



Take Five Briefing
Board of Education Meeting
February 16, 2021

We understand that members of our school community may not be able to attend Board of Education meetings. To help keep stakeholders informed, the Take Five Briefing has been developed by the administration to touch upon five key topics discussed at the most recent public Board meeting.

Please view the meeting documents [here](#). The most recent MPS Education Update can be found [here](#) and previous versions can be found [here](#).

- 1. Superintendent Contract Approved:** The Board held a public hearing on the rescission of Superintendent Mark Schwarz's contract from 2017 and the approval of a new contract that runs through June 30, 2025. Members of the public were allocated time to provide commentary regarding Mr. Schwarz's leadership and the details of the contract, which was approved by a majority of the Board. A copy of the approved contract can be found at [this link](#) and also includes the approval of the Interim Executive County Superintendent as well as a Detailed Statement of Contract Costs as required by administrative code.
- 2. National Merit Scholar Finalists Honored:** The Board welcomed MHS Principal David Drechsel to honor Sadie Hoberman, Henry Marinovic, and Adam Sher, who were each selected as National Merit Finalists. Finalists represent less than one percent of the 1.5 million eligible U.S. high school seniors and are selected based on their high-score on the PSAT/NMSQT, overall academic excellence, and other factors.
- 3. New MHS Course Added:** The Board added a new course to the available student offerings for the 2021-2022 school year. The class, [Leadership and Ethics](#), which will be taught through the Business Department, will allow students to analyze case studies through a principles-based framework. The course is aligned to the DECA Emerging Leader Series and will allow enrolled students to participate in DECA competitions and activities.
- 4. School Bond Sale Results Reported:** Business Administrator Danielle Mancuso provided information regarding the successful sale of \$23,550,000 of Refunding School Bonds. These bonds were issued to refund the callable portions of both the 2012 A and 2012 B Refunding School Bonds. Ms. Mancuso explained that due to the district's strong underlying AA+ rating, the state of the bond market, and the favorable interest rate environment, the sale resulted in over \$1.5 million in total debt service budgetary savings from 2022-2036. The net present value savings of 6.035% was more than double the legal minimum requirement and the sale is scheduled to close on February 24th.
- 5. Spring Title I Support Programs Approved:** The Board approved support programs at [CAS](#) and [MJS](#) to assist students who need additional academic or social-emotional support. The programs will be paid through Title I Federal funding.