

Office of Accountability and Efficiency

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REPORT TO THE MILWAUKEE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS: MARCH 2021

The Office of Accountability and Efficiency (OAE) was established to enhance transparency, oversight, and accountability to the District's financial operations; to evaluate fiscal performance; and to recommend solutions in furtherance of fiscal stewardship of Milwaukee Public Schools. Each month, the OAE monthly report will provide a highlight of one area of the OAE Work Plan and Work Plan progress from the previous month.

Work Plan Highlight: Communities In Need Program (COIN)

In accordance with Administrative Policy 3.13, Communities In Need Initiative, the COIN initiative is MPS' workforce preference program, which targets the employment of District constituents on construction contracts who are unemployed or under-employed and meet general free/reduced lunch eligibility criteria. Facilities and Maintenance Services contractors provide regular work opportunities for COIN workers under this program. COIN individuals represent both skilled and unskilled workers.

Accountability and Efficiency Services

Between February 16, 2021 and March 15, 2021, Accountability and Efficiency Services fulfilled four requests for information/research and two constituent inquiries. Additionally, Accountability and Efficiency Services completed four special projects. Also during the reporting period, Accountability and Efficiency Services worked to increase capacity for using data for improvement by exploring a partnership opportunity with the Harvard Center for Education Policy Research Strategic Data Project.

Accountability and Efficiency Services also continued to support the District's implementation of Administrative Policies 3.09 and 6.35.

Contract Compliance Services

During the reporting period, Contract Compliance Services (CCS) continued to advance efforts with Mission Aligned Partners (MAPs), which included the addition of three new MAPS: the School District of Brown Deer, the Wauwatosa School District, and the Milwaukee County Health Department. The letters of support received from these new partners stressed the importance of increasing project-based, skilled trades paid training opportunities for students and community members. These strategic partnerships support the scaling of Administrative Policy 3.13, Communities In Need, as MAPs have prioritized the work based on industry feedback.

Additionally, the team continues to assess data concerning the COVID-19 Business Operations Survey. A report will be submitted to the Milwaukee Board of School Directors summarizing the findings. Furthermore, the team has reconciled Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) performance, resulting in a confirmed spend to HUB firms totaling \$23,095,829. This value is the largest spend since the policy's inception. Additionally, women business enterprises continue to be the highest represented group across industry classifications.

Contract Compliance Services also continued to support the District's implementation of Administrative Policies 3.10 and 3.13.