



MILWAUKEE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP (MEP) MONTHLY REPORT

August 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 regarding education legislation, grants, partnerships, various initiatives, updates, MEP administrative business and more.
- Dr. Howard Garber, President of Milwaukee Center for Independence, and Mr. Randall met with regard to creating a charter school for transition age youth with MPS.
- Discussions are in progress concerning the possibility of additional MPS students entering the Cardinal Stritch University Literacy Program.
- Senator Tim Scott visited Milwaukee on August 10th and held a roundtable discussion with six Milwaukee youth regarding their aspirations and what support they are receiving to achieve their goals.
- Work continued on the MEP HBCU (Historically Black Colleges & Universities) Conference report and development of the HBCU Initiative.
- The MEP has continued to work on development of the Bio-Science Initiative grant proposal. Additional materials were prepared and sent to the NSF in follow-up to the July presentation. The NSF has suggested submission for a planning grant.
- The monthly meeting of the MEP Executive Partners/Board was held on August 17th. During the meeting there was an administrative report, briefing/legislative updates, and discussion about the potential collaboration between Milwaukee Public Schools and the Cardinal Stritch Literacy Center. The Executive Partners decided that protocols would be established for engagement by the MEP partner institutions around projects. The briefing/legislative updates included: 1) planning of a central city programs and schools tour for state legislators, 2) a new initiative by Dr. Kathleen Cepelka, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, to reinvigorate education in the urban community, 3) GEAR UP grant, 4) NSF/Bio-Science initiative, 5) competition/collaboration around funding concerning African-American male education), 6) potential revival of the STEP UP program, 7) TRIO federal budget, and 8) SDC Energy Assistance program.
- Milwaukee Center for Independence hosted the, “*Black Male Summit: Forming Strategic Alliances – Building Pathways to Employment,*” on August 27th. Educators, city and county officials, nonprofit and business leaders were invited to not just talk about the issue of the

city's 55 percent unemployment rate for African-American males, but to develop a practical action plan to make the community stronger. It began with an overview discussion with leaders in this area and then participants broke into groups to tackle specific aspects of the problem and recommend steps toward a solution. Task forces will be formed to work on recommendations. Mr. Randall participated in the summit.

- Planning was completed for a September tour of central city Milwaukee programs for Wisconsin State legislators.