



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

**May 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, various initiatives, updates and more.
- The monthly MEP Executive Partners meeting was held on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Agenda items included Executive Partner membership, the HBCU initiative, UW System's Deans of Schools of Education initiative, UW-Parkside/Loyola University of Chicago collaboration, MEP Government Relations initiatives and a grants update.
- The MEP sent information to and Mr. Randall met with the Interim Chancellor at UWM, Dr. Mark Mone, to welcome and familiarize him with the MEP and its initiatives and discuss his role in the partnership. UWM Vice Chancellor, Michael Laliberte, and David Nicholas also joined the meeting for discussion concerning the summer basketball camp initiative that has been ongoing for a number of years. Many MPS students have been able to participate in this initiative thanks to the support of the Nicholas family and its foundation. Mr. Randall also met at later dates with Deidre Merritt, UWM Assistant Athletic Director, and with UWM Coach, Rob Jeter, concerning this initiative and more.
- Mr. Randall met with Dr. Michael Dantley, Dean of the School of Education at Loyola University in Chicago, to continue discussing collaboration between Loyola and UW-Parkside teacher education programs.
- A follow-up meeting was held by Mr. Randall with management representatives at Apple in Chicago regarding technology to aid teacher professional development initiatives.
- 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.
- The MEP convened a meeting for MPS Superintendent, Dr. Gregory Thornton, and staff with the area deans of higher education concerning the human resource needs and field placement opportunities within MPS from the area teacher education programs.
- The GE Business & Education Summit monthly follow-up conference call was held on May 15<sup>th</sup>. This month's call was led by Jan W. Rivkin, the Bruce V. Rauner Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School. The presentation focused on the serious competitiveness challenge faced by America, with K-12 education at its core; better

models of transformational partnerships between business and education; and significant barriers to more productive engagements. Mr. Randall participated in the call.

- The Project METRO Steering Committee met on May 5<sup>th</sup> to continue the work on this initiative. Discussion included a summary of the HBCU conference/initiative and next steps, student teacher placement, Cohort II applicants, resident coach hiring, elementary initiative, recruitment, Cohort I challenges and continued successes, and a grant update.
- Work continued on development of the HBCU Initiative. Work is also in progress on a written report concerning the conference and its results.
- The MEP continues to seek funding support for the Milwaukee Early Childhood Literacy Initiative.
- An invitation was received from the Wisconsin Legislature to participate in a convening of parties from all areas of K-12 education to discuss and gather feedback and recommendations on how to pursue an accountability system for all Wisconsin schools.
- A second meeting was held with a potential new designer for the MEP website to further discuss some custom programming needs for developing initiatives.
- An invitation was extended to the MEP Executive Partners by UW-Parkside Chancellor, Debbie Ford, to attend the May 27<sup>th</sup> event to celebrate the Technology Pathway Partners at the Snap-on world headquarters in Kenosha. Key educational partners, including UW-Parkside, UWM and Gateway Technical College, affirm the region's commitment to creating pathways leading to careers in technology and engineering to meet the current and growing need for highly skilled talent in the area of advanced manufacturing and engineering.
- MPS held a STEM Partners Spring Student Showcase on May 20<sup>th</sup>, allowing current and potential partners to come and see how its strong portfolio of STEM programs have engaged education in the community and become a gateway to economic opportunity. MPS has been nationally recognized for its STEM education with such programs as Project Lead The Way (largest implementation of this pre-engineering program in the nation—41 schools and more than 6,000 students), *FIRST* Robotics and *FIRST* Lego teams, high school robotics courses, IT education initiatives, and the Engineering is Elementary and Project Lead The Way LAUNCH programs in grades K - 5. Mr. Randall attended the event.
- Mr. Randall attended the Boys & Girls Clubs Salute to Youth on May 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Randall attended the HCCW Salute to Hispanic Women Luncheon and Panel Discussion on May 6<sup>th</sup>.