

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

October 26, 2017

Submitted by President Mark Sain

- 1) New MEP Executive Partner, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), was briefed on the work of the MEP.
- 2) Work is in progress on expansion of Project METRO.
- 3) The MEP Executive Partners held their regular meeting on September 18th. New Executive Partners were welcomed at this meeting—Kathleen Rinehart, Interim President, Cardinal Stritch University and Dr. Tony Evers, State Superintendent, DPI. Discussion was held on MEP initiatives among other business.
- 4) Efforts continue to identify funding and location for a statewide summit of the Deans of the Schools of Education. The MEP was asked to host this summit. Mr. Randall met again with Dr. Dennis Shields, Chancellor, UW-Platteville. He has agreed to co-chair the summit in either Platteville or a more central location.
- 5) John Daniels III and Mr. Randall met concerning the MKE Fellows Initiative and expansion and potential funding for the initiative.
- 6) Members of the Brewer's Hill Neighborhood Association have continued meeting with the principal of Carver School to discuss ideas for the Neighborhood Association – Carver School relationship. Mr. Randall also has been keeping in contact on this with Dr. Katrice Cotton, MPS Regional Superintendent – East Region.
- 7) HBCU Initiative:
 - a) HBCU Sunday - The MEP and its HBCU Sunday Planning Committee continued meeting and working on preparation for the first HBCU SUNDAY IN WISCONSIN event. The MEP sent participation invitations out to more than 65 congregation leaders with high African-American memberships and HBCU connections in Wisconsin including the cities of Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha, Beloit, Madison and Green Bay. The MEP also sent speaker invitations out through various networks including HBCU alumni and sorority groups, MMABSE. HBCU Sunday and other HBCU related events taking place during that week (films, discussions, college fair) were all advertised via print, online and radio. Mr. Randall appeared on the WNOV radio station. All three scheduled film screenings of the "Tell Them We Are Rising" film about the role of HBCUs in African-American history were sold out and a fourth screening was added.
 - b) Wisconsin HBCU & Tribal College Fair - This planning team met weekly in September at Senator Lena Taylor's office and worked between meetings on finalizing details for the event. The MEP made contact with the presidents and chancellors of HBCUs nationwide as well as with the individuals who participated in past MEP HBCU conferences to encourage their institutions' participation in the event and inform them of all of the HBCU related events taking place that same week.
 - c) Job Fairs - Another new component is being discussed and added to the HBCU Initiative—Job Fairs. The job fairs will be planned to take place in several cities near a number of HBCUs and are most likely to be in Nashville (particularly for health care workers from Meharry Medical College), New Orleans, Washington, DC (Howard University and Morgan State University are nearby), and Milwaukee. If additional funding can be acquired, Atlanta could be added. A major goal will be to

seek workers for Milwaukee Public Schools and other employers in Milwaukee in fields of high demand including education, engineering and health care. It is anticipated the first job fairs will take place in summer 2018.

- d) Tuskegee – Carver initiative - Discussion took place with the Dean of the School of Engineering at Tuskegee University concerning the Tuskegee – Carver School initiative. Tuskegee University is partnering with Carver School to advance the efforts of Carver to be named a STEM-focused academy.
 - e) Diversifying the Pipeline of Professionals - Discussion took place with Dr. Shandowlyon Hendricks-Williams, Education Administrative Director, Assistant Director - Division for Academic Excellence, Teacher Education, Professional Development and Licensing Team, DPI, on various HBCU initiative efforts toward the goal of diversifying the pipeline of teachers and other professionals to Wisconsin. Discussions with Southern University at New Orleans and Xavier University are in progress to develop a pipeline for pharmacists.
 - f) Health Care Components - Reggie Newson, Vice President of Government Relations and Chief Advocacy Officer at Ascension Wisconsin and Mr. Randall met regarding the development of various health-care related components to the HBCU Initiative.
 - g) Mr. Randall met with the Executive Director of Schools That Can to discuss what the MEP is doing with the HBCU Initiative.
 - h) Efforts continue to gain funding support for the HBCU Initiative/the 2018 HBCU Conference.
- 8) The Governor’s Luncheon fundraiser to support UNCF scholarships for area students will be held in April 2018.
- 9) Plans have been made for the MEP to give another presentation to the School Board’s Committee on Student Achievement and School Innovation (SASI) in December 2017.
- 10) The Milwaukee tour for Congressman Duffy has been scheduled for November 6, 2017. Planning for the tour continues.
- 11) Tracey Sparrow, Executive Director, Next Door, and Mr. Randall completed planning and arranged for a presentation by The Literacy Lab on its Leading Men Fellowship Program, which took place on September 15th, hosted by Bader Philanthropies. Representatives from MPS, Milwaukee Board of School Directors, Milwaukee County, the City of Milwaukee, Head Start agencies, Metropolitan Milwaukee Alliance of Black School Educators (MMABSE), MATC and other local Schools of Education, Milwaukee Succeeds, United Way and several local foundations among others were invited to attend. We are looking to get Milwaukee with 15 Fellows into the 2018 program expansion. MPS has identified Lee School as a potential site for the project. This program provides rigorous training and ongoing coaching to young men of color who are embedded in early childhood classrooms to prepare children for Kindergarten. The Fellowship is an intensive, one-year residency-type program which allows young men of color the opportunity to explore a career in public education through a structured program providing a living hourly wage and it contributes to building a high-quality, diverse early childhood education workforce. The program aims to improve children’s Kindergarten readiness by providing them with daily, evidence-based early literacy intervention. A study done on the first year of this program in Washington, DC has found a particular positive impact on Black and Hispanic male students. Ms. Sparrow and Mr. Randall have been engaged in follow-up work since this presentation was given.

- 12) The Early Education Task Force held its final meeting on September 27th. A report with recommendations is being developed and will be circulated to all interested parties.
- 13) A meeting of the UW System Diversity Council was held on September 14th. Mr. Randall participated.
- 14) Mr. Randall participated in the “Summit on Poverty” hosted by the Social Development Commission in Milwaukee.
- 15) Mr. Randall participated in the M7 Regional Talent Strategy Session held at UW-Parkside on September 25th. The session was about addressing critical talent needs through collaboration; to establish a collaborative regional response to the Foxconn workforce challenge and ripple effects for southeastern Wisconsin companies already facing competition for scarce talent.