



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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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, August 10, 2022

5:30 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Linda Vakunta; Charles Myadze; Tag Evers; Nichelle Nichols; Maia E. Pearson; Jacob Wright and Heidi Wegleitner

Absent: 1 - Richard McGregory

Others present: Mary O'Donnell (City staff), Tariq Saqqaf (City Staff)

Nichols called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. [65732](#) Public Comment

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion by Wright seconded by Wegleitner to approve June 8, 2022 minutes.
Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

Wegleitner disclosed she works for Legal Action of Wisconsin and they receive funding from the city.

NEW BUSINESS

2. [73035](#) Report and discuss committee member homework:
For City and County:
- Are there 2023 budget and/or policy items within our committee's identified priorities are you already working on, planning to work on, or interested in working on in the process? Are there initiatives being developed that you are aware of which relate to these priorities?
 - Are you aware of any emerging issues that you think the committee should consider in discussing the 2023 budgets and making recommendations? (e.g. landscape for reproductive health services has changed with the Dobbs decision and there is a need to consider timely and accessible reproductive health education and navigation) which relate to the committees priorities?
- For MMSD
- What was funded in the recently passed MMSD Budget that relates to our priority areas? What is the status of spending on ESSER funds? Are Big Ideas projects funded and implemented?

Nichols discussed the goal of the homework questions to identify budget and policy implications on Education Committee priorities and the three entities.

County Budget Items

- Health and Human Needs Committee changes to homeless/shelter services during the pandemic. The shift from group shelters to hotels has led to a waitlist and there are no shelter spots for Madison kids. (HW)
- Digital Equity position to be part of the second phase of the Dane County Broadband Task Force. (HW)
- East side Community Health by the Hawthorne Library. The Madison/Dane County Health department is increasing funding for an expansion in 2023 for preventative services. (HW)

City Budget Items

- CARES program for mental health calls. (LV)
- Summer bus passes for all youth. Further information will be presented when it is provided from Metro Transit. Myadze suggested having the bus passes available at Warner Park or other community locations. (LV)
- Family and women's homeless shelter run by the Salvation Army. (LV)
- CDD internship program for summer for youth employment. (LV)

MMSD Budget Items

- Housing Navigator and Stabilization position/Unaccompanied Youth worker with YWCA approved with ARPA funds. (NN)
- \$900,000 to add 9 social workers to schools to assist with social emotional learning and mental health support. (NN)
- Expansion of Family Liaison positions in schools with higher population of lower-income families. (NN)
- Village Builder to work with families at title one schools. (NN)
- ESSER projects for Digital Navigator, hot spots and increased access. (NN)
- Health and Wellness programs in four high schools with clinician role to be hired. (NN)
- Office of Youth Engagement to span positions to coach more students. (NN)
- Mental Health Program Manager and Mental Health Bilingual Resource Specialist positions. (NN)
- Driver's License Program expansion. Students need access to these programs and they are no longer provided directly through the schools. The County Executive's Office during summer MSCR has huge waitlist for students with free/reduced lunch. (NN)
- SRO funds transferred to four coordinators in high schools for RESJ plan and to move to a systemic model. (NN)

Evers discussed the tight budget timing and the minimal influence Council would have with the \$100,000 that they are able to make spending recommendations. It would be beneficial to include program budget items in agency budgets vs. items that come from the Council floor. The Mayor will release the capital budget on September 6 and the Operational Budget on October 10.

Nichols will share additional information on ESSER Big Ideas projects at the September meeting.

There will be a more formal budget action plan and discussion at the September meeting.

3. [73036](#) Discuss 2023 committee work plan

Nichols discussed bringing a draft 2023 calendar work plan to the September committee meeting. The work plan will ground and help the committee to align priority areas and information and topics to include. Set future agenda items action items, presentations and calendar it out. September agenda would include budget discussion, 2023 work plan and Driver's Education program information including history and current status.

Work plan items may include:

- Driver's License program to be part of the 2022-23 school year.
- digital equity updates with City Digital Equity Task Force and Dane County Broadband Task Force.
- Items that align with Education Committee priorities.
- Youth input and youth engagement. Make sure priorities align with what youth need. Student Senate could provide youth voice.

4. [73037](#) Next steps with formalizing Committee name and membership changes

Wegleitner discussed the ordinance amendment to include a Fitchburg representative. Pearson reached out a Fitchburg alder who was out of the office. Pearson then reached out to Fitchburg administrative offices regarding potential participation in the Education Committee. Response to be shared at the next meeting.

Wegleitner had not received a response from Dane County Executive's Office on staffing or a Dane County representative on the Education Committee. Connie Benton has offered to speak at committee meetings on specific topic areas. Human Services staff can share information and support.

5. [73038](#) Update on youth summer Metro passes and Parks Alive

Metro Youth Summer Bus Passes

Vakunta requested data on the summer Metro bus passes and will share at the next meeting. The letter to the editor Nichols planned on submitting was delayed. Nichols will revise the letter and submit the letter to reflect the completion of the program.

Parks Alive

Saqqaf discussed that Parks Alive held approximately 31 events at eight parks in nine NRT areas this summer. There were about 131 participants at each of the events that incorporated food carts, kid's games and mobile activities carts to promote community engagement. The NRTs recommended a budget items to create a funding for the events and a Parks Position to lead the Parks Alive coordination with NRTs, MSCR and other organizations. There are currently no plans for fall or winter Parks Alive events. There is potential to include this in the budget discussions or work plan moving forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Evers, seconded by Myadze to adjourn at 7:27 pm. Motion passed by voice vote.