



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Draft EDUCATION COMMITTEE

*Consider: Who benefits? Who is burdened?
Who does not have a voice at the table?
How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?*

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

5:30 PM

Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Others present: Mary O'Donnell, Tariq Saqqaf, Nathan Beck

Mirilli called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm

Present: 8 - Linda Vakunta; Regina M. Vidaver; Tag Evers; Richard McGregory; Savion J. Castro; ananda mirilli; Carousel Andrea S. Bayrd and Heidi Wegleitner

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

1. [65732](#) Public Comment

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Evers, seconded by Wegleitner to approve the July 14, 2021 minutes.
Motion passed by voice vote.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

2. [67159](#) Digital Inclusion Task Force Final Report

Attachments: [Digital Inclusion Task Force Final Report](#)

Evers updated the group on report status. Final report originally scheduled on September agenda. Education Committee did not have quorum in September. Report then went to Council and was approved on October 6th. Report is a broad overview on how to move forward.

Priority 4 Digital Literacy lists Education Committee as a collaborating entity. Recommended new City staff person is also a collaborating entity. Evers will provide additional information on 2022 budget regarding new position funding.

Members reviewed report and discussed potential next steps.

-Identify current work on digital literacy by MMSD and Madison Public Library.
Reach out to MadRep and Education Super Highway for future collaboration.
-MMSD is working on maps to identify gaps.

- Potential for collaborative funding on new staff position between City and County.
- Dane County has the authority to create Consumer Protection Office. Have Dane County staff provide further info.
- Support Task Force recommendation to determine if internet is a necessary utility under Federal Emergency fund rules. If internet could be considered necessary utility, Dane County currently distributes fed funds to Urban Triage and CAC for utility payments and arears could be applied to internet costs.
- Affordable housing RFPs could update scoring to reflect need/importance of internet for developers.
- Bayview and CDA are working to provide free internet to residents. Evers will provide update from CDD and CDA on current work.

3. [67160](#) Dane County Youth Employment Funding

Bayrd shared that the Dane County Executive increased youth employment funding by \$100,000 for proposed 2022 budget. Operation Fresh Start, Briarpatch and Common Wealth Development are the current contracted agencies. Youth employment programs include yearlong employment, peer support and some level of payment. At risk youth are the focus of these programs. Mirilli added that a youth employment training program in education could be beneficial for students and staff at MMSD.

4. [67161](#) Potential Collaboration on Unfunded But Strong Big Idea Proposals

McGregory will review the list and bring information on top 3 proposals that were not funded but fall within the Education Committee priorities of youth employment, affordable housing, mental health, digital inclusion and transportation. The program profiles will be available at the next meeting.

5. [67750](#) Identify items for future agendas

Mirilli led discussion on future agenda items.

Potential discussion items:

- Digital Task Force recommendations
- Mental health initiatives as schools are reopen.
- Follow up on letter sent to Mayor, Dane County Executive and MMSD Superintendent
- Review budgets with a focus on the 5 priorities to see potential gaps. Get community input on gaps and needs.
- Conversation with Dane County Executive, Mayor and MMSD Superintendent in spring/summer of 2022 regarding 2023 budget priorities.
- Youth program workforce. Wages and staff shortages effect program viability and availability.
- Wallace Foundation offering grants to invest in young people. Child care staff initiatives could also benefit youth program workforce.
- Budget amendment for new city position for Digital Inclusion Task Force work.

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting:
November 3, 2021

**Motion by Evers, seconded by Vidaver to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm.
Motion passed by voice vote.**