



**Mt. Pleasant School District Board of Trustees**  
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**Dr. Elida MacArthur, Superintendent**

Est. 1865

Dear staff, parents/caregivers, and community members,

On November 10, 2021, the Superintendent informed the Board that she would be forming an advisory committee that would provide her recommendations for closing and consolidating schools to help address the fiscal challenges facing the district due to declining enrollment. The ultimate goal for taking this action is to try and maintain instructional programs and services that benefit our students and try to address the needs of our staff and maintain facilities in good repair.

We would like to inform you of an opportunity to be part of an important decision about the future of MPESD. We welcome community members to join the new Superintendent’s Committee that will be formed to make recommendations regarding the closure and consolidation of certain MPESD school(s) sites due to declining enrollment. Schools for consideration are Ida Jew Academies, Mount Pleasant STEAM Academy, and Valle Vista. **While existing programs such as the ALAS Dual Immersion, STEAM, AVID, and other instructional programs will be continuing, the Committee will be considering consolidating programs.**

The Superintendent is asking not to consider August Boeger and Robert Sanders for possible school closures for the following reasons:

- August Boeger Middle School is the only MPESD middle school within our district.
- Robert Sanders Elementary School has the highest enrollment for TK-5th grade, a central location within the District's attendance boundaries, and has the ability to accommodate more students.

The committee’s makeup should have representation from the three school sites (Ida Jew Academy, Mount Pleasant, and Valle Vista) that potentially may be recommended for school closure. Below is a table with the make-up of the committee and how individuals interested in being considered to be part of the committee can indicate their interest:

Location	Committee Members	Notes
District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tracy Huynh - Chief Business Officer</li> <li>• Laurie Breton - Director of Student Services</li> <li>• Kevin Hutchings - Chief of Maintenance</li> <li>• One school site administrator</li> </ul>	<p>Superintendent will participate as a listening member or when asked to provide information.</p> <p>The school site administrator will be from a school that is not listed as a possible closure and has a long history and experience in our district.</p>
School Sites	Three parents from each school that may be impacted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents and other committee members will be required to attend all meetings.</li> <li>• Parents interested in participating will write a short paragraph indicating why they are interested in participating.</li> <li>• Parents and other committee members will be replaced if they miss more than one meeting</li> <li>• <b>Complete interest form by November 17, 2021.</b>  <b>Link to Interest Form: English:</b>  <a href="https://forms.gle/dH7VqSjK7UTYCSeC6">https://forms.gle/dH7VqSjK7UTYCSeC6</a></li> </ul>

		<p><b>Español:</b>  <a href="https://forms.gle/TxUJmBV1W1UrxaxH9">https://forms.gle/TxUJmBV1W1UrxaxH9</a>  <b>Vietnamese:</b>  <a href="https://forms.gle/XvTP5bEwu3UkySIL6">https://forms.gle/XvTP5bEwu3UkySIL6</a></p>
Classified Staff	Two classified staff from each school that may be impacted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chosen by the staff of the school</li> <li>• Must attend all meetings</li> <li>• The survey will be sent to the staff</li> </ul>
Certificated Staff	Two certificated staff members from each school that may be impacted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chosen by the staff of the school</li> <li>• Must attend all meetings</li> <li>• The survey will be sent to the staff</li> </ul>
Union Representatives	One certificated (MPEA) and one classified (CSEA)	Must be President or member of the Executive Board.

Please note that additional committee members may be added based on recommendations provided at the board meeting. We will inform you when the decision is made.

Committee members are expected to attend all meetings, below is the tentative timeline and meeting dates:

- November 17, interest forms from interested parents are due.
- November 30, committee members are notified, schedules are shared, and members are reminded of their commitment to attend all meetings.
- Committee meeting dates: December 6 (The first committee meeting will be in person), December 13, January 6, January 10, and January 24, (January 31, leaving just in case an additional meeting is needed):
  - January 10, Committee meeting to provide an update to the community
  - January 24, Committee provides recommendation(s) to the Superintendent
- February 9 Board meeting, the Superintendent will bring her recommendation to the Board. Before the Board takes action there will be a public hearing in a separate meeting. **Please note that depending on when the recommendation is made to the Superintendent, there will be an additional Board meeting; either February 2 or February 16.**
- February 10, Community will be notified of Board decision(s).

The committee’s recommendation should include closing one school in 2022-23 and possibly another school to close in 2023-24. The committee could also provide recommendations for consolidating and/or restructuring schools that may remain open.

Throughout this process, there will be a dedicated space on the district’s website to keep the community informed. After the first meeting or starting on December 13, before every committee meeting, the public will have 30 minutes to voice their concerns or ask questions before the committee goes into a closed session. The committee will not be answering questions, but based on the questions asked during this time, a “Question and Answer” document will be created and posted on the website.

Before the committee provides the final recommendation/s to the Superintendent, there will be a community meeting to update the public (tentatively scheduled for January 10, 2022).

If you have questions, please contact MPESD Superintendent Dr. Elida MacArthur by email at [emacarthur@mpesd.org](mailto:emacarthur@mpesd.org).

Sincerely,

*Elida MacArthur,*  
Superintendent