

Dear Milwaukee Public Schools Community,

The first part of the 2020-21 school year has gone by very fast and not without challenge. Even with all of the obstacles 2020 has presented us, there is still so much to be thankful for at Milwaukee Public Schools.

As we enter the Thanksgiving break and a season filled with gratitude, I want to take this opportunity to express how grateful I feel to be part of our remarkable community of employees, learners, and friends. In these most unique and challenging times, I've seen dedicated and tireless individuals go above and beyond to make sure the extraordinary still happens for our students and throughout the district.

I am inspired by our Milwaukee Board of School Directors, our educators, administrators, and all staff for being our student's strongest advocates this year and every year before. I am grateful for the parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and caregivers alike who are working hard to be an integral part of their child's educational success. I am thankful for our volunteers, donors, and partners who enthusiastically collaborate with us inside and outside of the classroom. And most importantly, I am appreciative of our future leaders that continue to amaze me!

Along with the excitement, I recognize that the holiday season may bring on a range of emotions. This is a reminder to care for yourself and those around you as various feelings may impact your mood.

Whether your holiday plans are different or postponed for this year, may you, your family, loved ones, and friends experience kindness, generosity, and fond memories during the Thanksgiving break.

I thank all of you, no matter your contribution, for your support, encouragement, and kind words you send me on a daily basis.

Dr. Keith P. Posley  
Superintendent of Schools

### **Everyone Can Make Thanksgiving Safer!**

Wear a mask

- Wear a mask with two or more layers to stop the spread of COVID-19.
- Wear the mask over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin.
- Make sure the mask fits snugly against the sides of your face.

Stay at least 6 feet away from others

- Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread COVID-19 or flu.
- Keeping 6 feet (about 2 arm lengths) from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Wash your hands

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Keep hand sanitizer with you and use it when you are unable to wash your hands.
- Use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

### **Consider Other Thanksgiving Activities**

**Host a virtual Thanksgiving meal with friends and family who don't live with you.**

- Schedule a time to share a meal together virtually.
- Have people share recipes and show their turkey, dressing, or other dishes they prepared.

**Watch television and play games with people in your household**

- Watch Thanksgiving Day parades, sports, and movies at home.
- Find a fun game to play.

### **Shopping**

- Shop online sales the day after Thanksgiving and days leading up to the winter holidays.
- Use contactless services for purchased items, like curbside pick-up.
- Shop in open air markets staying 6 feet away from others.

### **Other Activities**

- Safely prepare traditional dishes and deliver them to family and neighbors in a way that does not involve contact with others (for example, leave them on the porch).
- Participate in a gratitude activity, like writing down things you are grateful for and sharing with your friends and family.

Resource: [Celebrating Thanksgiving, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

Office of the Superintendent  
5225 W. Vliet Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53208  
(414) 475-8001 • [mpsmke.com](http://mpsmke.com)

[mps.milwaukee.k12.wi.us](http://mps.milwaukee.k12.wi.us)