



Take Five Briefing
Board of Education Meeting
May 24, 2022

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.

For additional reference, please refer to the current and past [Board meeting agendas](#), [MPS Education Updates](#), and [Take Five Briefings](#).

- 1. Educators of the Year Celebrated:** The Board celebrated the 2022 MPS Educators of the Year, which included both a Teacher of the Year and the Educational Services Professional of the Year from each school. The annual award is determined by nomination, with input from a wide variety of stakeholders at each school. Teacher of the Year recipients are: Douglas Oswin (MHS), Richard Newbery (MJS), Anthony Cyrana (CAS), Jessica Yurecko (KRS), and Colleen Kennedy (TJS). Educational Services Professional of the Year recipients are: Michael Moore (MHS), Richard Hagens (MJS), Wendy DeCaro (CAS), Joanne Sims (KRS), and Tina Smith (TJS).
- 2. Retirees Recognized:** The Board recognized retirees from the 2021-2022 school year and celebrated their service to the district. The Board thanks those who have served in the district and wishes them a happy and healthy retirement. The staff members recognized include: Nicolette Crescas (TJS), William DiTocco (District), Edilberto Florez (CAS), Robert Grundfest (MHS), Christopher Kechula (District), and Kevin Lynott (MHS).
- 3. Donations:** The Board accepted a number of [generous donations](#) that will benefit students and staff. The Madison Education Foundation (MEF) supported one donation to assist special needs students at CAS and a second to help create a weather station at TJS. The MJS PTO provided a number of donations to support the 8th grade dance, and additional donations were provided for Softball equipment and drawstring bags for seniors.
- 4. School Security Grant:** The Board accepted a grant through the Securing Our Children's Future Bond Act School Security Grants program, which is an NJDOE program intended to strengthen security measures in NJ public schools. The funds have been allocated to support compliance with Alyssa's Law, which is a 2019 law that requires all public schools to install silent panic alarms that will alert law enforcement during emergencies.
- 5. Curriculum Writing:** The Board approved the writing and revision of a wide range of courses for the 2022-23 school year. [The courses](#) that will be worked on this summer include the *Intro to Public Administration* and *Leadership and Ethics* courses that will be offered as part of the new Academy for Government and Leadership; a new in-person *AP Physics C* course; and the rewrite of 10th grade English, Social Studies, and Science to align with the reduction of levels at MHS.