

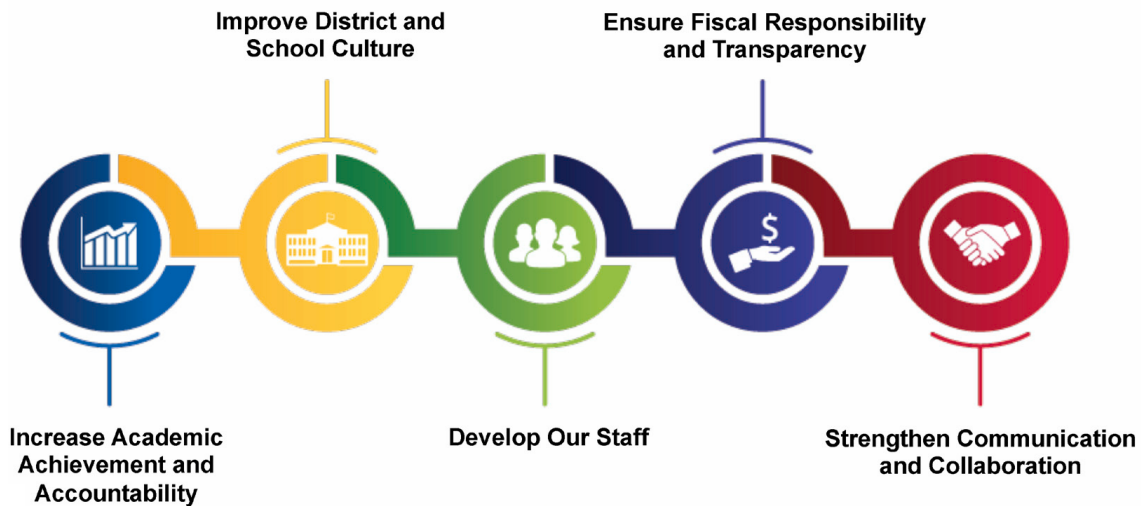


**MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



Superintendent’s Report – December 2020

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.



Thanking Our Volunteers



Milwaukee Public Schools wishes to thank the many volunteers who are making a difference in the lives of students across the district. In a typical year, MPS volunteers take on tasks such as reading books to children, coaching sports teams, assisting in offices and classrooms, and overseeing playground activities, with more than 2,000 volunteers serving approximately 40,000 hours.

Thank a volunteer took place on December 5, 2020. This date is designated by the United Nations as a day to honor volunteers across the globe who promote health, well-being, education, and other humanitarian causes.

As students learn virtually this year, more than 200 volunteers are providing critical classroom support every day. Although not face-to-face with students, they still bring enthusiasm, hard work, and school spirit to the learning environment.

We depend on our community to support students, teachers, and staff and to help provide children with high-quality educational programs in a positive environment. We welcome volunteers who are interested in providing virtual support until conditions are safe to volunteer in person.

Are you interested in volunteering? [Learn more about volunteer opportunities in MPS and fill out a volunteer application.](#)

MPS Students Receive Pizzas for High Attendance



Kristin Hinds, principal of Carver Academy, delivered a special reward to one of her students in October for high attendance. Ivyonn Simmons, a student in 4-year-old kindergarten, received a pizza at lunch time for his hard work. Ivyonn took part in his virtual classes with an attendance rate above 95 percent for the month to earn his pizza.

Carver Academy held an attendance contest in October through which every student with attendance of 95 percent or better could earn a pizza. School staff and teachers volunteered to deliver pizzas around the city. A total of 84 students received a free pizza for their hard work.

MPS is grateful to the Northwestern Mutual Foundation, which provided a grant to boost student attendance, including the pizza incentive.

Hinds and the Carver Academy staff are hosting monthly incentives to encourage high attendance. Virtual learning is keeping students safe at home, but remote classes come with challenges. Some students become distracted, oversleep, or forget to be on time for each class. Teachers and school staff are working to make sure all students maximize their class time.

Parents and family members can take an active role in boosting attendance. Try these tips! Help your child develop daily routines such as going to bed and waking up on time, setting an alarm clock, and picking out clothes the night before.

Watch academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors if necessary. Children who are falling behind sometimes have anxiety and want to skip school.

Make sure teachers know how to contact you to discuss any concerns. Develop a calendar so your child can record the classes they attend. Filling up a chart can motivate children to achieve.

Ask for help from school staff, after-school programs, other parents, or community agencies if your child is showing signs of a learning disability, anxiety or depression, or behaviors that are not normal for him/her.

MPS Requests Family Feedback on Virtual Learning Via Survey

Milwaukee Public Schools wants to hear from families about virtual learning this school year. Your feedback is important to us! Families are encouraged to take our survey and offer input about their child's virtual learning experience this semester, along with thoughts about returning to face-to-face learning.

As we navigate virtual learning, family feedback is more important than ever.

Please complete our Roadmap to Readiness Survey to help us adapt and plan. The survey takes about 10 minutes and will remain open until Friday, January 8, 2021.

Access the survey at [Roadmap to Readiness Survey](#).

Thank you in advance for your participation!



Winter Youth Sports Clinics Offered

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all school-based Winter [Youth Sports](#) leagues have been canceled. The decision was made to protect the safety of student-athletes, staff, and spectators.

As an alternative, the Milwaukee Recreation Youth Sports Office has created a series of instructional opportunities for students in soccer, volleyball, cheerleading, tennis, basketball, and track & field. Unlike the standard school sports registration process, these clinics/lessons will require students to register and pay fees individually to Milwaukee Recreation. In the event financial assistance is needed, families are encouraged to apply for an [Everyone Plays! Scholarship](#).

Online registration and phone registrations (414-475-8410) opened on Thursday, December 10. Masks/Face Coverings that cover the mouth and nose are required for all participants, spectators, staff, and instructors during all Youth Sports programming. We look forward to providing safe and socially responsible sport opportunities to students this fall!

- Winter Sports Clinics
- MUSC Indoor Soccer Academy
- Volleyball Skills Clinic
- Cheerleading Skills Clinic
- Girls Basketball Skills Clinic
- Track Skills Clinic
- Shot Put Skills Clinic
- Tennis Lessons

All clinics are coed.

Visit our [Youth Sports webpage \(mkerec.net/YouthSports\)](http://mkerec.net/YouthSports) to register and find details on each clinic. Contact the Youth Sports Office at 414-475-8410 or email YouthSports [at] mkerec.net with any questions. (When emailing our staff, please replace the "[at]" with a traditional "@" symbol. Ex: Staff@mkerec.net)