



**MILWAUKEE  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



## Superintendent’s Report – July 2021

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.



## Milwaukee Recreation Provides Affordable Summer Child Care



This summer, Milwaukee Recreation is offering [affordable child care](#) at nearly 70 sites around the city!

Our qualified staff members safely provide recreation, enrichment, mentorship, academic support, and more to youth at our Child Care Camps, Community Learning Centers, and Safe Places.

[You can find the most updated list of summer child care sites here!](#)

These locations opened on varying dates in June. Prices vary by site. Please contact the listed Site Director at your preferred location to register and find more information.

## Good Morning America Honors Team Milwaukee Special Olympics Volunteer and Coach



Bucks basketball has taken the city of Milwaukee by storm this summer, but for volunteer and coach Quentin Redd, using hoops to impact the community has always been a priority.

Redd, an alum of Vincent High School, is a longtime Team Milwaukee Special Olympics and Adaptive Athletics volunteer and coach. He joined the program as a volunteer in the early 2000s to help his brother, who is an active participant with Special Olympics. Over the years, Redd has volunteered as a softball, basketball, and flag football coach. He currently volunteers as a basketball and flag football coach for Team Milwaukee and is a part-time staff member for the Unified Summer Stars basketball program.

ABC's "Good Morning America" honored Redd's passion and dedication to the community with tickets to Game 4 of the NBA Finals between the Phoenix Suns and Milwaukee Bucks.

Under the guise of a story about the Bucks' run to the NBA Finals and its impact on Special Olympics and basketball in Milwaukee, ABC reporter Will Reeve and Good Morning America talked to Redd, his co-workers, his family, his friends, and his Team Milwaukee Special Olympics athletes about Redd's devotion to the program and its players. The Bucks joined the celebration with Redd's family and friends on to surprise him live on Good Morning America.

## College Conversations Help Students Navigate College Planning

Summer is the perfect time to explore colleges and start making plans! MPS school counselors hosted virtual sessions to help students get ready to apply for college. High school students in grades 9, 10, and 11 attended.

The MPS summer college planning series, known as College Conversations, took place on Wednesdays in July. There is still one session scheduled in August focusing on college scholarships. School counselors and national and local experts shared their knowledge and advice on navigating the college admissions process. Attendees asked questions and shared experiences.



### College Scholarships

August 4, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

Download the Zoom app on your smart device or log in on a computer. Register for College Conversations at <https://tinyurl.com/MPS2021CollegeConversations>.

## Register Now for MPS Head Start for Fall 2021



If your child is 3 or 4 years old, it's time for their learning journey to begin! Children who attend preschool, Head Start, or an early learning program are more prepared for kindergarten and are more successful in school. Help your child succeed—register for MPS Head Start now!

Head Start is a free program that helps children develop early reading and math skills. Children learn to work with a teacher and take part in activities to explore their world. Head Start also offers health screenings, family supports, and free breakfast and lunch on school days.

MPS offers half-day and full-day Head Start programs at 35 sites. Some schools offer a bilingual (English/Spanish) program. Before- and after-school care and transportation are available.

Families must meet income limits to qualify. Children with special needs receive priority for seats. Children in foster/kinship care are automatically accepted. Speak with a Head Start staff member to find out what options are available for your child.

**3-year-old Head Start or Kindergarten:** Programs are available at some schools. Children must turn 3 by September 1 to be eligible.

**4-year-old Head Start or Kindergarten:** Programs are available at most schools across the district. Children must turn 4 by September 1 to be eligible.

Contactless walk-up registration is available until August 20. Visit the Grant Gordon Learning Center from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Enter Door 5 on 10th Street to receive a folder of forms. Fill out the forms off site or in your car, then drop forms in the dropbox.

For questions or to schedule an appointment to register, contact a school or call the MPS Head Start Office located in the Grant Gordon Learning Center.

921 W. Meinecke Ave. (Enter on 10th and Meinecke)  
Milwaukee, WI 53206  
(414) 252-0350  
Hours: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

For more information and to view schools offering Head Start, visit [mpsmke.com/headstart](https://mpsmke.com/headstart).

## Register for the 14th Annual MPS Run Back to School!

Celebrate the start of the 2021-22 school year with Milwaukee Recreation at the 14th annual [MPS Run Back to School!](#)

Join us for this 5K run/1.5-mile walk around Washington Park. Proceeds support MPS wellness and youth recreation programs.



### Event Information

- Date: Saturday, Aug. 28
- Start Time: 9 a.m.
- Start & Finish Line: Wick Playfield (next to MPS Central Services building: 5225 W. Vliet St.)
- Cost: \$5 for youth/\$15 for adults (\$20 for adults after Aug. 12)
- [Register Here!](#)

Fee includes an event t-shirt and race bag.

Following the success of the 2020 Virtual Challenge, this year's event will feature several virtual elements in the lead up to the in-person race! Registrants can join Milwaukee Recreation's [Wellness Community Facebook Group](#) to participate in the challenges, post photos, and join the conversation with fellow RBTsers! There will be four total challenges, with the first one beginning on Aug. 1. Stay tuned to this page for more information on the specific challenges!

## Schools Can Receive up to \$1,000 in Grants by Forming an RBTS team!

Make sure you rally your team for the MPS Run Back to School race and apply for a grant for your school! Not only will you help kick off the 2021-22 school year with hundreds of local MPS supporters, school communities with at least **25 registered participants are eligible for a \$500 grant** to support a sport or wellness need in their school! The school with the **most registered participants is eligible for a \$1,000 grant** to support a sport or wellness need in their school! Anyone from the community can join a school team. After the race, school teams who met the minimum participant requirement will need to fill out a form that states how the funds will be used in order to receive the grant.



In the past, schools have used the grant funds for:

- new gym and sports equipment
- new uniforms
- sports registration fees
- rental of the [Wacky Wheels Skate Van](#) for its students

Nominate a team captain for your school and start your team today! (To sign up for a team, make sure you specify your school during the registration process after you add the race to your cart.)

If your team signs up before Aug. 12, school teams can pick the color of their team RBTS shirt.

### **Milwaukee Recreation Continues Citywide Playfield Revitalization Project**

Milwaukee Recreation is on a mission to ensure that all members of our community have access to high-quality outdoor recreation facilities. In June, the department continued its citywide playfield renovation project at two locations, Green Bay Playfield ([3872 N. 8th St.](#)) and Franklin Square Playfield ([2643 N. 13th St.](#)).

On Friday, June 25, community members, neighborhood partners, and staff came together at Green Bay Playfield to celebrate another critical step in the renovation process. The revitalized playfield will include new basketball and tennis courts, a splash pad, playground equipment, a seating area, green space, and more!

On Tuesday, June 29, Milwaukee Recreation battled the rain and celebrated the grand reopening of Franklin Square Playfield with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The revitalized playfield features basketball courts, a splash pad, new playground equipment, shade structures, a multi-purpose field, and more.

### **MPS Community Sessions Discussed ESSER Relief Funds**

MPS hosted a series of community engagement sessions to share information and get input for the use of COVID-19 relief grant funds. The district is receiving financial support under the federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief fund (ESSER). Sessions took place at Wisconsin Conservatory of Lifelong Learning, North Division, South Division, Vincent, and Reagan.

Students, families, staff, and community members are invited to attend to help prioritize the allocation of relief dollars, address the impact of the pandemic on learning, and provide input about delivering a high-quality education to children.

MPS anticipates about \$506 million to allocate over the next 3 school years. At least 20% must be used to mitigate learning loss due to the pandemic.

The district has identified five priority areas for allocating ESSER relief funds:

- Accelerating learning
- Health and wellness
- Facilities
- Technology
- Extracurricular engagement

