



**MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



Superintendent’s Report – December 2021

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.



MPS receives WHPE Advocacy Award



Wisconsin Health and Physical Education, Inc. (WHPE), which is the state’s professional association for health and physical educators, has announced that Milwaukee Public Schools is the recipient of the 2021 Advocacy Award. The Advocacy Award is given in recognition of significant contributions made to the advancement of the profession through the fields of health, physical education, or related fields.

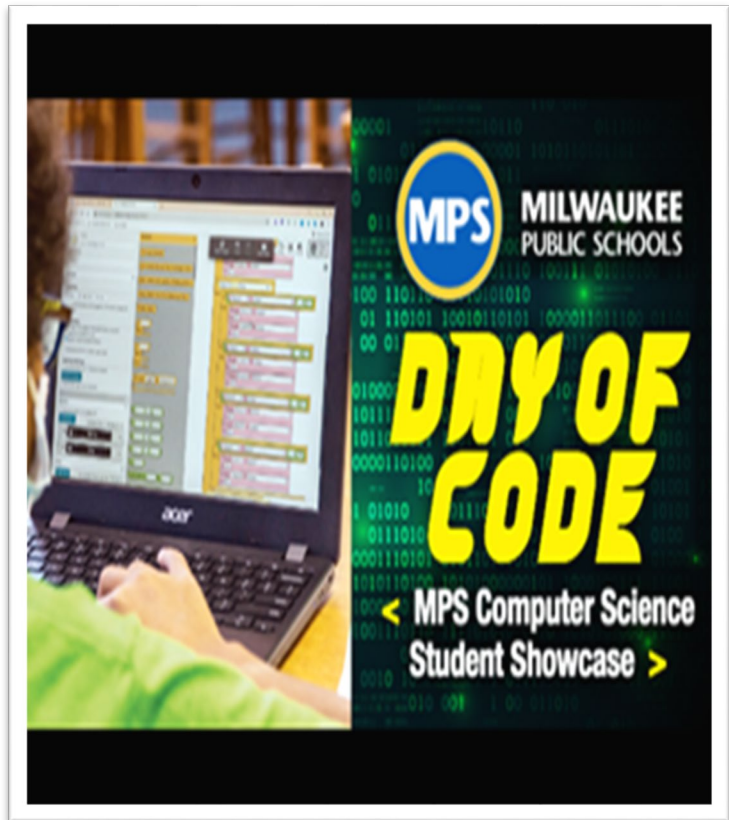
Milwaukee Public Schools, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors, and Superintendent Dr. Keith P. Posley were identified for this award for promoting the 2020 referendum that specifically cited the addition of art, music, and physical educators to the district. With the referendum passing by a large margin, WHPE has recognized district efforts to support physical education in Milwaukee Public Schools..

Student technology skills are highlighted on district 4th Annual Day of Code

How does a robot vacuum know what to do? How does a microwave know that you're making popcorn? The answer lies in sophisticated computer language known as code.

Even the simplest computerized technology is not much more than a pile of parts without complex code to provide instructions that make it operate. On November 30, 2021, MPS students showed off their coding skills and brought the process to life through a virtual Day of Code.

- Milwaukee Academy of Chinese Language students shared SCRATCH coding projects including a dice game, color spinner, Etch-a-Sketch line drawer, and an input-output machine.
- Golda Meir sixth-graders demonstrated Ozobots to younger students and eighth-graders shared their Sustainable Playground App that offers information about the new sustainability features on their playground while getting people moving.
- Washington High School students demonstrated app development, created artwork using Python with Turtle graphics, designed interactive projects using Arduino, and explored the educational features of the Merge Cube 3-D device.



MPS has a wide range of technology and computer science classes available to students. In addition, technology spaces have increased across the district and include makerspaces, Fab Labs, culinary arts labs, robotics labs, and more.

MPS Seal of Biliteracy rewards dual language proficiency

MPS high school students are encouraged to learn about the Seal of Biliteracy! Milwaukee Public Schools is one of only 12 districts in the state of Wisconsin to offer this recognition. The Seal of Biliteracy is awarded to high school seniors who successfully complete criteria related to English language proficiency and show a high degree of proficiency in another language. It can be earned by native speakers of English or native speakers of about 20 different world languages.

Upon graduation, students who successfully earn the Seal receive a special Seal of Biliteracy certificate issued by Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and a lapel pin signifying their completion of the program. The accomplishment is also included on the student's high school transcript.

The Seal of Biliteracy is currently available in 12 MPS schools:

- Audubon High School
- Bradley Tech
- Golda Meir
- Hamilton High School
- Milwaukee Marshall High School
- Milwaukee High School of the Arts
- Milwaukee School of Languages
- Pulaski High School
- Riverside High School
- Reagan High School
- South Division High School
- Washington High School



Five MPS schools unveil new school yards

Students at five MPS schools - Academy of Accelerated Learning, Allen-Field Elementary, Bay View Montessori, La Escuela Fratney, and North Division High School - now have access to outdoor classrooms, new activities, and natural areas to relax and learn.

Completion of these projects brings multiple benefits to students, schools, and the community.



- Green spaces for children to play and relax, along with outdoor classrooms for learning, are priorities of the work.
- Trees, native plantings, and shrubs help improve air quality and moderate temperatures around schools.
- Fencing, benches, murals, decking, and recreation spaces such as four-square, tennis courts, and tracks, make the areas safe and appealing for students.
- Surfaces and equipment that have been revitalized.
- Projects are designed to control rainwater runoff that overwhelms the city sewer system and contributes to pollution in rivers and Lake Michigan.