



## MILWAUKEE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP (MEP) MONTHLY REPORT

**June 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, updates, MEP administrative business and more.
- Mr. Randall met with Mikel Holt, Editor for Milwaukee Community Journal regarding a collaboration to support a Milwaukee youth mentoring initiative.
- Mr. Randall met with Ryan Daniels, Executive Director, Milwaukee Public Library Foundation, regarding the MEP Early Childhood Literacy initiative. Future meetings will focus on a collaboration between the Milwaukee Public Library Foundation and the MEP.
- A phone conversation on the MEP Early Childhood Literacy Initiative was held with the new Wisconsin liaison of the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. Efforts will be made to identify technical assistance to support our efforts.
- Discussions continued with Stritch staff and MPS staff concerning the Cardinal Stritch University Literacy Program initiative.
- The MEP organized a videoconference for local education partners with Dr. Linda Smith, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Early Childhood Education, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Administration for Children and Families. Dr. Smith shared on the promise and implications to early childhood education as articulated in the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Participants had opportunity to learn about the significant impacts the ESSA may have on early learning programs in the Milwaukee region, including Head Start and day care programs, and they were able to comment and ask questions at the end of the presentation. The ESSA has specific mandates regarding early childhood development initiatives and encourages states to develop goals and resources to support academic achievement and social development for early learners. This event was held at The Medical College of Wisconsin.
- Discussions and work continued on the National Science Foundation (NSF) Bioscience Initiative and planning proposal. Mr. Randall also met with Dr. Patricia Welch, Dean of the School of Education & Urban Studies, and Dr. Kevin Peters, Director for the Center for Excellence in Mathematics & Science Education, at Morgan State University regarding involvement on the Baltimore side of the collaboration.
- Work continues on the HBCU (Historically Black Colleges & Universities) Initiative with the next steps for the work groups and growth of work group membership and leadership. A conference reflection meeting was held with planning committee members to debrief about this year's conference, discuss several follow-up ideas, and begin planning discussions for next year's conference.
- Governor Scott Walker and Gerard Randall co-hosted the UNCF Governor's Luncheon, a scholarship fundraising event, on June 2, 2016 at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison. Approximately \$50,000 in college scholarship funding was raised for award to local African-American students who will attend colleges and universities particularly in Wisconsin.

- Planning is in progress for the Loyola University Chicago, School of Education's presentation in Milwaukee concerning Loyola's urban teacher preparation and certification program.
- Mr. Scott Neitzel, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration, was given a driving tour by Mr. Randall of the neighborhoods and institutions near the downtown business district including Brewers' Hill, Harambe, Lindsey Heights, Bronzeville, Riverwest, and particularly the proposed site of the new basketball arena.
- Mr. Randall attended the Bradley Foundation Prizes Awards Ceremony and Gala on June 15<sup>th</sup>.