



## **MILWAUKEE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP (MEP) MONTHLY REPORT**

**November 2016**

- Meetings and conversations were held between the Milwaukee Education Partnership (MEP) Executive Director, Gerard Randall, and various individuals within and outside of the partnership regarding education legislation, grants, partnerships, various initiatives and projects, updates, MEP administrative business and more.
- Mr. Randall met again with Harold O. Levy of the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation concerning the foundation's invitation to the MEP to submit a proposal for funding.
- Jeff Rosen, Program Officer at Bader Philanthropies, and Mr. Randall met to discuss and plan next steps for another Loyola University presentation concerning their urban teacher preparation and certification program.
- Conversations continued regarding possible MEP/UW System collaborations.
- Mr. Randall met with Patrick Sims, Associate Vice Chancellor, and Jacqueline DeWalt, Director of the Pre-College Enrichment Program, at UW-Madison to share visions about pre-college programming, the Milwaukee GEAR UP initiative, and the MEP.
- Mr. Randall met with Jenell Loreck, Well-being Manager, Institute for Child and Family Well-being in the UWM Helen Bader School of Social Welfare, to discuss the work of the MEP, the Institute, and ways they might collaborate on future efforts.
- The MEP submitted the final proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF) for planning workshops on a bioscience initiative.
- Planning continued for the tour of the central city of Milwaukee for members of the Wisconsin legislature. A new date is being identified by legislators. A presentation and tour at Sherman School will be included.
- The MEP organized and hosted a conference call for discussion on the possibility of forming articulation agreements between MATC and Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri, one of the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). Mr. Randall held a follow-up call with Dr. Debra Greene, Interim Provost at Lincoln University. Additional information is being shared by these educational institutions for review and future discussion.
- Mr. Randall met with Dr. Karen Jackson, Co-chair of MEP HBCU Work Group 2, regarding its work and also regarding the Metropolitan Milwaukee Alliance of Black School Educators (MMABSE) and its collaboration with the MEP.

- On Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> MMABSE held its 42<sup>nd</sup> fall conference, focused on its 2016-2018 theme, “*Promoting Excellence for All: Imagine the Possibilities*”. Mr. Randall attended. Meaning of the theme: “We continue to face challenges that make schooling relevant, exciting, and engaging. Possibilities are challenges that yield countless opportunities. Given that the majority of students in our schools were born in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, how do we engage them in daily conversations and how do we teach them to talk for diverse audiences? How do we build collaborative classrooms? There is a level of excellence in classrooms that is untapped. We must therefore give students what they need—not what we were taught. How do we make classrooms inspire learning? How do we create and deliver a curriculum that prepares students for a diverse world? How can we make content and instruction authentic so that connections to the real world become the norm? We want members to be confident that they can affect the culture of their schools in ways that make students want to be there every day. Possibilities are cutting-edge strategies that give schools and classrooms relevance, authenticity, meaning, and promise. Possibilities require no limits on thinking, thoughts, and action. Imagine the Possibilities!”
- Mr. Randall accepted an invitation from MMABSE’s Membership Committee to appear on a panel for discussion around MMABSE’s 2016-2018 theme noted above. The event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, February 25, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to Noon and will be attended by MMABSE members, friends and parents. This provides an opportunity for the MEP to share about the HBCU Initiative.
- The Fresh Coast Classic College and Resource Fair is an annual event the MEP helped to start and continues to support in Milwaukee. This year’s event took place November 17, 2016 at the UWM Student Union and was attended by more than 3,000 middle and high school students as well as parents other adults. With representatives present from over 40 colleges and universities nation-wide including HBCUs and local employers and community organizations, students are exposed to many opportunities for post-secondary paths and resources. College and career readiness is also a focus of this event with students attending an education session on the subject and College Access Center staff on site providing personal assistance concerning steps toward college and career readiness. High school seniors had opportunity for on-site admissions to UWM and juniors received a tour.
- Research continued concerning resource mapping and data collection and distribution models and tools. Meetings also took place with several people to gather additional background information on the data landscape in Milwaukee and share information about the MEP Birth-5 Literacy Initiative.
- Discussions continued relative to planning of a new proposal focused on Birth-5 literacy for submission to the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. The MEP hosted a meeting with leadership from the Milwaukee Public Library Foundation, Milwaukee Public Library and the Social Development Commission.