



Take Five Briefing
Board of Education Meeting
May 11, 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 follow these direct links to view the current and past [Board meeting agendas](#) and the most recent and prior versions of the [MPS Education Updates](#).

1. **Staff Renewed for 2021-2022:** The Board took formal action to renew staff members for the 2021-2022 school year. The annual renewals, which must occur before the statutory deadline of May 15th, included action on all certified teaching staff, secretarial and clerical staff, teacher assistants, athletic trainer, custodial maintenance staff, administration, and non-aligned employees.
2. **2021-2022 District Calendar Updated:** The Board approved an update to the [2021-2022 district calendar](#), with minor revisions. The start date for students, August 30, 2021, remains unchanged. The new calendar adds a third staff orientation day at the beginning of the school year and changes an October staff development day into a normal school day for students. As a result of the changes, high school graduation has been shifted back one day and will now occur on Wednesday, June 15, 2022.
3. **ESSER II Grant Application Approved:** The Board authorized the submission of the ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) II Application for use during the period of March 13, 2020 to September 30, 2023. The total award of over \$268,000 is divided into funds for general use, for learning acceleration, and for mental health needs in the district. ESSER II has been made available as part of the Federal Coronavirus Response and Relieve Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act enacted at the end of 2020, and the district's plans for the funds will be shared at future Board meetings.
4. **Kean Diversity Council MOA Expanded:** The Board approved a Memorandum of Agreement between the district and the Kean University Diversity Council on Global Education and Citizenship to provide staff access to advanced seminar courses. The district currently provides staff access to Kean courses on *Teaching the Holocaust* and *Teaching Prejudice Reduction*, and the MOA expands offerings to include second-year courses in each topic for further study. Over 20 staff members participated in Kean courses this year and the district is proud to support staff interest in these important topics.
5. **Media Center Donation Accepted:** The Board accepted a donation from the KRS PTO in the amount of \$23,000 to help update the KRS Media Center. The Board appreciates the generosity of the PTO and is looking forward to the newly-designed space and structure of the Media Center!