



MILWAUKEE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP (MEP) MONTHLY REPORT

April 2014

- Meetings were held between the Milwaukee Education Partnership (MEP) Executive Director, Gerard Randall, and various individuals within and outside of the partnership including regular meetings with Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) staff regarding grants, partnerships, initiatives, and more.
- Mr. Randall spoke with MEP Executive Partners individually in April in lieu of their regular monthly meeting.
- Dr. Walter Jacobs, Dean, College of Social Sciences & Professional Studies at UW-Parkside was welcomed to the MEP. He and Mr. Randall met concerning convening the UW System Deans for partnership with the MEP.
- Being re-elected as President of the Milwaukee Board of School Directors, Dr. Michael Bonds is continuing to serve as an Executive Partner of the MEP.
- The GE Business & Education Summit monthly follow-up conference call was held on April 24th. This month's call was led by Dr. Stephen Pruitt, Senior Vice President, Content, Research and Development at Achieve. Dr. Pruitt has led the development of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and his primary focus is supporting states and other partners in adopting and implementing the NGSS. Mr. Randall participated in the call.
- The MEP continues to seek funding support for the Milwaukee Early Childhood Literacy Initiative.
- Final preparations were made for the HBCU Conference. Education Deans/representatives from 16 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) participated in the conference hosted by the MEP in Milwaukee April 7-10, 2014. Activities included presentations/sharing on the Project METRO urban teacher residency initiative, employment opportunities in MPS, how to place student teachers in MPS, how to get licensed in Wisconsin, and HBCU/Milwaukee partnerships. In addition, there was a round-table discussion with MPS Superintendent Dr. Gregory Thornton and members of his Senior Leadership Team focused on MPS programs and college access and readiness. Students and faculty from Milwaukee High School of the Arts provided some superb entertainment for the more than 100 attendees at the reception with MEP Partners, HBCU Alums and other guests held at the Golda Meir School Auditorium. Conference participants visited the College Access Center North and several MPS schools (Riverside, Rufus King International High School, Milwaukee School of Languages and Gold Meir School). They also were given a tour of the City of Milwaukee and the option to see a show at the Milwaukee Repertory Theater. The conference yielded

much good discussion on pipeline enhancement opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students at HBCUs, professional development opportunities for MPS staff, and collaborations between various Milwaukee educational partners and HBCUs. As a result of the conference, the MEP plans to continue collaborating with more than 40 HBCUs and their leadership over the next three years. Partnership objectives for the coming year include:

- Create a support system for MPS students who are considering attending HBCUs and who will want or need mentoring, guidance and access to resources during the application and enrollment process as well as during their matriculation.
- Create a pipeline of HBCU graduates who will access careers in Milwaukee, especially within the Milwaukee Public Schools.
- Assist the Milwaukee Public Schools with their professional development needs. Consultation will be provided to support professional development activities that are web-based and also in seminar form in Milwaukee.
- Enhance opportunities for dual appointments between Milwaukee higher education institutions and HBCUs.
- Create a database of existing collaborations between Milwaukee organizations and HBCUs.

A more comprehensive report will be forthcoming.

- A kickoff event for the Social Development Commission (SDC) Education Task Force was held on April 16th. Mr. Randall attended the event.