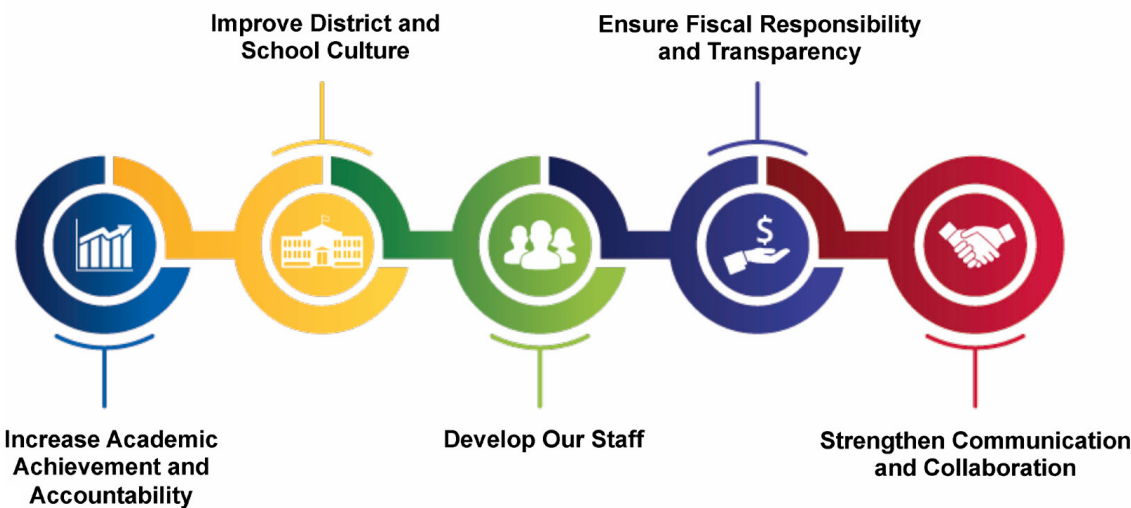




Superintendent’s Report – November 2020

The Superintendent’s Report is designed to provide the Milwaukee Board of School Directors and the MPS community with an update on current activities underway to support the district goals of academic achievement; student, family and community engagement; and effective and efficient operations as they are aligned to the district’s strategic objectives and the Five Priorities for Success.



MPS Students Participate in Mock Election

Over the past few weeks, MPS students have learned about citizenship, government, and the electoral process.

More than 13,000 students in grades 4K through 12 took part in a mock election, and results were announced on Election Day, November 3, 2020. The winner among MPS student voters was Joe Biden.



During social studies classes, students have spent time learning about elections with the goal of becoming engaged and active citizens. Classroom goals include understanding the importance of voting and gaining a sense of power to impact change. In the social studies curriculum, students spend time analyzing information, reading primary and secondary documents, drawing conclusions, and using evidence to make an argument. The presidential election is a unique opportunity to draw upon all these skills within a real-world event and watch how the process plays

out. This process allowed students to feel the responsibility of voting and know that they have a voice.

Virtual learning has introduced new challenges to the process, such as assisting the youngest learners with technology. Older students, who have become acclimated to virtual platforms and online surveys, were able to easily navigate to cast a ballot. A system of checks and balances ensured that students were able to vote only once.

Six Milwaukee High School of the Arts (MHSA) Singers Selected for All-State Ensemble

Students from Milwaukee High School of the Arts (MHSA) have captured six coveted places in an all-state vocal ensemble sponsored by the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association (WCDA). Following the rigorous audition process, the students will take part in virtual rehearsals and performances in January.

The WCDA hosts the All-State Vocal Jazz Ensemble annually. Student entries are submitted from all over Wisconsin for consideration for this prestigious ensemble.

This is the first year that MHSA students have auditioned for the 16-member group, with the final results landing the school in more than one-third of the available seats. Each student prepared and submitted a solo from the standard jazz literature, as well as an ensemble excerpt.

The singers will participate in virtual rehearsals and a performance during the WCDA annual state conference in January. Students will be working with college professors from Columbia College and the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point, and will be exchanging musical experiences with other gifted high school singers from around the state.”

Congratulations to our students, who will serve as phenomenal music ambassadors to a statewide audience: Seniors Adrean Maxwell and Jeffrey Pastor; Juniors Damien Blair, Treysean Hall, Glorymar Mendez and Nvaira Shackelford-Jackson.

Sophomores Attend Virtual Program



On October 14, 2020, MPS sophomores spent their lunchtime virtually with industry experts and MATC educators to learn about career paths in engineering and manufacturing, get tips, and ask questions. The meet-up was part of a new Lunch and Learn series designed to help students explore education options offered at Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM).

The series will continue twice per month throughout the school year, with different career areas discussed by educators and staff at both MATC and UWM. In addition to engineering and manufacturing, students can

explore careers in information technology and robotics, health and general sciences, liberal arts and education, arts and media, business and finance, and public services (police, fire, criminal justice, and social work).

The Lunch and Learn series is made possible through the M³ (pronounced M-cubed) partnership among MPS, MATC, and UWM. This collaboration among Milwaukee's three urban public education institutions is transforming the future of Milwaukee through education and seeks to ensure student success within these institutions to meet the workforce needs of business and industry in our region and improve the well-being of Wisconsin citizens, their families, and communities.

The October 14 session featured faculty and staff from MATC along with industry experts from Allis-Roller, LLC. Interested students should contact their school counselor or College and Career Center advisor to learn how to sign up. For a list of sessions, visit the [Lunch and Learn web page](#).

Free Flu Immunizations at Four MPS Sites in November

Children's Wisconsin was on site at four MPS locations (Andrew S. Douglas Middle School, Engleburg Elementary School, Doerfler Elementary School, and Zablocki Community School) in early November to provide free flu immunizations. Thank you to the City of Milwaukee Health Department for providing the flu immunizations, which were administered by Children's Wisconsin school nurses and Children's Community Health Plan nurses. The vaccines were available to all community members, regardless of insurance coverage, including children over 6 months of age as well as adults.