



# WEEKLY UPDATE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

September 30, 2021

## A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT CARLTON D. JENKINS

Dear Board Members,

This week, which marks the fifth week of our fall semester, has certainly been eventful. Throughout this week, our district staff have been leaning forward together with humanity and intentionality as we continue making strides towards the standard of excellence, while employing an equity lens. As such, district and building leaders have been incorporating the voices of students, staff, families, and community members in our decision-making and operations. These discussions have shaped our work and fueled our efforts to align policy and practice with the ideals of our Strategic Framework.

Goal 2 of our Strategic Framework expresses our aspiration to make every school and learning space a place where all students, staff, and family members thrive. An intentional review of news stories, as well as the websites and social media platforms of our high schools, provides examples of our efforts to live up to Goal 2. East High's new music teacher (Ruben Arndt) and alumnus (Wilder Deitz) were recently featured in the *Wisconsin State Journal's* "School Spotlight." In a Facebook posting, we discovered La Follette High alumnae Natalie White and Gina Malagold taught English this summer as part of Israel's TALMA teaching fellowship. According to their school websites, West High is celebrating Homecoming this week through Spirit Week activities, while Memorial High's Homecoming celebrations will take place next week. Last week, information on their school website revealed Shabazz High students were exposed to articulated skilled trades opportunities through a visit by the Madison College Fire Science program. Finally, Capital High's Adopt-a-School partner is Blackhawk Church Downtown, according to a posting on their school website.

Goal 3 of our Strategic Framework gives the assurance all African American children and youth will excel in our schools. Research by Gershenson et. al (2017), Quintero (2019), Toldson (2019), and Wilson et al (2020) argues the presence of racially diverse staff in our schools positively impacts the academic and other outcomes of Black and Brown students. Therefore, we have planned recruiting visits to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) to diversify our pool of applicants for teaching and other positions in our district. Pictures from this week's visits to Jackson State University and Mississippi Valley State University are provided in this *Weekly Update*.

As we consider the trauma associated with the twin pandemics of COVID-19 and racial/social injustice, we must make intentional efforts to extend human decency to our staff. As a result, this week we reinforced our decision to tweak the pacing for LETRS

professional development (PD) in response to hearing the voices of our instructional staff. We want to ensure there is an appropriate and healthy balance between providing important PD based on the Science of Reading and supporting the social-emotional needs of our students and staff. Often, we must remember to “go slow to go fast” as we lean forward together on our journey towards the standard of excellence. Needless to say, we are doing this in the middle of a dual pandemic, and, at times, we are going to have to pivot to support our students, staff and families.

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.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION QUESTIONS



### **Additional Information regarding Madison Virtual Elementary**

Attached is a report outlining the changes to elementary classrooms because of teacher reassignments to virtual instruction. Principals were presented with a recommendation, but the final decision for each school’s instructional design was made at that specific school.

The additional information requested was around class sizes for the affected grade levels at each school, which schools had a teacher reassigned to virtual and at what grade level, and the number of students in the new in-person classrooms at these grade levels at these schools.



### **September 2021 Check Register**

A board member asked for more details about two specific disbursements. The responses follow below.

1) p. 8: \$41,941.25 to SDL, Inc.

2) p. 15: \$25,192.88 to Double Robotics, Inc.

*Response:*

*SDL - PO 22001222 - This was for consent item 10.20 on the June 28, 2021 Consent Agenda. This was purchased using federal Title III dollars and was submitted by Jen Kluttermann.*

*Double Robotics - PO 22001508 - This is part of the Big Ideas Project for Telepresence Robots (Mission Possible) out of Special Education Services. This was purchased using federal ESSER II dollars and was submitted by that department.*

## OTHER INFORMATION

### ➤ **West High School Complementary Fundraising Update - Pool Funds and Naming Process**

#### **Pool Funds**

Congratulations to the West High School Fundraising Committee, with strong support from the Madison Public Schools Foundation, who successfully raised over \$1.6M to be able to provide additional enhancements to the pool provided through the base scope referendum funds! They have \$1.29M cash in hand, with a signed donor agreement in place for an additional gift of up to \$500K to be delivered by March 2, 2022, minus any additional funds that West has coming in between now and then. In addition, the Madison Public Schools Foundation has a signed agreement in place that they will back the \$500K if, for some reason, the donation does not come in. The Board will vote on this plan at the October Regular Board of Education meeting. We are very excited for the West community and the Madison Public Schools Foundation and appreciative of their focus, determination, and hard work to accomplish this goal in a very short amount of time.

#### **West Pool Naming Process**

The naming process is underway in alignment with Board of Education policy 6701 and the Board will be updated regularly, with a vote anticipated at the October Board of Education meeting.

### ➤ **2021 Teacher Career Fair Summary**

Attached you will find a summary of the huge success that HR had at the August 19, 2021, Teacher Career Fair at the MMSD Holtzman Building. They welcomed 76 attendees!

### ➤ **Social Justice Project-based Learning Institute**

Please see the attached grid providing information on MMSD staff with social justice leadership development in preparation for leadership roles as a talent management strategy. This Institute aligns with the desire of the Board and Superintendent to develop greater gender diversity among leadership and administration.

### ➤ **Community metrics for the most recent two-week window (Sept 6-19):**

1. Average **daily case count is 142** and is trending up
2. **Average daily percent positivity is 3.8%**
3. Percent with **at least one vaccine dose is 73.6%** - 84.9% of the eligible population (12+)
4. Percent **fully vaccinated is 70.7%** - 81.6% of the eligible population (12+)

This week's data snapshot includes some important takeaway messages about the percentage of cases connected to UW-Madison and the trends in cases by vaccination status and for youth - all available in short bullets at the top of

page 1. For more information, check out the [PHMDC Sept 23 Data Snapshot](#) and other associated resources on the PHMDC website.

## ➤ **Relevant Articles/Studies**

Nationwide Staffing and Supply chain Shortages

<https://www.businessinsider.com/labor-shortage-philadelphia-pennsylvania-school-ordered-pizza-for-students-lunch-2021-9>

[Madison Region Economic Partnership Diversity & Inclusion Survey Report, 2016-2020](#)

## ➤ **Good News Story**

Please enjoy!

[New music school reflects founders' East Side roots](#)

## ➤ **Photos from Dr. Jenkins' Recruitment Efforts at Mississippi Valley State University and Jackson State University Student Teachers**

[Please follow this link](#)

## ➤ **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.

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

September 28: Weekly Metrics Meeting [Agenda](#) & [Recording](#)

September 30: School-Central Administrator Operations Mtg. [Agenda](#) & [Recording](#)

## ➤ **Community Events:**

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

### ✓ **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](#).

- ✓ **Immigrant Rights and Justice - Sunday, October 3 at 6:30pm**  
*Cost:* Free  
*Where:* Webinar  
*What:* Webinar with Aissa Olivarez, Managing Attorney, Community Immigration Law Center speaking on the unmet needs of immigrants in the Madison area and beyond.  
 More info can be [found here](#).
  
- ✓ **Family Fall Festival - Tuesday, Oct. 5, Tuesday, Oct. 12, and Tuesday, Oct. 19 (all from 5-7pm)**  
*Cost:* Free  
*Where:* Allied Family Center (Oct. 5), McKenzie Family Center (Oct. 12), Taft Street Club (Oct. 19)  
*What:* The Boys & Girls Clubs of Dade County along with sponsors The River Food Pantry, Thermo Fischer Scientific and Lions Clubs International, are hosting several Fall Family Festivals featuring a Family Market, At Home Stem Kids and Free Vision Screening. Registration info for each event found here: [Allied Family Center](#), [McKenzie Family Center](#), [Taft Street Club](#)
  
- ✓ **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](#).
  
- ✓ **MSCR Traveling Feast Lunch Tour - Saturday, October 16, from 8:30am-5:30pm**  
*Cost:* \$100 for MMSD residents  
*Where:* Tour to Milwaukee  
*What:* Tour Milwaukee's German, Polish, Italian and Irish neighborhoods while trying different ethnic and cultural foods. There will be sites and stops to shop at Old World 3rd Street, Brady Street, and Milwaukee Public Market. Tickets can be [found here](#) (deadline Oct. 1)
  
- ✓ **Fair Trade Holiday Festival - Saturday, December 4, from 8am-3pm**  
*Cost:* Free to attend  
*Where:* Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center  
*What:* Madison's premier shopping/trade event for the holidays featuring many vendors. One featured item is the All-Kids 2022 International Calendar. More info can be [found here](#).

## OUR UPCOMING BOARD CALENDAR

➤ Mon., Oct. 4, 9 a.m. Board Officers  
Virtual

- Mon., Oct. 4, 5 p.m. Instruction Work Group  
Virtual
- Mon. Oct. 11, 5 p.m. Operations Work Group  
Virtual
- Wed., Oct. 13, 5 p.m. Student Senate  
Virtual
- Wed., Oct. 13, 5:30 p.m. City Education Committee  
Virtual
- Thurs., Oct. 14, 6 p.m. Memorial Renaming Citizens' Ad Hoc  
Virtual
- Fri., Oct. 15, 8:15 a.m. BOE Retreat  
Madison College-Goodman South Campus  
2429 Perry Street, Madison
- Week of October 18 Board member briefings  
Virtual
- Mon., Oct. 25, 9 a.m. Board Officers  
Virtual
- Mon., Oct. 25, 6 p.m. BOE REGULAR MEETING  
Virtual
- Wed., Oct. 27, 5 p.m. Student Senate  
Virtual

## ITEMS ATTACHED FOR INFORMATION

1. Madison Virtual Elementary Board Response-Part Two
2. 2021 Teacher Career Fair Summary
3. Social Justice Project-based Learning Institute with Dr. Jenkins
4. Weekly News Report\_9.30.2021

## Madison Virtual Elementary (MVE) Board Inquiry

10.1.21

All teacher reassignments were made prior to 3rd Friday count. **Principals were presented with a recommendation for their school’s instructional design with the final instructional design being a school based decision.** Recommended instructional design models included multi-age sections and all recommendations upheld the board class size policy. The following schools reassigned teachers; Chavez, Crestwood, Elvehjem, Gompers, Hawthorne, Huegel, Lapham, Lindbergh, Midvale, Muir, Olson, Sandburg, Shorewood, Stephens and Thoreau. Information has been provided below that details the grade level reassignment for schools, the recommended instructional design and the final school based instructional design with class size numbers. Please note that MVE enrollment is fluid and numbers have fluctuated.

### Teacher Reassignments

Madison Virtual Elementary - Teachers			
Kindergarten - 80 scholars			
Virtual Class Size	School	Recommendation for School’s Instructional Design	School Based Final Instructional Design Decision
26	Huegel	22, 21, 21	Class sizes: 22, 21, 21 Did not select multi-age model
27	Crestwood	20, 20	20, 19 Did not select multi- age model
26	Midvale	19, 20, 20	25, 18, 19 - Classroom Support 1 reg. ed. teacher, 1 CC teacher; CO Support of 1 additional teacher



			allocation at principal discretion to hire.
<b>First Grade - 79 Scholars</b>			
<b>Grade 1 = 79</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Recommendation for School's Instructional Design</b>	<b>School Based Final Instructional Design Decision</b>
27	Midvale	16, 17, 17	16, 17,17
26	Lindbergh	Kindergarten - 14, 16 First - 13, 14 Multiage K/1 - 17.3	Multiage 1/2 - 16, 16, 16
24	Elvehjem	Kindergarten - 21, 22 First - 21, 22 Multiage K/1 - 21	21, 22, 22 Did not select multi-age model
<b>Second Grade - 78 Scholars</b>			
<b>Grade 2 = 78</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Recommendation for School's Instructional Design</b>	<b>School Based Final Instructional Design Decision</b>
26	Lapham	23, 24	23, 24
26	Muir	17, 17, 16, 16	17, 17, 16, 16
26	Crestwood	22, 23	22, 23
<b>Third Grade - 86 Scholars</b>			
<b>Grade 3 = 86</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Recommendation for School's Instructional Design</b>	<b>School Based Final Instructional Design Decision</b>
29	Muir	17, 17, 18, 18	17, 17, 18, 18
28	Chavez	Grade 2 - 23, 23 Grade 3 - 23, 23	28, 29 Did not select multi-age model





		2/3 multiage - 23	
28	Stephens	22, 23	BRT was moved. No need to collapse a classroom.
<b>Fourth Grade - 88 Scholars</b>			
<b>Grade 4 = 88</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Recommendation for School's Instructional Design</b>	<b>School Based Final Instructional Design Decision</b>
29	Olson	Fourth Grade - 21, 22 Fifth Grade - 21, 22 4/5 multiage - 21, 22	4th Grade - 25, 26 Did not select multi-age model
30	Shorewood	Collapse 4th grade - 25, 25 Collapse K classroom 16, 16, 16	Collapsed 4th grade 25, 25
32	Muir	24, 24	24, 24
<b>Fifth Grade - 102 Scholars</b>			
<b>Grade 5 = 102</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Recommendation for School's Instructional Design</b>	<b>School Based Final Instructional Design Decision</b>
25	Hawthorne	Grade 4 - 23 Grade 5 - 23 4/5 multiage - 22	4/5 multiage - 23, 23 5th Grade - 24
26	Thoreau	Grade 4 - 24, 24 Grade 5 - 24, 25 4/5 multiage - 24	Grade 4 - 24, 24 Grade 5 - 24, 25 4/5 multiage - 24
25	Gompers	Grade 4 - 19 Grade 5 - 19 4/5 multiage - 19	Grade 5 - 25 Did not select multi-age model

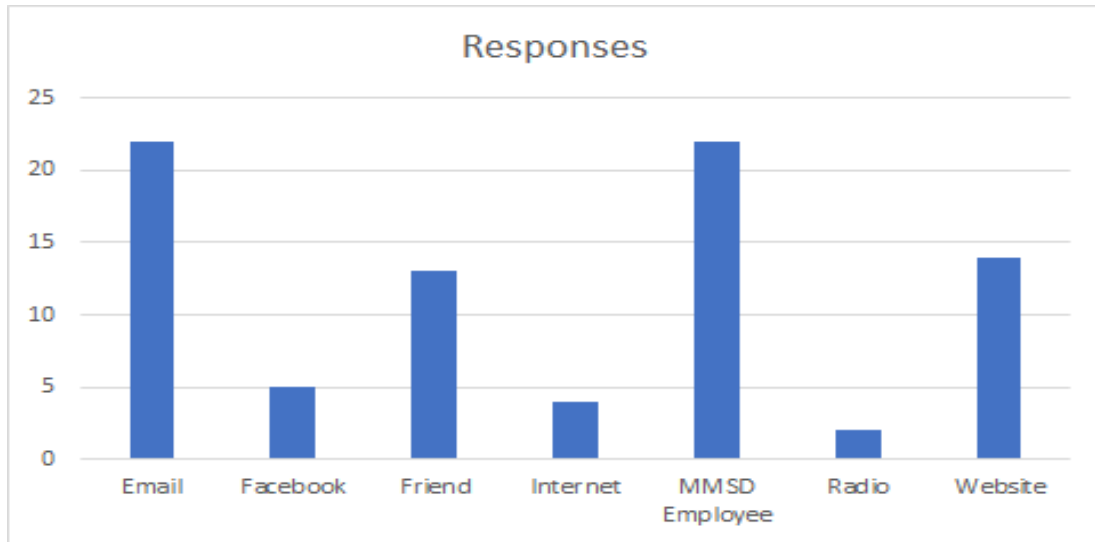


25	Sandburg	22, 22, 23	22, 22, 23
----	----------	------------	------------

## 2021 Teacher Career Fair Summary

On Thursday, August 19, we held a Teacher Career Fair at our Holtzman Building and welcomed 76 attendees! We advertised through a variety of radio stations, promoted widely on social media, and shared our event with local partners. There were Principals and Central Office staff to assist in interviewing and helping with logistics.

Our partnership with our Communications department was imperative to spread the word throughout our community with an Email blast promoting the event to our current staff and community. The fair was a great reminder of the power of word of mouth as most attendees heard about the fair through a friend, or a current MMSD employee.



### Attendees

In-person	Virtual	Walk-in
54	16	6
<b>Total: 76 Attendees</b>		

### Interview Results

Interview Result	Number	Percentage
Recommended	41	54%
Not Recommended	18	24%
Maybe	17	22%
<b>Total: 76 Attendees</b>		

### Career Fair Applicants

Ethnicity/Race	Number	Percentage
Asian	5	10%
Black	8	8%
Hispanic	18	18%
White	34	64%
<b>Total: 50 Teacher Applicants</b>		

**25 Students in a Hybrid Model  
Social Justice Project Based Learning Institute**

**Purpose: To provide MMSD staff with social justice leadership development in preparation for leadership roles as a talent management strategy.**

<b>October 19th</b>	<b>November 16th</b>	<b>December 21st</b>	<b>January 25th</b>	<b>February 25th</b>	<b>March 16th</b>	<b>April 19th</b>	<b>May 17th</b>
1. Equity Budgeting 2. Profiles of an Social Justice Leader	1. The Art of the Long View 2. Removing the Barriers for Learning	1. Collaborative Problem Solving and Restorative Justice	1. Equity-based Collaborative Evaluations (E.E.) 2. S.J.L.D.	1. Lifting Students' Voices 2. Engaging Parents with an Equity Lens	1. Justified Anger	1. Leading with Humanity and Humility	1. Mock Interviews
<b>Presenters</b>	<b>Presenters</b>	<b>Presenters</b>	<b>Presenters</b>	<b>Presenters</b>	<b>Presenters</b>	<b>Presenters</b>	<b>Presenters</b>
1. Ross MacPherson 2. Dr. Jenkins/Dr. Hicks	1. Dr. Gregory 2. Dr. Jenkins/Dr. Hicks	1. Sara Knueve/Rachelle Stone/Ron Lott	1. Jorge Covarrubias/Mike Jones/Dr. Pryor 2. Dr. Jenkins/Dr. Hicks	1. Student Panel 2. Parent Panel	1. Dr. Gee	1. Dr. Hicks/Dr. Jenkins	1. Human Resources/School Leaders/District Leaders

**Books:**

“James Baldwin and the American Schoolhouse” by Carl Grant

“Anti-Racist Educational Leadership and Policy: Addressing Racism in Public Education” by Sarah Diem and Anjalé D. Welton

“Caste” by Isabel Wilkerson

**Articles:**

“Educational Debt” by Gloria Ladson-Billings



# WEEKLY NEWS REPORT

Edition: 09/30/21

NEWS ORG	NEWS HEADLINE & LINK
Cap Times	<a href="#">Cases spike at Madison School District</a>
Cap Times	<a href="#">Madison Memorial Renaming</a>
Cap Times	<a href="#">Wisconsin Assembly Bill banning critical race theory passes</a>
Cap Times	<a href="#">MMSD teachers must be vaccinated by Nov. 1</a>
WISC News 3	<a href="#">MMSD unanimously approves COVID-19 vaccine mandate for staff -</a>
WISC News 3	<a href="#">What options remain for renaming James Madison Memorial High School?</a>
WKOW 27 News	<a href="#">SSM Health to host COVID-19 vaccine clinic for MMSD educators</a>
NBC 15 News	<a href="#">Madison schools blocked from enforcing transgender guidance</a>
WISC News 3	<a href="#">Vaccines offered to MMSD staff</a>
WISC News 3	<a href="#">East High School student taken to hospital after fight at school, district says</a>
NBC 15 News	<a href="#">MMSD Board President comments on school safety</a>
WISC News 3	<a href="#">MPD to patrol grounds at 2 MMSD schools following 'vague threatening remarks' on Snapchat - Channel3000.com - WISC-TV3g</a>