

## **FINAL WORK GROUPS OF THE MILWAUKEE PARTNERSHIP ACADEMY (MPA)**

The work groups of the Milwaukee Partnership Academy (MPA) developed and implemented yearly work plans to reach the MPA goals and objectives, working regularly on various projects and initiatives. The membership of each work group included individuals in key leadership roles in partner organizations of the MPA. Various work groups were formed, changed, dissolved and added over the years based on the changing needs and objectives of the MPA. Listed below are brief descriptions of the last major work groups of the MPA.

### **Comprehensive Literacy Work Group**

The Comprehensive Literacy Work Group supported and coordinated the development and implementation of the Comprehensive Literacy Framework within Milwaukee Public Schools through collaborative efforts. Examples include:

- Development of the Comprehensive Literacy Framework
- Construction of the outline for district focus as a Writing Intensive District
- Research, recommendations, and pilots regarding support for Reading instruction at the middle and high school levels
- Providing resources and professional development to district staff, school staff, parents, and community groups in support of Comprehensive Literacy

### **Comprehensive Mathematics Work Group**

The Comprehensive Mathematics Work Group worked with the Milwaukee Mathematics Partnership to provide support for the ongoing activities of the Comprehensive Mathematics NSF grant initiative that included professional development and the creation of many tools and documents to improve math teaching and learning.

### **Family Literacy & Tutoring Work Group**

The Family Literacy & Tutoring Work Group supported children and families in achieving academic success through community involvement and collaboration. Through outreach efforts, the goals of the work group were:

- To collaboratively support family literacy initiatives
- To recruit and train volunteer tutors
- To maintain a database of city-wide tutoring opportunities for both students and potential volunteers
- To support a common message to engage families and the faith community in working to close the achievement gaps

**Skunkworks Work Group**

The Skunkworks Work Group was formed to consider ideas that were not being discussed in any other forum. Much of the efforts were dedicated to making sure that the voice of students is included in all of the decisions which affect the Milwaukee Public Schools and the debates which lead to those decisions.

**Teacher & Principal Quality Work Group**

The Teacher and Principal Quality Work Group worked to align the professional development of teachers and principals across the career span, from initial development through induction to practicing teaching and school leadership. Among its many activities, this work group led the development of the Characteristics of a High Performing Urban Classroom documents, the Formative Assessment of Learning Teams, and the Teacher Induction for Urban Education Handbook.