

Resolution 2122R-004

By Director Peterson

WHEREAS, The Milwaukee Public Schools has a commitment to equity in all areas of operations; and

WHEREAS, This commitment should result in equitable access for middle and high school students to creative and rigorous curricula, advanced course offerings, and welcoming school environments; and

WHEREAS, There is a disproportionality among schools in certain areas including student attendance, mobility, and graduation rates; the number of classes taught by non-certified teachers; student achievement measures; the percentage of students with special needs; and possible funding differentials; and

WHEREAS, Large school districts throughout the county are facing similar problems and reviewing the impact of student screening and/or admission policies in certain schools; and

WHEREAS, These issues are complicated, interconnected, and require thoughtful problem-solving by all affected stake-holders; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED That the Board directs the Administration to create a middle/high school equity workgroup to examine the aforementioned issues and make recommendations to the Board as to how any such problems of inequity might be addressed; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That parents, staff and students from both selective enrollment schools and schools without selective enrollment be part of the work group, as well as representatives of the MTEA and ASCD—and that these and other stakeholders be provided the opportunity to give input at school board and community meetings; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the workgroup consult with and draw on the experience of other districts and educators that have faced similar challenges; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Administration report back on the composition of the work and its initial meeting(s) in the ~~September~~ October 2021 Board cycle and that initial recommendations by the workgroup be made to the Board during the January 2022 board cycle, with the understanding that the earliest policy changes would go into effect for the 2022-2023 school year.

Introduced May 27, 2021