

Resolution 1516R-002

By Directors Bonds, Joseph, and Zautke

WHEREAS, MPS offers a wide range of educational platforms from traditional non-contracted schools to charter and partnership offerings, across the district in an effort to mitigate the possibility of saturation of one type of school in any given region, and to provide parents with various educational options; and

WHEREAS, MPS has historically supported and promoted educational programs that are unique and different from traditional schools and had begun to engage in a variety of efforts both to reform schools and to improve student academic achievement prior to having become a charter authorizer; and

WHEREAS, In alignment with this commitment and to address students' current needs, the district recognizes the critical role of the Superintendent of Schools in executing, evaluating, and replicating successful programming; and

WHEREAS, The Superintendent's job description and responsibilities, as set forth under section 119.32 of the Wisconsin Statutes, include, but are not limited to, the following:

(2)(a) The Superintendent shall have general supervision of the public schools and the manner of conducting and grading such schools...

(5) The Superintendent shall assign all teachers and engage and assign all substitute teachers...

and

WHEREAS, Under Administrative policy 2.01(2)(a), the Board:

- delegates the authority to the Superintendent to "...supervise, either directly or through delegation, all activities of the school system...";
- charges the Superintendent with the responsibility to administer the development and maintenance of a positive educational program designed to meet the needs of the students and to carry out the policies and to serve as liaison between the school district and the community and as an advocate for children and public education;
- grants the Superintendent the authority to initiate matters of educational policy and to make definite recommendations thereon; and
- mandates that the Superintendent is to keep abreast of the best educational developments and advice regarding appropriate changes in the policies and operations of the school system; and

WHEREAS, Board Governance Policy 3.01 states that the Superintendent of Schools is appointed as the chief executive officer and is responsible for the conduct of the educational and recreational programs of the schools; and

WHEREAS, Board Governance Policy BG 3.01(2)(e) states that the Superintendent of Schools has the sole right of nomination for employment and promotion of education and operational staff; and

WHEREAS, Board Governance Policy B.G. 3.03(3) states:

As long as the Superintendent uses any reasonable interpretation of the Board's goals and standards and executive limitations policies, the Superintendent is authorized to establish all further policies, make all decisions, take all actions, establish all practices, and develop all activities. The Board delegates to the Superintendent the function of specifying required procedures and designing detailed arrangements under which the public schools and their

respective departments will be operated in accordance with Board policy. These detailed arrangements shall constitute the administrative procedures governing the school system.

and

WHEREAS, Board Governance Policy B.G. 3.03(1) delegates through the Superintendent any of the Board's authority that is delegated to staff, so that all authority and accountability of staff, as far as the Board is concerned, is considered to be under the authority of, and accountable by, the Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, Under Board Governance Policy BG 3.01(2)(b), the Superintendent Is the advisor on all matters of educational policy and procedure and serves as an advisory member of every committee of the Board and, furthermore, is to recommend policies, provide data which will permit the Board to formulate policies, and be responsible for executing the related official policies, rules, and regulations; and

WHEREAS, Under Board Governance Policy BG 3.01(2)(g), the Superintendent has general care and custody of all of the district's property and is to perform "...such other duties as may be assigned to him/her by the law, and issues such additional or supplemental rulings and directives for the management of the schools as he/she may deem proper..."; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board render to the Superintendent of Schools complete autonomy and control over up to three schools, annually, over a five-year cycle, which have been designated as low-performing by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's school report card; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Superintendent shall have complete autonomy to implement up to three educational programs, annually, within a five-year cycle, that at a minimum:

- provide new, high-quality innovative school programs;
- offer autonomy to academically successful MPS programs that increase student achievement; and
- expand existing successful educational options; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Superintendent is to determine the criteria for the schools selected for his/her independent management; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Superintendent shall have the independence and authority to change the school calendar for selected schools (e.g., starting dates, times); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Superintendent have the overt authority for use of facilities to house the selected programs; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Superintendent have budgetary authority over the selected programs and a waiver from Administrative Policy 3.09 Purchasing and Bidding Requirements, allowing the option for unique partnerships (e.g., post-secondary, trade and technical); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Superintendent be provided up to three positions to support the selected schools; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Superintendent shall have the explicit authority to re-integrate schools back into the MPS system if they demonstrate improved academic success; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board direct the Office of Board Governance and the Administration, in consultation with the City Attorney's Office, to revise Administrative Policy and Procedure 9.12, Charter Schools, to reflect the Superintendent's autonomy to establish and implement charter and partnership schools; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Superintendent's autonomy and authority to execute the actions of this resolution shall be effective immediately upon the Board's adoption of this resolution.