

**REPORT OF THE BOARD'S DELEGATE TO THE
TITLE I DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DAC)**

Thursday, March 24, 2022

Submitted by Director Henry Leonard

**Meeting of the District Advisory Council
Thursday, February 3, 2022
Virtual**

I. WELCOME – JENNI HOFSCHULTE

Jenni Hofschulte welcomed all participants and asked the interpreter to say a few words and gave instructions for those using the services of the interpreter. Instructions for sign-in, questions and comments were given for all participants. Participants are asked to please put their name and school in the chat with comments. If your question or concern is not addressed at this meeting, please feel free to contact the Executive Committee at dac@milwaukee.k12.wi.us. The Executive committee has vacancies that hopefully will be filled by some of those participating in tonight's meeting.

II. CONSENT AGENDA/EXPECTATIONS – CACY MASTERS

Mrs. Masters touched on the family and community engagement report that can be found in the February Consent Agenda and the five priorities of success which can be found on the MPS website.

The minutes from the January meeting are available on your consent agenda that was sent to your email. If you are not receiving the emails, please contact us through dac@milwaukee.k12.wi.us and update your information.

February meeting attendance: 96

III. MINDFULNESS EXERCISE – JOELLE WORM

IV. POSITIVE NOTES – JENNIFER CLARKE

JUDITH LANGE - TROWBRIDGE

Trowbridge's third grade student, Jasper Goochey won first place for his writing entry for the MLK contest.

SUZANNE SCHLICHT – COOPER

"In general, we have been very proud of the Cooper Cougars for 10 years and counting. The welcoming atmosphere, teacher's willingness to listen to both students and families, the creative projects, the patience, effort and love from the teachers is like no other school in MPS! More specifically, I am very impressed with Mr. Owen LeBrun. As a new teacher he is always looking to better his teaching and to better his kids, even if it means starting over at the beginning, months into the school year. He values community, honesty and integrity. Teaching his students those three skills will serve them just as well in the future as his dedication to teaching the other core subjects."

-Alli Begel

WINNIFRED AITCH – HOLMES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Student enrollment has increased. Students and staff are wearing their mask. Working with MPS to build an outside classroom. Working with the Bader Foundation to increase STEAM support in classrooms.

CHESA COLEMAN – PEC GOODRICH

One of our students won second place for the MLK contest.

CHRISTINA ESPARZA – BETHUNE

We have started a cooking club on Fridays with our 7th graders. We have started monthly staff and student appreciation days. This month we are providing lunch for staff and having a popcorn day for students. We are working on a math workshop for parents. The workshop goal is to assist parents in understanding the work their children are given, so the students can reach the goals that are set for them each trim. By having on three units on board students will succeed!

SARA BAILEY AAL

Our Special Education classroom was able to go sledding on our newly renovated playground. They were delighted with the snow and hill that was perfect for them.

GINA HEIL (SHE, HER) – MFIS

Our Lost and Found is very full and when I put out the call, one of my fellow PTA parents stepped up and created a really cool PVC structure and curtain clips to display hats and gloves so the kids and I can find things easier and hopefully have less of a mess when I come in to take pictures!

VALERIE DEAL – MANITOBA

My school is doing a family valentine project. Students are given a blank paper heart and families are encouraged to draw, write or otherwise demonstrate how they show love and appreciation in their home. We sent them home yesterday and already have received several completed hearts! It's a great way for our families to work together and be involved with the school! The hearts will be displayed on a special bulletin board for everyone to see :)

SABRINA SEDLAR – HAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL

We were able to have a health fair for our students. They really enjoyed it and learned a lot.

V. PRESENTATION(S)

LIBRARY BOARD – VICTORIA SANCHEZ AND PETRA DUECKER

Staff from the Milwaukee Public Library will share information about LibraryNow. Through this partnership, MPS students in grades 1-12 have a virtual library card that provides 24/7 access to the library's online resources including eBooks, audio books, magazines, music, and live online tutoring. The session will have a special focus on library resources that support students and families during remote instruction--all free through the Milwaukee Public Library.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – DAVID SOLIK FIFAREK

Facilitated discussion about transportation.

Questions/Discussion from the Chat

Q = Question

A = Answer

D = Discussion

LibraryNow Presentation

Q: Will the live tutoring be available as a bilingual resource?

A: <https://www.mpl.org/librarynow/>

Q: Can you put the names of all these sites to write them down?

A: <https://www.mpl.org/>

Q: Is there parental guides on these apps to ensure the students are reading or viewing videos for the right age?

Transportation Presentation

Q: How many busses is the "ideal" for the 3-tier system?

A: The three-tier system is very difficult for late start schools.

Q: How much \$\$ has the shift to the 3-tier system saved the district?

Q: Isn't MPS shielded from wage increases by our contracts?

Q: Why are we having bus drivers not wearing their masks as they drop off our children, if this is MANDATORY?

Q: What is the district doing about students who have received truancy notices and the reason for truancy is because they are assigned to a bus route that doesn't consistently operate and they don't have another form of transportation?

A: Being a three-tier school are morning buses are late getting our scholars to school and in the afternoon they are late picking them up resulting in scholars getting home very late. Our parents would say that transportation is not better. As drivers are missing stops and we continue to have at least one bus cancelled each day.

Q: If the district has budgeted for the cost of busses, can't MPS continue to pay the bus drivers when MPS chooses to go virtual and forego bussing in order to retain the bus drivers?

Q: Is MPS planning to keep late start? I work at a late start school and the last bus arrives at 9:45am and the last bus leaves at 4:45pm. Many children miss the first hour of school or don't get home until after 5pm. This is a big concern for many families that I work with.

Q: I know you probably said it, but what company will these drivers be driving with?

Q: Do we know if transportation funds being reallocated?

Q: Who provides the mask to bus companies?

Q: What are drivers doing if students get on without a mask after several warnings?

A: If a student is absent due to COVID or bus issues and they complete google classroom / seesaw assignments they will be marked present. That's how it is at our school.

Q: How has the bussing impacted the special education population as those are vulnerable students where you can't always speed up the child?

A: We also have someone always in a google meet available for the students virtually in case they need academic support.

Q: Our school starts at 9:00 and we have students whose bus pick up time is at 8:45 on the north side. The students are late every day. I know it's not ideal to change for this year but will it be changed for an early pick up time next school year so they will make it to school on time?

D: (Thank you for the conversational tone of your presentation. I greatly appreciate you responding directly to our immediate questions. This is very helpful!)

A: Jenni, if he is not able to answer all questions send them to me and/or David and we will make sure every question gets answered.

D: I can understand that people are upset. My youngest takes a bus everyday she is in k-5. I think a lot of people forget that our bus drivers are people too. They get sick the have lives just like all of us. I get that we all wish it could be better but they certainly are trying. I think some of the delays in getting notifications out to the parents falls on the schools as well. The three times we have had an issue it was because some at the school forgot to send a message out to parents so we didn't know we had to pick up our kids. I just want to say David I know we wish it could all be better but we see you guys are trying and it doesn't always come across but we do appreciate you and the drivers :)

D: We have similar transportation issues.

D: Humboldt Park School also has this issue with a bus or 2 being very late.

D: This is a safety matter for students.

D: Issues: A bus has been cancelled for two weeks at Carson.

D: We dismiss at 3:55pm and 2 days this week a bus didn't come until 5:00 pm!! And they come late in the morning too!

Q: Why are elementary schools tier 3? In the winter younger kids are getting home when it is dark because some of the buses don't arrive until 5pm.

D: I had a bus route canceled for 2 months due to not having a driver and it was my bus with door to door pick-ups.

D: This is very impactful to families affected by busses not picking up until 4:30 or 5. Same with staff at the school.

Q: David, is it possible to have contact information for those of us that can I identify certain routes that arrive late on a daily basis?

D: vieau schhool tiene el mimo problema cual fue el veneficio de cambiar el o hprariode la escuela

A: The phone number is 414-475-8922.

A: tran@milwaukee.k12.wi.us

Q: Could parents have some type of bus tracking app?

A: Phone: 414-475-8922

A: Fax: 414-475-8113

A: Email: tran@milwaukee.k12.wi.us

A: Business & Transportation Services Senior Director: David Solik-Fifarek

D: That's a great idea!

A: HPS sends a text to the families when buses leave the school late, the time the bus left and the bus number.

D: I give the numbers to my parents for the bus companies but they will not answer the line in the morning.

Q: Delayed buses used to be posted for the office secretary, but not anymore. Is there a reason?

D: My daughter in a different district has that available but my K3 MPS student does not.

A: <https://mps.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/en/Schools/>

[How-to-Select-a-School/Transportation/Transportation-Regions.htm](#)

^^bus company list is on this page

D: esta muy frio y el bus pasa tarde o no pasa

D: Thank you David :)

A: Petra Duecker (MPL) to Everyone: Hi Everyone! I just wanted to quickly address a question that came up in the chat from Tarakee Jackson about making sure that students are seeing books and videos appropriate for their age through LibraryNow. With Overdrive, when you go to LibraryNow.org and click on Kids, then Overdrive, the resources are appropriate for kids. If you click on Teens, then Overdrive, you will see resources appropriate for teens. With Hoopla, after you log in you will see a screen that has a search bar at the top. To the right of the search bar, you will see an icon that says "kids" and if you press it you can turn the kids filters on or off. With Kanopy when you log in you will see a tab that says "Go to Kanopy Kids" and filtered resources will appear. In Kanopy there are also additional parental controls. All three resources give you the opportunity to filter for "kids only" resources.

New Topics for DAC Discussion

D: Emotional and mental health resources/ programs for children. Yes, I think many of our parents would be interested in that discussion. Particularly because of COVID.

D: Topic: student books

D: And the transition from virtual to in person.

Q: Is there any way to lessen the class sizes?

D: Kids ayes

Q: How students with disabilities are placed in schools?

D: Mental health for our teachers/staff.

D: I agree.

D: Technical classes for parents to help navigate all the programs used when students are virtual. I had some difficulty with google classroom in the beginning.

D: 100 % agree, I am also an MPS parent.

D: Agreed

D: Yes!!!! This needs to be addressed.

D: Future topic: all the technology (seesaw/Meet/Portal/more) and how we can streamline.

Q: Possible pay increases to keep our existing staff?

D: Concern related to assistant teachers being used to fill out other position leaving teachers with all the case load, affecting this students outcomes because those classrooms were planned with the support of an assistant teacher.

Q: Will there be an opportunity for parents to understand how current politics/platforms will affect MPS?

D: <https://www.artsatlargeinc.org/>

D: Or push voting opportunities and locations for parents over this next year?

Q: What age group for Arts at Large?

D: Maybe some information on the news - "MPS breakup: Republicans propose splitting school district" What is the likelihood of this and what do we need to know?

D: Yes Erika!!!!

Q: When will we fill the board?

D: Good call, Erika.

A: 3rd through 8th grade for arts @ large.

A: <https://www.artsatlargeinc.org/event/after-school-program/>