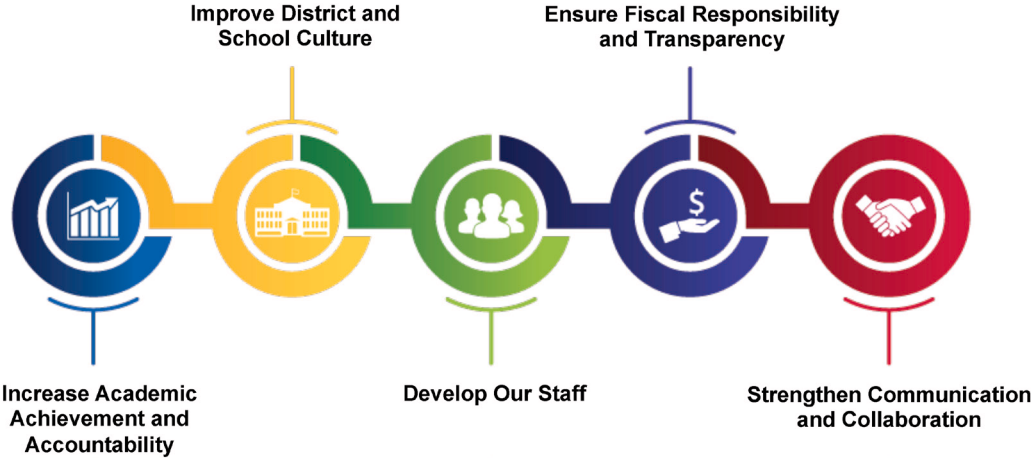




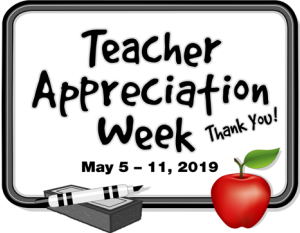
### Superintendent's Report – May

The Superintendent's Report is designed to provide the Milwaukee Board of School Directors and the MPS community with an update on current activities underway to support the district goals of academic achievement; student, family and community engagement; and effective and efficient operations as they are aligned to the district's strategic objectives and the *Five Priorities for Success*.



## SCHOOL VISITS

This month we celebrated **Teacher Appreciation Week**. School communities hosted a variety of events to honor our teachers. At the district level, we encouraged all members of the MPS family and the greater community to show appreciation for our educators by posting pictures, tweeting tributes, and sharing Instagram images using #MPSTeacherProud. Educators were also celebrated at the Metropolitan Milwaukee Alliance of Black School Educators (MMABSE) Teacher Gala and at the Wisconsin Association for Bilingual Education Conference.



High school graduations are well underway this month with ceremonies at the **UW– Milwaukee Panther Arena, Milwaukee Area Technical College, and the Miller High Life Theatre**. Graduations have always been important and special to me as they are symbols of our achievements and aspirations. Our students are pursuing many exciting college and career paths. The ceremonies thus far have been very memorable and the MPS Class of 2019 should be proud of their many accomplishments!

School visits remain a priority and serve as an excellent mechanism for gathering feedback to support district improvement efforts. This month, some of the schools I visited include **Pulaski IB High School, Burbank, Reagan IB High School, Lynde and Harry Bradley Technology & Trade School, Golda Meir, Barack Obama School of Career & Technical Education, and Samuel Clemens**.

## EVENTS/PROGRAMS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MPS celebrates tree donation in honor of Bucks' success

Students and staff at **Milwaukee School of Languages (MSL)** celebrated a gift of four new trees on May 16, 2019, along with **Bango** and the **Milwaukee Bucks**. The trees are a donation from American Transmission Company (ATC), which has provided 573 trees this spring in honor of every Bucks three-point shot at Fiserv Forum this season.

This is the third year ATC has donated trees to schools across the state. Students actively took part in tree planting with representatives from ATC and the Milwaukee Bucks.



### Golda Meir School receives state grant to expand Fab Lab

On May 14, 2019, students and staff at **Golda Meir School** celebrated the announcement of a \$25,000 grant from the **Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC)**. The funding will be used to expand Meir's current makerspace into a three-room Fab Lab with new equipment including a 3D scanner, advanced 3D printers, a laser engraver, and computer numerical control (CNC) routers for complex carving and engraving. The makerspace opened in one room in fall 2018, and will be expanded over the coming months.

MPS was one of 20 districts awarded funding from a total of 56 applications. WEDC grants have already supported Fab Lab development at Washington High School of Information Technology, Lynde and Harry Bradley Technology and Trade School, Bay View High School, and Barack Obama School of Career and Technical Education.



The Governor declared Monday, May 14, "Fab Lab Day" throughout the state.



### MPS seniors learn financial planning

About 25 MPS seniors took part in a new Financial Freedom Summit on May 10, 2019, hosted by the MPS **Department of Black and Latino Male Achievement (BLMA)**. Students toured residential and commercial projects and heard from local business leaders. Young men from Lynde and Harry Bradley Technical and Trade School, Riverside University High School, South Division High School, and Washington High School were invited to the event after taking part in BLMA programs throughout the school year.

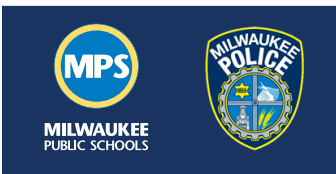
The event was organized to give students insight into the field of finance. Guest speakers talked about investing, real estate, and banking, and touched upon areas that ranged from personal finances to corporate and commercial careers. Students explored the city by riding the new transportation venture The Hop, toured city hall, and visited an apartment and a multi-use building under construction to hear about the process of real estate investing and development. Guests Kevin Newell and Kalan Haywood served as tour guides and local experts at several sites.





## MPS celebrates with Milwaukee Police at ground breaking ceremony

MPS celebrated with the **Milwaukee Police Department** and other partners on April 30, 2019, at a ground breaking ceremony for the **MKE Urban Stables**, designed to house the MPS mounted patrol and community programming. Although skies were gray and misty, excitement for the new initiative and appreciation for funders was not dampened as local officials revealed details of upcoming activities.



From its inception, the new project included plans to provide horse therapy for veterans and MPS students. Recent research on horse therapy is showing encouraging results for individuals with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other emotional and behavioral needs. Working with animals can be calming and can help individuals manage stress and develop problem-solving skills. Because horses are nonjudgmental, friendly, and put forth no expectations or motives, working with horses can help

develop personal relationships, trust, and an ability to care for others. MPS students will benefit from horse therapy when the facility is completed.

## Pulaski breaks ground on athletic field improvements

**Green Bay Packers President and CEO Mark Murphy** joined me on May 7, 2019, to break ground on the athletic field at **Casimir Pulaski High School**. The field will receive new artificial turf, goalposts, and soccer goals. The addition of synthetic turf at Pulaski will provide a safer facility for student athletes and will enhance the overall MPS experience.

MPS is proud that more than \$250,000 in funding has been provided by the Green Bay Packers, the NFL Foundation, and Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Milwaukee. This is the second grant made in Milwaukee by a partnership between the NFL Grassroots Program and LISC, designed specifically to build or improve football fields and neighborhood parks.



Athletics are an important part of the high school experience in MPS. Extracurricular activities such as athletics help promote student achievement and success. Playing sports has been shown to boost students' confidence, teach discipline, encourage teamwork, and promote perseverance. Over the past five years, MPS has renovated athletic fields at Custer High School, South Division High School, and Vincent High School.



## AWARDS/RECOGNITION

### MPS athletes nominated for Wisconsin Sports Awards

Milwaukee Public Schools congratulates **Sydnee Roby** of **Rufus King International High School** and **Michael Foster Jr.** of **Washington High School of Information Technology**, who have been nominated as Wisconsin Basketball Player of the Year. The Wisconsin Sports Awards, now in its eighth year, is an annual celebration of Wisconsin's high school, collegiate, and professional athletic achievements. Winners will be announced on June 6, 2019, at Fiserv Forum in Milwaukee.



Photo credit: Scott Ash  
Now News Group



Sydnee Roby is a senior at Rufus King and has announced her decision to attend the University of Miami after being pursued by more than 20 schools. As a junior, she was named 2017–18 Gatorade Player of the Year for Wisconsin. She has been a three-time conference player of the year, was a unanimous First Team All-State selection as a sophomore, junior, and senior, and was named to the Associated Press All-State First Team and the USA TODAY ALL-USA Wisconsin First Team.

Michael Foster Jr. is a sophomore at Washington who stands 6'9". He already has seven offers on the table from colleges including Marquette University and the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He has also been nominated for Gatorade Player of the Year and Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Player of the Year. Along with his team, Michael has been a two-time city conference champion, regional champion, sectional champion, and two-time WIAA Division 2 state runner up.



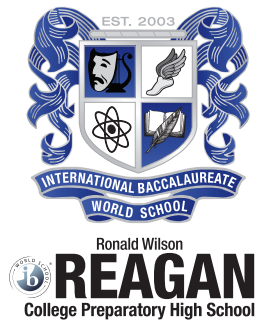
### Chad Sperzel-Wuchterl is named Wisconsin High School Teacher of the Year

Reagan High School IB Visual Art teacher **Chad Sperzel-Wuchterl** was named the 2019 Wisconsin High School Teacher of the Year.

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction State Superintendent **Carolyn Stanford Taylor**, Mayor **Tom Barrett**, MPS Superintendent **Keith P. Posley**, Reagan founder and former principal **Julia D'Amato**, and others joined **Principal Mike Roemer** in congratulating Sperzel-

Wuchterl. The Reagan marching band provided a festive atmosphere for the event. Only 175 educators have been chosen for the honor since 1956. The Teacher of the Year is selected by the State Superintendent's council. Each educator who received a Herb Kohl Fellowship Award is closely evaluated before the council selects four educators to represent teachers across all grade levels (elementary, middle, high school, and special education).

Chad Sperzel-Wuchterl has been an energetic part of the Reagan faculty since 2004, and has developed an expansive visual art program. His community outreach efforts and compelling relationships with multiple universities have led countless students to post-secondary success. In 2018, his Visual Art students earned \$3 million in scholarships. Sperzel-Wuchterl received a Herb Kohl Teacher Fellowship this year, and he also received a 2015 Celebrate Teachers & Teaching Award.



## INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENT VOICE

A shared goal of the Milwaukee Board of School Directors and the Administration is providing increased opportunities for student voice at the monthly Board meetings. As such, I have been holding listening sessions with students. This school year, I've held monthly listening sessions at nine high schools. Earlier this month, I held my last listening session for the 2018–19 school year at Obama School of Career and Technical Education.

During our time together, the students and I engaged in a thoughtful conversation about what makes them MPS Proud and what would make their experience better. Students shared that they are proud of the support they receive from counselors and the resources that are provided. The students were very candid with me about their ideas for improving their experience.

