



REPORT TO THE MILWAUKEE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS: MAY 2020

The Office of Accountability and Efficiency (OAE) was established to enhance transparency, oversight, and accountability to the District's financial operations; to evaluate fiscal performance; and to recommend solutions in furtherance of fiscal stewardship of Milwaukee Public Schools.

During the reporting period, OAE performed its annual review of the Superintendent's Proposed Budget, which is focused on enhancing transparency and oversight of the financial operations of MPS. The review resulted in transparent discussion of OPEB funding levels and their impact on long-term financial obligations, enhanced transparency as it relates to the average teacher salary calculation and its impact on the budget, and improved clarity regarding proposed referendum spending.

OAE also participated in an advisory capacity on the Board-directed Pension/Retirement Task Force, providing independent analysis of three retirement scenarios proposed by the Task Force. This analysis focused on recommending solutions in furtherance of the fiscal stewardship of MPS and resulted in a recommendation of funding parameters necessary to ensure long-term financial stability and equity without delaying the sunset date of current OPEB liabilities.

OAE also prepared for the safe return of staff to the physical work space beginning May 26, 2020. OAE will implement various health and safety actions to ensure that the physical return to work is safe for all OAE employees. In order to ensure proper social distancing, and in alignment with central services procedures, OAE is utilizing a staggered start approach. This approach will contribute to a safe working environment for employees while ensuring the main office and phone are staffed daily during regular business hours.

Accountability and Efficiency Services and Contract Compliance Services

Between April 11, 2020 and May 19, 2020, Accountability and Efficiency Services and Contract Compliance Services continued to work to advance mission-critical projects while following district remote working procedures in place due the COVID-19 pandemic. Work completed included three requests for information, three requests for constituent support, and various requests for contract compliance review on critical contracts. Additionally, Contract Compliance Services continued to focus its efforts on engaging industry and community-based partners to advance the employment training road map for Administrative Policy 3.13, Communities in Need. As a result, an informational item has been provided to the Board this month through its Committee on Accountability, Finance, and Personnel.