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**Take Five Briefing**  
**Board of Education Meeting**  
**June 1, 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. **Jen Freeman Remembered:** The Board and Mr. Schwarz took a moment to remember and honor Jen Freeman, Physics and AP Environmental Science teacher at Madison High School, who passed away on May 15th after a long battle with cancer. Mrs. Freeman spent 19 years at MHS as a teacher and as supervisor of the science department. Her dedication and devotion to her students and the school community were unwavering and she had the respect and admiration of everyone that worked with her or had her as a teacher. The Board expresses its deepest sympathies to Mrs. Freeman's family and loved ones.
2. **New Hires Brought On:** The Board welcomed new staff members to Madison Public Schools for the 2021-2022 school year. The teachers approved included Chaoquin Chen, who will become the new Chinese Teacher at MJS; Chris Paradiso, who is returning to the district as the Library Media Specialist at CAS; and Margaret Steiner, who will be teaching 6th grade language arts at MJS. The new staff will attend a two-day new staff orientation in August that will help them acclimate to the district's processes and procedures.
3. **Asbestos Abatement:** The Board took an important structural step in preparing for this summer's HVAC project at MHS by awarding a bid for asbestos abatement. This work will help clear the way for the construction, which will involve updating the ventilation systems throughout the school to improve air flow and air quality in each area of the building.
4. **Curriculum Writing Approved:** The Board approved curriculum writing stipends for new MJS courses, which will help revitalize the cycles program in each grade. The new courses include Digital Genius, For the Love of Reading, TED Talks, Forensics Exploration, We Got Books, Money Management, Advertising and Marketing, and Genius Hour. Staff members will work throughout the summer to complete the curriculum documents so the courses can be implemented during the 2021-2022 school year.
5. **Central Office Administrators Renewed:** The Board renewed the contracts of central office administrators Ms. Danielle Mancuso, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Mr. Daniel J. Ross, Esq., Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Personnel; and Dr. Frank Santora, Asst. Superintendent Pupil Personnel Services. The contracts had been previously reviewed by the Executive County Superintendent and were presented to the Board along with the "cost of contract" document required by the county office.