

Report of Milwaukee Board of School Directors President Marva Herndon – March 2025

The month of March has been extremely busy for board members, students, staff, administration and the community. March was full of feelings of anticipation, excitement, enthusiasm and concern.

Based on the directives from the Milwaukee Health Department, the district is working to address all areas of concern regarding lead paint identified at our schools. Our Department of Facilities and Maintenance Services is contracting with a professional restoration company to expedite our work and ensure compliance with the directives from the Milwaukee Health Department. Updates for MPS families and staff can be located on the MPS website using this url: <https://mps.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/en/District/About-MPS/Departments/Office-of-Operations/Facilities--Maintenance-Services/MPS-Lead-Report-.htm>

Effective and Efficient Operations

Dr. Brenda Cassellius is officially the Superintendent of Milwaukee Public Schools, start date - March 15.

Dr. Cassellius has been quite busy throughout this month, visiting schools and community events. However, I had the opportunity to introduce her to a couple of schools (Vincent HS and Hawthorne Elementary) in District 1.

Meeting/Event Attendance for this month

- Attended 1 Executive Board Meeting
- Attended 1 meetings with Tina Owens, Board Clerk and OAE Audit Services
- Attended 1 Accountability, Finance & Personnel Meeting
- Attended 1 LRP Meeting
- Attended 2 Special Board Meetings - Superintendent Contract/SRO
- Attended 1 Regular Board Meeting
- Attended 1 OBG/OS/OAE (standing weekly meeting)
- Attended 1 meeting with Superintendent
- Attended 1 meeting with MGT – Operational Audit Update
- Attended 2 Council of Great City Schools Meetings

Student, Family, and Community Engagement

- Attended visit to Bethune Academy with Supt. Cassellius on her 1st day
- Supt. Cassellius joined me in “Read Around America” at Hawthorne Elementary
- Escorted Supt. Cassellius on tour/meet students/staff of Vincent HS of Agriculture
- Participated in cooking class at McDowell Montessori taught by FoodRight, a local non-profit partner that provides culinary/nutrition based education to our students.

CONGRATULATIONS

We are so excited to recognize Mr. Joshua Gonzalez on his selection as Wisconsin Agriculture Teacher of the Year 2024. Mr. Gonzalez is a second-grade teacher at the River Trail School of Agricultural Science. River Trail is a citywide feeder school to Vincent HS of Agriculture where students can continue their agricultural education.

McDowell Cooking Class



Lunch at Bethune Academy



READ ACROSS AMERICA – Hawthorne Elementary

