

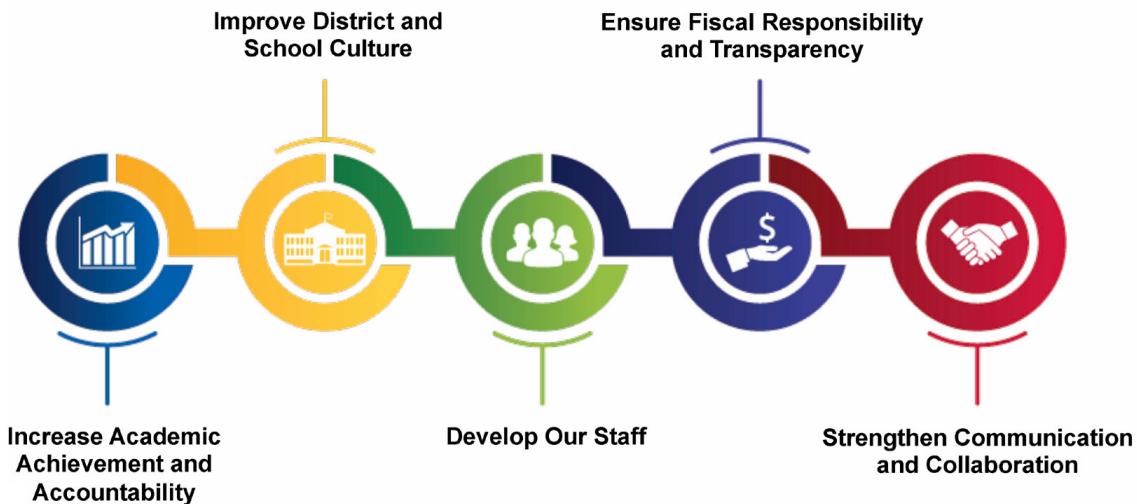


**MILWAUKEE  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



## Superintendent's Report – November

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.



## SCHOOL VISITS

School visits remain a priority and serve as an excellent mechanism for gathering feedback to support district improvement efforts. This month, I had the opportunity to visit Roosevelt School of the Arts, Manitoba School, Vincent, and Marshall High School.

## EVENTS/PROGRAMS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *MPS partners to increase healthy food options for students*

Serving breakfast and lunch to nearly 76,000 students every school day is a big task, and selecting healthy foods that children enjoy can be a challenge, but this work is about to get a little easier. Through a partnership with the Life Time Foundation, the Milwaukee Public Schools Department of Nutrition Services will evaluate foods and look for substitutions to eliminate certain additives and processed ingredients that may have health consequences.

The partnership was announced on November 7 at Manitoba School, with district leaders and the Life Time Foundation pledging to improve health and the



ability to learn for Milwaukee's children.

The Life Time Foundation is a Minneapolis-based nonprofit organization that is helping 310,000 students at 544 schools across the country. The Foundation's registered dietician will team up with MPS to review food labels and recommend changes, with the goal of eliminating the "Harmful 7" ingredients: trans fats and hydrogenated oils; high-fructose corn syrup; hormones and antibiotics; processed and artificial sweeteners; artificial colors and flavors; artificial preservatives; and bleached flour. The district has already eliminated some of these categories from foods offered to students, and is grateful to have support to continue to remove certain ingredients from menus.

MPS will work with the Life Time Foundation over a three-year period to evaluate and make changes to breakfast and lunch programs.

### ***Resource fair offers support for families of children with special needs***

Special needs children were the focus of MPS' 17th annual Foro Latino event held at South Division High School. More than 40 community agencies were on hand to provide information and workshops. This free resource fair improved access to support for children with special needs.



Foro Latino is presented in both Spanish and English. It is the only event of its kind in the state. Attendees had access to a wide range of community resources, including medical agencies, and had opportunities to network with other families who have children with special needs.

The event was a collaboration uniting MPS, Alianza Latino Aplicando Soluciones, Milwaukee County, the U.S. Department of Education, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities, Wisconsin Statewide Parent Educator Institute, and Disability Rights Wisconsin.

### ***MPS schools design learning around Hispanic Heritage Month***

MPS schools took advantage of National Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 through October 15) by providing students with real world experiences, including dance, music, art, writing, research, and more.

Milwaukee Spanish Immersion School hosted its annual Heritage Night to conclude Heritage Month. Families were invited to view student projects, enjoy performances, and witness their students using their Spanish language skills firsthand.



Fourth-grade students at Alexander Mitchell Integrated Arts School created research projects about Hispanics who have made a difference, then took their show on the road to visit veterans at the Milwaukee VA Medical Center. The class was presented with a plaque and a hat from each of the four branches of service. In honor of Veterans Day, students are writing thank you notes to residents at the VA center, and more activities are planned for the future.

ALBA School hosted a Hispanic Heritage Celebration and invited families to view their projects about the Incas, Mayans, Aztecs, and Tainos. Students performed indigenous music, and everyone enjoyed the festive celebration.

The celebration at Forest Home Avenue School lasted several weeks, with students posting their Hispanic Heritage work on bulletin boards, and fourth- and fifth-grade classes engaging in research projects. Parents enjoyed a traditional meal at the monthly parent meeting, and students and families took part in the Mexican Independence Day parade with their cheerleaders, mascot, and a school float.

Students from Escuela Vieau designed artworks as part of the Dia de los Muertos Art and Culture Family Project. Their projects were on display at the Milwaukee Art Museum for a week, and families received free admission to view the works and enjoy the museum.

Fairview School and Allen-Field School created a festive atmosphere by designing bulletin boards, posting student work, and encouraging lively discussions in class about Hispanic/Latino culture and famous individuals. Students explored art, literature, music, history, and politics in Spain, Central America, and South America.

### ***Mother & Son Superhero Night thrives in second annual event***

Milwaukee Recreation hosted the second annual [Mother & Son Superhero Night](#) on Saturday, November 9, at Hamilton High School Community Center.

Mothers and sons attended in their favorite superhero attire for an evening of arts and crafts, superhero training activities, and healthy snacks.

This event, intended for one to ten-year-olds, saw over 200 participants put their superhero skills to the test. Superhero activities included: Black Panther Bowling, Race Through Gotham, Flash Dance, Lightsaber Training, and much more!



For more MPS highlights, click the link below to view our October “Recap” video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N79CqmsdD8I&t=14s>

