



MILWAUKEE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP (MEP) MONTHLY REPORT

December 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.
- Mr. Randall met with Governor Scott Walker and another staff member from his office to share a brief overview of MEP initiatives and learn more about the Governor's vision for the direction of local education efforts, particularly as it relates to the African-American community.
- Senator Alberta Darling spoke with Mr. Randall to discuss wrap-around services at MPS. Mr. Randall followed up with Dr. Michael Bonds, President, Milwaukee Board of School Directors.
- Dennis Kois, President of the Milwaukee Public Museum, Paul Krajniak and Mr. Randall met to discuss the MEP's proposal to the NSF and the potential participation of the Milwaukee Public Museum.
- Mr. Randall met with Mr. Bohdan Zachary, the new General Manager at Milwaukee Public Television and the newest member of the MEP Executive Partners. The purpose of the meeting was to welcome him and provide an orientation to the MEP.
- A dinner meeting was hosted by Mr. Randall for the new School of Education Deans at UW-Madison (Dr. Diana Hess) and UW-Milwaukee (Dr. Alan Shoho). Ms. Beth Giles, Director – Education Outreach & Partnerships at UW-Madison, also joined the conversation. The purpose of the meeting was to allow these new deans to become more familiar with one another and projects and to discuss ways in which collaboration with each other and the MEP might be possible. Many ideas were brainstormed. A follow-up meeting has been held with Dr. Hess for further discussion.
- The MEP continued to work with Dr. Nancy Whitaker, Chair of the Institute of Professional Educator Development (IPED) at UW-Parkside, on an initiative to create a center for Bilingual Education Certification.
- Mr. Randall and Mr. Earl Buford, CEO of the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board, and his staff have continued work and discussion concerning the funding needs and work of

the partnership that is trying to be continued concerning job training and employment in Milwaukee, particularly summer and after-school youth employment.

- Work has continued on the NSF Bio-science grant initiative. A draft of the planning grant proposal was prepared, reviewed and is being further developed. Further discussions have been taking place with other participants and potential participants in the initiative, including staff at Baltimore City Public Schools and potential Principal/Co-Principal Investigators. Preliminary requirements to proposal submission are being addressed.
- Work has continued on the development of the HBCU (Historically Black Colleges & Universities) Initiative. Representatives of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) and Mr. Randall met to discuss the possibility of a new piece to this initiative relative to a fundraising luncheon to be held in Madison in the spring for UNCF scholarship recipients.
- Work has continued on development of the Early Childhood Literacy Initiative. Meetings are being scheduled with staff at local foundations.
- Discussion continued with Stritch staff concerning the Cardinal Stritch University Literacy Program initiative.
- The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading invited its members to participate in a private, inspiring video conversation with Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education, and Ralph Smith, Managing Director of the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. Mr. Randall participated. This conversation included the congressional passing and presidential signing of the Every Student Succeeds Act.
- Mr. Randall attended the Milwaukee Club Guest Speaker Series Luncheon on December 4th where Mr. Alex Lasry, Vice President of Strategy & Operations for the Milwaukee Bucks discussed the team, new arena, development around it, and the ownership's thoughts on the future. Mr. Randall has offered to take Mr. Lasry on a personalized tour of the neighborhoods near the proposed Bucks arena.