

Office of the Superintendent

5225 W. Vliet St., P.O. Box 2181 Milwaukee, WI 53201-2181 (414) 475-8001 • mps.milwaukee.k12.wi.us

May 18, 2022

The Honorable Marina Dimitrijevic District 14 Alderwoman City of Milwaukee Common Council City Hall 200 East Wells Street, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderwoman Dimitrijevic:

Milwaukee Public Schools has been working closely with the Wisconsin Bike Fed in the implementation of the "Safe Routes to School" program since 2005. The focus of this effort is to increase the number and safety of families walking or riding bikes to school. With the continued concerns of reckless driving that face our students, we are in support of the recommended change to Ordinance 102-7. Bicycle Regulations 1. RIDING ON PUBLIC WAYS.

At the present time, City of Milwaukee Ordinance 102-7.1. prohibits the riding of bicycles on "public school grounds or public playgrounds." Milwaukee Public Schools is in favor of rescinding this portion of the ordinance. We are developing a bike garden program for 100 of our elementary schools. These painted bike gardens will be used to teach pedestrian and bike safety. In addition, the bike gardens are a great tool for families to reinforce these lessons during evenings, weekends, and summers. *However*, the current ordinance prevents families from legally using bikes in those spaces.

Changing the current climate of reckless driving will take a community-wide effort. Milwaukee Public Schools is proud to do our part in educating the children and families in Milwaukee about pedestrian and bike safety. Our families need the opportunity to use playground spaces to ride safely. These efforts will allow our students and families to get physically active through riding bikes, which will benefit the health and wellness of our students and community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Keith P. Posley

Superintendent of Schools

200 B. Bosley