



MILWAUKEE PARTNERSHIP ACADEMY (MPA) MONTHLY REPORT

April 2013

- Meetings were held between the MPA Executive Director, Gerard Randall, and a number of individuals within and outside of the partnership.
- Several meetings were held with Mr. Dave Knutson from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee concerning a potential partnership with Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) on after-school programming and regarding the summer jobs for youth program with the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board (MAWIB). Dr. Linda Stewart, COO at MAWIB, and Mr. Randall also met with County Supervisors regarding the latter.
- Senator Alberta Darling, Co-chair of the Joint Finance Committee, met with the MPA Executive Partners on April 26th to share updates on initiatives, priorities and have discussion of education policy issues that impact the state budget. She and the Executive Partners both shared comments and concerns.
- Mr. Randall received an invitation from the Helen Bader Foundation to join in conversation with its Board and other thought leaders along with Reggie Moore, president of the Milwaukee-based Center for Youth Engagement, on how we can effectively reach youth during the pivotal after-school hours.
- Work has continued around the Milwaukee Community Solutions Action Plan (CSAP) reading initiative. Gerard Randall attended the *State Policy Levers that Put Children on the Path to Success Conference* which was co-sponsored by the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading and the Alliance for Early Success. The purpose of this conference was to 1) Use research as a base for effective programs, systems, and policies, starting at birth and continuing through age 8 and grade three; 2) Highlight how various states are leveraging education and health care reform to put children on a path to success; 3) Hear from federal administrators with the latest information on how federal policies can support state efforts; and 4) Provide opportunities for partnerships to develop between states, national experts, and state policymakers working on related issues. Also included with this conference was the opportunity for a one-on-one consultation with an Alliance for Early Success national expert; Mr. Randall was able to meet with Dr. Fran Kipnis of the Center for the Study of Child Care Employment to discuss how to provide better professional development services to early learning educators. Continued conversations have been taking place with the Campaign liaison to Milwaukee. Mr. Randall also responded to an inquiry from the Journal/Sentinel about the literacy plan.

- Activities continued concerning implementation of an Urban Teacher Residency Program (UTRP). The Project METRO Steering Committee met on April 8th. Separate discussion was held with several Stritch leaders about the university's role in the UTRP partnership.
- The Metropolitan Milwaukee Area Deans of Education (MMADE) met on April 8th at Carroll University. Planning work has continued by the MMADE relative to the Faye McBeath Foundation grant to improve professional development of school leaders. The *Celebrate Teachers & Teaching Event* Steering Committee and subcommittees have continued their work on organizing this event. The MPA sponsored development of a website (www.celebrateteachingmke.org). Nominations have been received for candidates to be honored at the October 17, 2013 event with the focus this year on urban education.
- Information was distributed to MPA Partner members concerning the Sixth Annual Anti-Racist Anti-Bias Teaching Conference. It was held on April 20th and co-sponsored by the following, many of which are MPA Partners: Rethinking Schools, Indian Community School, Carroll University, National Louis University, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (School of Education & College of Letters and Science), Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association, Alterra Coffee, YWCA Southeast Wisconsin, and Milwaukee Area Academic Alliance in English.
- Comprehensive Mathematics Work Group/Milwaukee Mathematics Partnership (MMP) Update:
 - The spring courses centered on mathematics and the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) continued throughout April.
 - A presentation, *Milwaukee Public Schools: How Coaching Conversations Around Student Work Have Improved Mathematics*, was given by A. Fossum, C. Rodriguez and L. Pruske at the annual meeting of the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics in Denver, Colorado on April 15, 2013.