).

Sincerely,

Carlton D. Jenkins, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Madison Metropolitan School District



State of Wisconsin • DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

DIVISION OF STATE AND LOCAL FINANCE • BUREAU OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES • 2135 RIMROCK MADISON, WI 53173

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August 18, 2021

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR
SCH D OF MADISON METROPOLITAN
545 W DAYTON ST
MADISON WI 53703-1967

Notice of Personal Property Aid - 2022 Estimate

Notice Information

Under state law, the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) will distribute personal property aid to your local government on May 2, 2022 (sec. 79.096, Wis. Stats.)

District	SCH D OF MADISON METROPOLITAN	County	DANE	District code	133269
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Payment Summary

Review the summary below for an explanation of your payment. This estimate is based on the information reported to DOR on Form PA-550: *Personal Property Value Report* by each Wisconsin municipality.

2022 Estimate	
1. Calculated personal property aid (based on 2017 property assessments and taxes)	\$1,191,029.48
2. Adjustments	\$0.00
3. TID Retroactive Adjustment (see explanation below)	\$102,056.82
4. TID Termination Adjustment (for TIDs terminated in 2018 and after)	\$34,018.94
5. Total Estimated May 2, 2022 Payment (sum of Lines 1-4)	\$1,327,105.24

Note: DOR may adjust aid amounts to accommodate district boundary changes and/or district closures.

TID Retroactive Adjustment

The adjustments below were identified under state law (sec 79.096, Wis. Stats)

Payment Detail	
1. Retroactive aid for TIDs terminated in 2018	\$102,056.82
2. Retroactive aid for TIDs terminated in 2019	\$0.00
3. Retroactive aid for TIDs terminated in 2020	\$0.00
4. Total (Lines 1-3)	\$102,056.82

Contact Information

If you have questions, contact us at lgs@wisconsin.gov, (608)266-8618, or (608) 261-5167.