

Report of Milwaukee Board of School Directors, President, Marva Herndon - October 31, 2024

Hello everyone. Time has moved quickly, such that we are near the holiday season. October has been extremely busy for all, as our schools held numerous events, and our students enjoyed fall sports. Board members and district leaders joined school staff and community members to celebrate some big accomplishments with ribbon cutting ceremonies for building improvements, playground redevelopments and new additions.

Specifically, I joined our REFLO partners in a Ribbon Cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of the Morse Middle School and Milwaukee Sign Language Elementary School playground redevelopment. Please check it out as there is too much for me to describe in this space. **NOTE: This play space is available for community use when school is not in session.**

Milwaukee High School of the Arts (MHSA) – As an alum, I could not miss this ribbon cutting. We celebrated much needed building improvements (windows, STEAM Lab and much more). The star of the year is the new Dance Studio addition, which allowed the restoration of the gym to full size.

Effective and Efficient Operations

Again, we held a very productive meeting of the Committee on Accountability, Finance and Personnel this month, where we had several important topics on the agenda, including a listening session for the public to comment on the investment in and implementation of the state's SRO mandate. We invited our City Council members to attend, so they could also hear from the public on this important topic. Thank you to those who were able to attend.

In terms of meeting attendance, I attended quite a few:

- Three detailed audit status meetings. These meetings are essential for keeping on track with our compliance activities and ensuring that the Board stays updated on the district's audit work.
- One SASI committee meeting.
- The AFP committee meeting included the public hearing on SRO's.
- Three meetings with OBG Board Clerk to review meeting schedules, discuss potential committee agenda items, board initiatives or projects.
- Four strategic meetings with our Kane Communications partners. These discussions focus on taking proactive steps to keep the public informed.
- One meeting with our attorney regarding personnel matters.
- Four meetings regarding the Long-Range Facilities Master Plan.
- One Council of Great City Schools Meeting.

Student, Family, and Community Engagement (*Very Important Events*)

1. I encourage everyone to remain diligent regarding the development of the Long- Range Facilities Master Plan (LRFMP). Please visit the website: [MPS LRFMP](#) to monitor information and sign up for updates directly. We need your input to help shape the school district's future.

You will be able to review Perkins Eastman's (MPS Consultants) proposed options for buildings and comment on them to help build the final plan. This plan will directly impact the future of school buildings and student experiences across Milwaukee.

2. Parents of 8th graders – do not miss this chance to explore MPS high schools, meet educators, learn about programs, and apply to secure your child’s school assignment for Fall 2025. **HIGH SCHOOL EARLY ENROLLMENT ENDS on NOVEMBER 4th, 2024.**