



# Milwaukee Historic Preservation Commission Staff Report

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**HPC meeting date: 1/9/2023**

**Ald. Coggs**

**Staff reviewer: Tim Askin**

**CCF #221379**

<b>Property</b>	1555 N MLK Drive	Golda Meir School
<b>Owner/Applicant</b>	Milwaukee Public Schools	Quorum Architecture
<b>Proposal</b>	Install security screens on the school in areas prone to break in or playground-related damage. The screens double as insect screens where the underlying window is operable. They will be installed across all facades to varying degrees.	
<b>Staff comments</b>	<p>This is highly visible building with 360 public views. It is notably a national historic landmark, the highest possible ranking of a historic building in the United States for historic significance. It is also believed to be the only building still standing Milwaukee that is directly and strongly associated with Golda Meir. All facades are detailed in relatively equal design effort. The school is tight up against the sidewalk on all but the east/MLK façade.</p> <p>The foundation/basement/ground-level security screens are a realistic need and will not have a strong visual impact on the overall character of the building. A light-colored mesh should be used on this level so as to better blend with the limestone stone blocks.</p> <p>The <b>south</b> façade is affected at the basement only and should be approved as above.</p> <p><b>East:</b> impacts to this elevation are relatively minimal and mostly related to the fire escape. This façade also has direct exposure to the playground which has safety impacts independent of general security concerns. Where windows are NOT operable, a traditional fixed storm window with safety glazing (acrylic, laminated glass, etc.) should be used instead of the screen. Staff calls out the entry transom specifically. It may be illogical to do other transoms where the rest of the window area is to be fully covered by screening.</p> <p><b>North:</b> Where windows are NOT operable, a traditional fixed storm window with safety glazing (acrylic, laminated glass, etc.) should be used instead of the screen. Staff calls attention to the entry vestibule in particular. If the vestibule windows are operable, the security screen may be the only practical solution for this size of opening. Staff recommends a hold to evaluate interior options for the first floor.</p> <p><b>West:</b> Staff recommends a hold to evaluate alternative options. An interior solution may be possible. Approve basement level as proposed, with the exception of the main entry transom where a safety glazed storm window would be more appropriate.</p> <p>The proposal should be granted in part and with conditions. Where the safety glazed storm is a recommended alternative, it should have matching aluminum frame as other screens.</p>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	Partially approve with conditions. HOLD review of west and north elevations for further evaluation of alternatives for the first floor and higher.	
<b>Conditions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Grant basement level proposal with a light colored frame and mesh.</li><li>2. Grant east façade with the exception of the transom over the main entrance where a safety-glazed storm is more appropriate.</li><li>3. Windows that are generally non-operable should be fitted with a safety-glazed storm window in most instances. Discuss with staff.</li></ol>	