

Office of Accountability and Efficiency

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REPORT TO THE MILWAUKEE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS: JUNE 2020

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.

This month, the OAE completed its year-long broad strategic planning process, which began in July 2019. Having completed this work, the Office of Accountability and Efficiency is now presenting the FY21 Annual Work Plan (attached). The Plan is a culmination of the strategic planning process and represents both the evolution of the OAE over the past ten years and the vision looking forward. The Plan includes work to be completed during FY21, anticipated outcomes, and means of assessment. Implementation will begin July 1, 2020.

Additionally, OAE continues to implement a staggered schedule for OAE employees in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This approach contributes to a safe working environment for employees while ensuring the office and phone are staffed daily during regular business hours.

Accountability and Efficiency Services

Between May 19, 2020 and June 16, 2020, Accountability and Efficiency Services fulfilled four requests for information, one request for data analysis, and one constituent inquiry. Additionally, Accountability and Efficiency Services completed one special project and performed its annual review of the FY19 audit reports.

Also during the reporting period, Phase I of OAE's website refresh project was launch. The refresh project was a collaboration between Accountability and Efficiency Services and the Department of Communications and Marketing. The new OAE website features updated information in a more user-friendly format and lays the groundwork for increased transparency and reporting to the public.

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) participated with i.c.stars for its virtual "Capitalize on WI Conference," at which a student-created interactive timecard application was featured. The prototype measures real-time student performance associated with training and employment assignments through the COIN and Student Engagement programs. Mentor, networking, and survey features are built into the application to provide increased accountability of students and employers thus allowing for instant feedback regarding project-based work. Additionally, leaders from a variety of industries engaged in virtual breakout sessions to discuss topics around technology, artificial intelligence, and bias.

Additionally, Contract Compliance Services began implementation on the Mission Aligned Partnership which included successfully recruiting, referring, and placing students in virtual paid training opportunities. CCS also continued to meet with industry and community-based partners to advance the employment training road map for Administrative Policy 3.13, Communities in Need.

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