



Take Five Briefing
Board of Education Meeting
October 13, 2020

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](#).

1. **Phase II Update Provided:** Superintendent Mark Schwarz provided an update regarding the reopening of schools and the district's planned move to Phase II, which would permit students to attend school in-person Monday through Friday on an early dismissal schedule. Mr. Schwarz outlined how the district is working with its vendors to ensure the timely delivery and installation of necessary items including desk shields. An update regarding the district's plans to move to Phase II will be provided this week.
2. **Sending/Receiving Agreement with Harding Approved:** The Board approved a sending/receiving agreement with Harding Township Schools that continues the relationship between the two districts through 2026. The agreement specifies the terms and conditions of the relationship, which has students from Harding Township Schools attend Madison High School after they complete 8th grade. Madison High School currently enrolls approximately 100 students who reside in Harding Township.
3. **Book Approvals:** The Board approved a number of [diversity-related texts](#) to be used as part of core and supplemental instruction at MHS and MJS. The texts were selected and reviewed by English Department staff members at both schools and will allow students to engage with literature that contains a wide variety of character representations and perspectives. The book approvals are part of the district's efforts related to diversity and inclusion and help build a foundation of texts aimed at enhancing student awareness and understanding of different cultures and identities.
4. **ESL Program Supported:** The Board supported a proposed [after school program](#) for English language learners to be paid through Federal funds. The program will provide assistance for students in academic content and language enrichment, English language proficiency, and building community by enriching students' experiences. The ESL After School Program will run virtually from November through June.
5. **Onsite Testing Agreement Passed:** The Board passed [an agreement](#) to allow an outside organization to provide periodic COVID-19 evaluations and antibody onsite to district staff. Dates for the will be determined by the administration and information will be made available to all district employees.