



**MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Climate Justice Update

Thursday August 15th, 2024

**Eduardo Galván
Interim Superintendent**



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PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Presenters

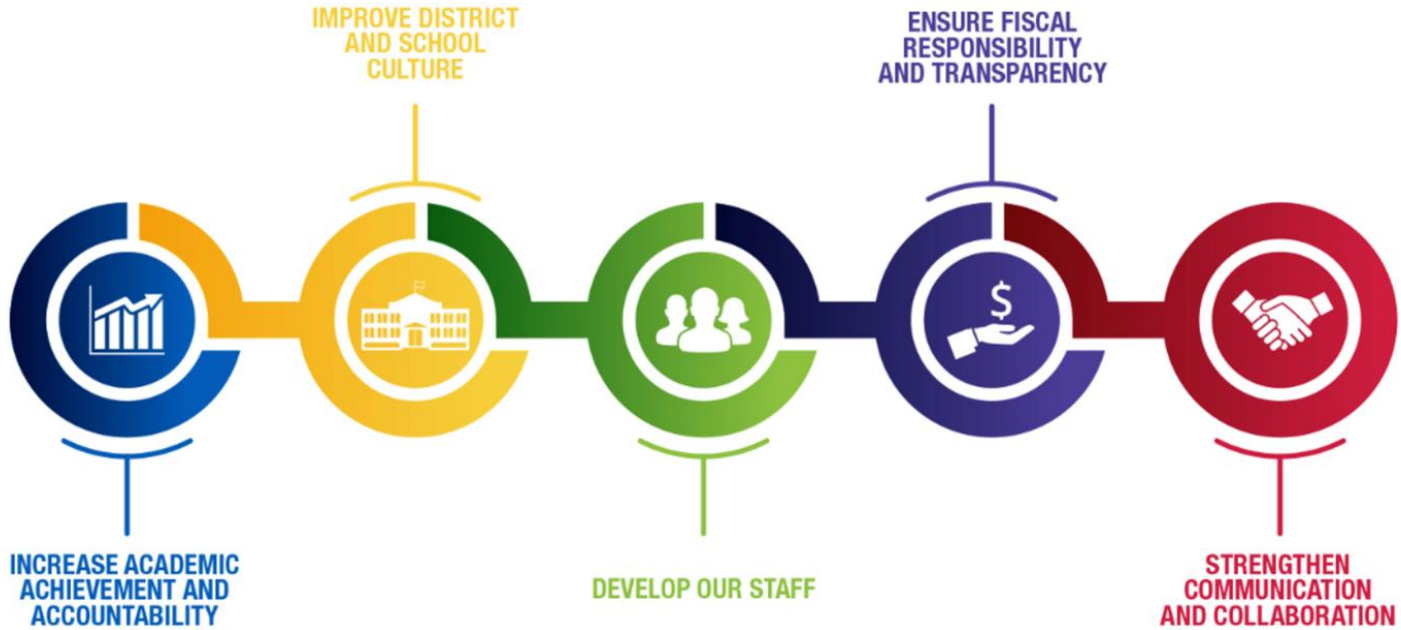
Chelsea Malacara,
Sustainability Project Specialist
(MPS)

Heather Dietzel,
Sustainability Project Specialist
(MPS)

Kimberly Talarico,
Climate Education Coach (MPS)

Kat Klawes,
Climate Coordinator
(Citizen Action)

Five Priorities for Success



Strategic Plan Driving Our Mission



Strategic Plan Driving Our Mission:

MPS is a diverse district that welcomes all students and prepares them for success in higher education, post-education opportunities, work, and citizenship.

DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

ENERGY MANAGEMENT

- Participated in Department of Energy's Energy Class Prize program. The district received a total of \$150,000.
- Awarded \$50,000 grant from WI Public Service Commission to hire a firm to conduct a carbon emissions inventory of the district.

WASTE REDUCTION

- Received a \$375,000 USDA grant to launch a two-year food waste diversion pilot program in schools across the district.

DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

REFLO GREEN SCHOOLYARDS

Fall 2023

- Construction was completed on five schoolyards
- \$7 million in grants and partnerships
- 190,000 square feet of asphalt removed
- 187 trees planted



Summer 2024

- Scaling up green school impacts
- 280,000 square feet of asphalt removed
- 325 trees planted

USDA Forestry Grant Partnership

- \$2.5 million to MPS & MKE Recreation
- Remove pavement and plant 800 trees

DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

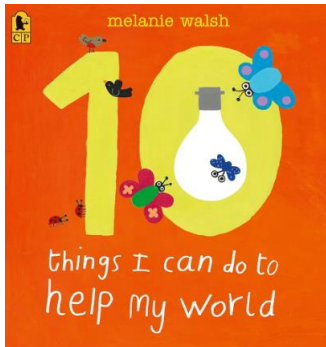
CLIMATE EDUCATION



Climate Education
Hub for the State
of Wisconsin



Creation & facilitation
of a Climate Health
Equity Course for
Educators



Climate Education
Book Collection



Alignment of
Climate Education
lessons to existing
science curriculum

LOOKING AHEAD

- ❑ Resuming District Sustainability Team meetings in fall 2024.
 - Discuss strategy to develop a district sustainability action plan
 - Provide feedback to carbon emissions assessment project

- ❑ City of Milwaukee passed energy benchmarking ordinance in July 2024.
 - MPS will be required to submit annual energy use for electricity, steam and natural gas for all buildings in U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Tool-Energy Star Portfolio Manager

- ❑ Applying for EPA Community Change Grant in fall 2024.
 - Design and construct new green infrastructure
 - Schoolyard maintenance, curricular connections & youth employment over 3 years

Mission: Citizen Action of Wisconsin is dedicated to advancing social, economic, and environmental justice through grassroots organizing and advocacy. We aim to build a better Wisconsin for all by empowering communities and influencing policy.

Citizen Action Programs and Initiatives

- **Organizing Co-op:** Building local power by training community leaders.
- **Green Futures:** Local initiatives to combat climate change and create green jobs.

Work with MPS

- **Expertise:** Providing technical assistance and research to MPS on federal grant opportunities, notably the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
- **Community Convening:** Bringing in partners to assist in work
- **MPS Collaboration:** Bringing MPS staff together to work towards planning and fund application

FEDERAL OPPORTUNITIES

Inflation Reduction Action (IRA)

- **Grants:** Department of Energy, Department of Education, Department of Agriculture, etc.
- **State Funding:** Additional funding from state resources.

School Funding Priorities

- 1.) Energy Efficiency Upgrades
- 2.) Renewable Energy Installations
- 3.) Green Technology Adoption
- 4.) Educational and Training Programs
- 5.) Infrastructure Improvements
- 6.) Community Engagement and Partnerships



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**Thank
You!**



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Questions?