

Mayoral Governance Proposal

10/27/09

Under the Mayoral Governance proposal, a clear line of authority and accountability would be established with a Mayorally appointed Superintendent. However, an elected school board would remain with the ability to influence decisions and highlight local concern.

It is a structure that allows for systemic change, but respects the need for parental and community involvement in the decision making process.

Components of the plan include:

1. Mayoral appointment of the MPS Superintendent

a. Mayor has full hire and fire authority of the Superintendent of Schools.

2. Elected board remains, with modified duties and structure

a. Certain powers currently under board authority would move to the Superintendent but still be subject to review by the board including but not limited to:

- i. Budget and fiscal issues (setting the levy would be a duty of the Mayor)*
- ii. Curriculum*
- iii. School closure and facility decisions*
- iv. Collective bargaining and contractual authority*

b. Other duties would remain entirely within the authority of the elected board including:

- i. Community and parental organization and relations*

- ii. Student disciplinary policy including suspensions and expulsions
- iii. Serve as a review and advisory capacity of proposals of the Superintendent

3. Reauthorization referendum set in statute seven years out

4. Elimination of tenure for principals and other administrative managers (a component of the recent MTEA/WEAC proposal)

5. Milwaukee School Zones

- a. Create the framework for a Children's Zone, modeled after the Harlem Zones and Zilber Community Zones that integrates various wrap-around services such as child care, transportation, public safety and health care with local schools to foster a positive community and learning environment.*