

*October 2021*

## Highlights

### Superintendent Reports on Successful Start to School Year

Rose Tree Media School District superintendent Dr. Eleanor DiMarion-Linnen reported to the board on progress in beginning the 2021-22 school year, while acknowledging the challenges faced by educators and students alike.

“Our focus these last two months of school have been on re-acclimating our students to the routines of school and building academic stamina and engagement,” said Dr. D. “Universal assessments have been conducted and analysis of these results has been completed to identify skill areas which need reinforcement and targeted intervention. Our teachers are working diligently to support our students’ recovery from the impact of COVID-19 on social/emotional development and learning. We appreciate the continued collaboration and support of our families in helping our students stay safe, healthy, and ready to learn.”

### Test-to-Stay Program Approved by Unanimous Board Vote

Approved by the Board in a unanimous vote, the [Test-to-Stay Program](#) will provide an added measure to help RTM students and staff be able to remain in school.

Under the program, students and staff who are identified as close contacts from an in-school exposure to COVID-19 and are asymptomatic may continue to remain at school for work and learning through testing using the BinaxNow Rapid Antigen test on days 1-2, 3-4, and 5-7 following an exposure. A centralized testing center will be set up at Springton Lake Middle School for parents to bring their children to be tested if they have been identified as an in-school close contact. As long as the student or staff member continues to test negative, they may remain in school.

### Board Alters Standing Committee Structure

At its October meeting, the Board approved changes to its committee structure ([Policy 005 Organization](#)). This policy change reduces the number of committees by half, establishing three standing committees: Finance & Operations, Education & Wellness, and Human Resources. These will subsume the duties of the Board’s six previous committees: Curriculum and Instruction, Finance, Human Resources, Operations, Student Services, and Technology.

The Rose Tree Media Board of School Directors held its monthly Legislative Meeting on October 28, 2021

*Next Committee Meeting:*  
November 9, 2021

*Next Legislative Meeting:*  
November 18, 2021

### Board of Education Members

Susan Henderson-Utis  
*President*

Theresa Napson-Williams  
*Vice President*

Hillary Fletcher

Jackie Gusic

Shelley Hunt

Robert Kelly

Susan Layne

Jim Morrison

Kelly Schaffer

### Student Board Representatives

Ava Finnegan

Mckenzie Grant

Neil Sen

### Superintendent

Dr. Eleanor DiMarino-Linnen

*More information available at*  
[www.rtmsd.org/administration/board](http://www.rtmsd.org/administration/board)

*Continued on the next page*

## **New Options for Viewing Board Meetings**

The Rose Tree Media School District community is now able to watch Board of School Directors meetings on the district's YouTube channel, [RTMSD Media](#). The meetings are aired live and recordings are also available.

As always, board agendas, minutes and meeting summaries are available on the [district website](#).

*More information available at*

**[www.rtmsd.org/administration/board](http://www.rtmsd.org/administration/board)**