

# BEYOND THE BOARD ROOM

AN INITIATIVE OF THE MILWAUKEE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

APRIL 2017



**DR. MICHAEL BONDS**  
School Board Director  
District 3

## A NOTE FROM DR. MICHAEL BONDS

Recently a mid-year student performance update was presented to the Milwaukee Board of School Directors through the Committee on Student Achievement and School Innovation. The update showed improved student performance in the areas of reading and math. Progress was measured using the STAR assessment which is given to track student progress, impact instruction, and predict performance on other state assessments. While we are extremely proud of the improvement shown and the progress that has been made, we know we still have much work to do. We also know that we still have a gap in achievement for students of color. For example, we know that in our district, fewer African American students are on target in reading and math than any other ethnic group. As a district, it is critical that we work with urgency to eliminate the achievement gap that separates economically disadvantaged students and students of color from less disadvantaged students. Efforts to eliminate the achievement gap in our community must include all stakeholders and must be sustained over time.

## SPOTLIGHT ON DISTRICT 3 FIFTY-THIRD STREET SCHOOL



The 53rd Street School Community Garden was established in 2011 and has approximately 50 plots, most of which are privately leased by teachers and families from 53rd Street School, Yeshiva Elementary School, and community members. Several plots are designated as community plots from which community members are encouraged to pick fresh produce including herbs, strawberries, and raspberries. Thanks to a partnership with Sherman Park Community Association and Arts @Large the garden is an excellent gathering place and educational tool for our students and community. Fifty-Third Street School offers a traditional program to students in grade K4 through 8.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS MILWAUKEE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Special Board Meeting **April 6**  
6:30 PM

Committee on Student  
Achievement & School  
Innovation **April 11**  
5:30 PM

Committee on Parent &  
Community Engagement **April 18**  
5:30 PM

Committee on  
Accountability,  
Finance & Personnel **April 18**  
6:30 PM

Regular Monthly  
Board Meeting **April 20**  
6:30 PM

Annual Organizational  
Meeting **April 25**  
6:30 PM

For more information, including  
meeting times and agendas, visit  
[www.milwaukee.k12.wi.us](http://www.milwaukee.k12.wi.us).

**ACCESS BOARD MEETINGS  
VIA LIVE STREAM AT  
[HTTP://MPSMKE.COM/BOARDCAST](http://MPSMKE.COM/BOARDCAST)**

## OFFICE OF BOARD GOVERNANCE

### THE MILWAUKEE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' BUSINESS OFFICE

The Office of Board Governance provides support to the Milwaukee Board of School Directors in effectively and efficiently governing the District.

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