

## **Report of Milwaukee Board of School Directors President, Marva Herndon – September 26, 2024**

Welcome to all as we have nearly completed our first month of the 2024-25 school year. We celebrated the first day of school at South Division High School, welcoming the students and staff with the Red Carpet. In addition, we are so honored to have been joined in this endeavor by Gov. Tony Evers, Senator Tammy Baldwin, Dr. Jill Underly, State Superintendent along with other elected officials.

Interim Superintendent Galvan, Administrative Staff and I then traveled to Kluge Elementary. Principal Willingham, staff and students were already hard at work on their first day and were very welcoming.

I am delighted to share the highlights of our activities and achievements for the month of September. This month has been very busy, yet very productive.

### **Effective and Efficient Operations**

We have been working hard to ensure everything runs smoothly and efficiently.

The Board held our first Legislation, Rules and Policies committee meeting for this school year. Our purpose is to accept or deny the recommendation of Administration's review/modification/removal of the policy and procedures in the agenda. It is a goal of the board to complete this process by the end of this school year. There are 300+ Administrative Policy and Procedures that must be reviewed.

Again, we held a very productive meeting of the Committee on Accountability, Finance and Personnel this month, where we discussed our approving a job description for Grief Support Specialist as well as financial strategies and personnel updates.

In terms of meeting attendance, I attended quite a few:

- Four detailed audit status meetings this month. These meetings are essential for keeping on track with our compliance activities, goals ensuring that the Board stays updated on our audit work.
- Attended one meeting with Interim Superintendent Galvan regarding safety.
- Attended one Legislation, Rules and Policies committee meeting.
- Three meetings with OBG Board Clerk to review meeting schedule, review possible committee agenda items, board initiatives or projects.
- Four strategic meetings with our Kane Communications partners. These discussions are focused on taking proactive steps to keep the public informed.
- Two meetings with attorneys regarding personnel matters.
- One meeting with MHSA Principal Farris.
- One meeting regarding Long Range Facilities Master Plan.
- Two meetings regarding or with the Hazard, Young, Attea Associates (HYA) – consulting firm hired to conduct the Superintendent search.
- I will be joining Ald. Lareesa Taylor, District 9 with visits to four schools.

### **Student, Parent, and Community Engagement**

I encourage everyone to attend one of the Long- Range Facilities Master Plan (LRFMP) meetings. We need your input to help shape the school district's future by commenting at town hall meeting on the 10-year plan for district buildings.

You will be able to review Perkins Eastman's (MPS Consultants) proposed options for buildings and comment on them to help build the final plan. This plan will have a direct impact on the future of schools buildings and student experiences across Milwaukee. Please go to this link for location, dates and times: [MPS: Milwaukee Public Schools Calendar](#).

Parents of 8th graders – don't miss this chance to explore MPS high schools, meet educators, learn about programs, and apply to secure your child's school assignment for Fall 2025.

The first **HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT FAIR**

**Saturday, September 28, 9:00 a.m. – Noon**

South Division High School 1515 W. Lapham Blvd

Additional High School Enrollment Open House events will be held at various locations throughout the month of October. Please go to this link: [MPS: High School Enrollment \(milwaukee.k12.wi.us\)](https://milschools.wi.gov/high-school-enrollment) for all details.