



MILWAUKEE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP (MEP) MONTHLY REPORT

June 2014

- Meetings and conversations were held between the Milwaukee Education Partnership (MEP) Executive Director, Gerard Randall, and various individuals within and outside of the partnership including regular meetings with Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) staff regarding grants, partnerships, various initiatives, updates and more.
- The monthly MEP Executive Partners meeting was held on June 20th. Dr. Mark Mone was welcomed. He has taken over as Interim Chancellor at UWM since Dr. Michael Lovell left to become President at Marquette University. Election of officers took place. Dr. Michael Bonds is the new Chairman, Dr. James Loftus the Vice Chairman and Bob Peterson the Treasurer. Updates were provided on the MEP/HBCU Initiative, programs and grants. Discussion took place on some of these and other issues and ideas including holding a retreat. Information was shared by the Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association on the work of two coalition efforts: Schools and Communities United and Greater Together.
- Mr. Randall met with the new president of MATC, Dr. Vicki Martin, to welcome and familiarize her with the MEP initiatives and discuss her role in the partnership. Dr. Michael Burke has accepted the position of Chancellor of the Riverside Community College District in Riverside, California. The MEP expressed its gratitude to Dr. Burke for his leadership as chair of the MPA/MEP.
- Mr. Randall met with David Miller, VP of Administration, UW System, in early June and later met with the new UW System President, Ray Cross, to fill them in on the work of the MEP and the role the UW System plays.
- Mr. Randall spent some time in Congressman Paul Ryan's Washington, DC office to work with Ted McCann, analyst for the House Budget Committee's Upward Mobility initiative, and Andy Speth, Chief of Staff for Congressman Ryan, on an upcoming presentation before the House Budget Committee about what works in education and what works in reducing poverty.
- Mr. Randall met with staff in the offices of Congresswoman Gwen Moore and Congressman Tom Petri to update them on the work of the MEP.
- Work continued on development of the HBCU Initiative. A presentation on the genesis of the MEP/HBCU initiative and how it has progressed towards implementation of several objectives was given to the NAFEO Academic Deans of Education Council (NADEC) at their meeting in Washington, DC on June 16th. (NAFEO is the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education.) The presentation concluded with discussion on

plans to implement processes to further these objectives and spurred further ideas and discussion. The group was asked for their support in recruiting members for the five work groups being established and participants to help the MEP refine its approach. Notes from the presentation were circulated broadly to the entire membership.

- Discussion continued with program officers of the National Science Foundation (NSF) on the MEP's proposal concerning paving the way to grade-level proficiency via a targeted approach of teacher professional development.
- Linda Smith, Deputy Assistant Secretary & Interdepartmental Liaison for Early Childhood Development, HHS - Administration for Children and Families, and Mr. Randall met in Washington, DC regarding updates on school of education and head start initiatives.
- Reggie Newson, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, and Mr. Randall have met regarding the blueprint grants for dual enrollment and work based learning. The MEP was informed about the grant and application process. They have also met to discuss the next CareerConnect grant opportunity.
- Mr. Randall met with Dennis Baskin, MPS District Coordinator of Career & Technical Education to discuss a possible opportunity for a CareerConnect grant through the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development.
- Kaye Garcia, Executive Director, Potawatomi Foundation, and Mr. Randall met regarding MEP initiatives and education and workforce development for the Native American community in Milwaukee. A proposal for collaboration with the Potawatomi Foundation was prepared and submitted.
- The Project METRO Steering Committee met on June 2nd. Discussion included the preparation for and status of the next Cohort and updates on Cohort One, grants (TQP and RTT), the MEP/HBCU Initiative, Apple supports for professional development. Discussion also took place on next steps. Recruitment for the new cohort has continued. The MEP sent information about Project METRO to the HBCU Deans of the Schools of Education around the country and asked them to share it with any potential candidates. The link to the Project METRO website is: <http://www5.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/dept/teacherresidency/>.
- A July education briefing was scheduled for Project METRO Steering Committee members and other members of MPS Administration with Apple management representatives at Apple Inc. in Chicago to have conversation and learn more about Apple solutions, innovations and strategies for success in education relating to technology to aid teacher professional development initiatives.
- The MEP convened a follow-up meeting between MPS staff and area deans of higher education and placement personnel to continue discussion on the allocation for field placements in MPS schools.
- The MEP continues to seek funding support for the Milwaukee Early Childhood Literacy Initiative.
- Work began on basic design for the new MEP website.
- Discussion was held about the MPS concept/resolution for creating a bilingual region.