

Report of the Board's Delegate to the Milwaukee Education Partnership (MEP)

August 31, 2017

Submitted by President Mark Sain

(1) 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 and projects, updates, MEP administrative business, and more.

(2) Mr. Randall continued to have discussions with Ray Allen, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, regarding workforce-development initiatives, including summer youth employment and expansion of youth-apprenticeship opportunities in Milwaukee. DWD Secretary Ray Allen and Mr. Randall were in Washington, DC to:

- meet with the White House to lay out our workforce and education agendas, including pilots to support work being done here and sharing of where we are at with regard to pre-college programming, and to plan visits to Wisconsin by Labor Secretary Acosta and Education Secretary DeVos; and
- receive federal budget updates, particularly on education and labor initiatives, and work on expediting a request for a waiver.

(3) Mr. Randall met with staff from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation with regard to the planning process for grant application.

(4) Mr. Randall met with Dr. Patrick Sims, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at UW-Madison, in a follow-up to previous conversations around pre-college programs.

(5) Dr. Alan Shoho, Dean of the UWM School of Education, and Mr. Randall met to discuss MEP's possible assistance with the Call Me Mister program.

(6) The MEP Executive Partners held their monthly meeting on July 17. State and federal budget updates, including TRIO, GEAR UP, PELL grants, and Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, were shared with the Executive Partners as well as updates on MEP initiatives. Additionally, work continued to coordinate the activity to inform legislators of MEP Partners' common needs.

(7) Discussions were held about the possibility of expanding the membership of the MEP Executive Partners.

(8) Ryan Daniels, Executive Director of the Milwaukee Public Library Foundation, and Mr. Randall continued discussions and work around the MEP's Literacy Initiative.

- (9) Follow-up activities to the MEP's HBCU Conference are in progress. These currently include:
- discussions with Howard University to ensure that the University is on board with sending its nursing candidates to Milwaukee as part of the HBCU Initiative;
 - discussions about creating MOUs and a pilot model for Meharry Medical College and Howard University Medical School residents at Ascension and the Medical College of Wisconsin;

- discussions about the possibility of creating MOUs between Morgan State University and Columbia-St. Mary's, the Medical College of Wisconsin, and the Global Water Institute; and
- discussions on a Carver School/Tuskegee University College of Engineering partnership.

(10) Efforts continue to gain funding support for the HBCU Initiative and the 2018 HBCU Conference.

(11) Bi-weekly planning meetings with Senator Lena Taylor's office continued for an upcoming college fair to include Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

(12) The MEP has formed a planning committee for the HBCU Sunday event. This committee includes several members of the Metropolitan Milwaukee Alliance of Black School Educators (MMABSE) as part of the MEP-MMABSE collaboration on the HBCU Initiative. The planning committee met on July 31, 2017. The idea of HBCU Sunday is to have significant African-American churches across the state take a few minutes during their Sunday morning announcements to share with their congregations the importance of the roles of HBCUs, the resources available, and the opportunities for students through HBCUs. Special guest speakers are being identified to attend and speak on this subject at many of the churches. The event is planned to take place on October 1, 2017. People will also be encouraged to participate in the HBCU College Fair to be held on October 7, 2017, at Vincent High School.

(13) Efforts are under way to identify funding to support the convening of the Deans of the Schools of Education in a statewide summit.

(14) The Early Education Task Force continues to meet regularly.

(15) Mr. Randall attended the Pre-College Enrichment Opportunity Program for Learning Excellence (PEOPLE program) celebration of success on July 21 for high-school students completing the program and to welcome the UW-Madison fall 2017 PEOPLE Scholars.

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