



## MILWAUKEE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP (MEP) MONTHLY REPORT

June 2015

- Meetings and conversations 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 education legislation, grants, partnerships, various initiatives, updates, MEP administrative business and more.
- Reggie Newson, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, and Mr. Randall met to discuss potential funding for MPS School-To-Work initiatives.
- Blaine Gibson of Robert W. Baird and Mr. Randall met to discuss summer and after-school internship opportunities for MPS students.
- The Fellowship Open annual meeting was held on June 16<sup>th</sup>. It was announced that support would continue for the MPS/UWM basketball camps.
- The second annual MEP HBCU (Historically Black Colleges & Universities) Conference was held June 1-3, 2015. School of Education Deans and other representatives from ten HBCU institutions participated. The purpose of the conference was to familiarize HBCUs with the City of Milwaukee, MPS and its leadership as well as the leaders of the MEP. The agenda of activities for this group included: presentations from the MPS Office of Human Capital and Project METRO; a meeting and discussion with MPS Superintendent Darienne Driver and her leadership team including the sharing of facts about MPS and a presentation on educator effectiveness held at the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board; and tours of the city, one of the College Access Centers, and MPS schools (Riverside University High School, Milwaukee School of Languages, Lynde and Harry Bradley Technology and Trade School, and Milwaukee High School of the Arts). Local HBCU alumni joined others in welcoming conference participants in a reception held on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Many of these alumni along with local business, education and community organization representatives attended the “*Enhancing the Pipeline*” panel discussion on June 3<sup>rd</sup> about enhancing the pipeline of professional graduates from HBCUs to Milwaukee, especially those with degrees in engineering, information technology, teacher certification, or degrees in health care related fields. Serving as panelists were Dr. Logan Hampton, President, Lane College; and Dr. Kara Turner, Associate Provost for Enrollment Management & Student Academic Support Services, Morgan State University. A major goal of the conference was to encourage HBCUs to develop or strengthen collaborations with MPS and encourage their graduates,

particularly those in the aforementioned areas, to consider employment in Milwaukee. Throughout the conference there was much good discussion, ideas and sharing. There is great enthusiasm amongst the conference participants to continue the discussions and work on targeted areas of support.

- The MEP Executive Partners (Board) held their June meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>. The annual election of officers took place—Dr. Michael Bonds, School Board President, was re-elected as President and Chairman; Dr. James Loftus, Cardinal Stritch University President, was re-elected as Vice President; and Dr. Darienne Driver, MPS Superintendent, was elected as Secretary/Treasurer. Outgoing Executive Partners (Bob Peterson, MTEA President and Ellis Bromberg, MPTV General Manager) were recognized and thanked for their work and support of the partnership. Bob Peterson has retired and Ellis Bromberg will soon join him in retirement. The new MTEA President, Kim Schroeder, and the future MPTV General Manager will be joining the Executive Partners. The new UWM School of Education Dean, Dr. Alan Shoho, was introduced and he shared his vision for the School of Education. The meeting also included a report on the HBCU Conference, an administrative report and briefing/legislative updates from Mr. Randall as well as discussion around several topics from the agenda.
- The MEP is responding to a request from Wisconsin Assembly Speaker Robin Vos to tour some schools in the fall. Planning has begun.
- Summer reading initiatives were endorsed by the Reading Task Force.
- Efforts to support an expansion of the Stritch African-American Leadership Program and Reading Literacy Centers have continued. Information about the Literacy Centers including quick facts, data analysis and options for expansion was distributed to MEP Executive Partners at their June meeting.
- Preparations began for another presentation to Dr. David Haury at the National Science Foundation regarding the Bio-Science grant proposal.
- Staff from the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board and Mr. Randall continued to work in collaboration on a proposal to revive the Step Up Program.
- The GE Foundation monthly business leader conference call featuring David Coleman, President of the College Board, took place on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Randall participated.