

(ATTACHMENT 2) REPORT OF THE BOARD'S DELEGATE TO THE MILWAUKEE PARTNERSHIP ACADEMY (MPA)

Submitted by Director Michael Bonds

(1) Meetings were held between the MPA's Executive Director, Gerard Randall, and various individuals within the partnership, including regular meetings with staff at Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS).

(2) Mr. Randall participated in a National Science Foundation (NSF) Math & Science Partnership grant meeting held at MPS on February 2.

(3) Several MPA Partners and Mr. Randall were invited to and attended the Oneness School Initiative Inauguration Luncheon on February 3. This initiative, modeled after Dr. Tony Evans' National Church Adopt-A-School Initiative, trains church organizations to provide mentors and volunteers needed to create effective partnerships with their local public schools to impact positively on students.

(4) A press conference was held on February 6 to announce the new MPS Learning Journeys initiative, which began on that day with a Learning Journey for students at Discovery World. Learning Journeys are highly developed, beyond-the-classroom learning experiences that connect classroom instruction of MPS students with real-world learning opportunities within the greater community.

(5) Mr. Randall participated in a meeting at MPS on February 9 regarding an MPS version of the Gentlemen's Club. The MPA continues to seek support for this initiative that would provide academic support and mentoring to African-American boys.

(6) The MPA Executive Partners met on February 7.

(7) The Metropolitan Milwaukee Deans of Higher Education (MMADE) met on February 9 at Marquette University. Mr. Randall presented an update on the MPA, including the PowerPoint presentation given at the January 25 MPA Partners meeting. The MPA also arranged for the presentation to the group by Urban Teacher Residency United concerning urban teacher residency programs.

(8) MPS and the MPA are continuing to gather information from Urban Teacher Residency United and to hold discussions with representatives from MTEC and others about the possibility of an urban MPS teacher-training program and the potential roles and responsibilities of partners.

(9) Mr. Randall attended the overview and update meetings on the MPS IDEAS integrated data system, which included representatives from the University of Pennsylvania, where the model from which this system was fashioned was developed.

(10) Mr. Randall discussed the MPA with Mr. Chuck Harvey, Vice President-Diversity and Public Affairs at Johnson Controls.

(11) MPS has continued to discuss an urban agriculture program at Vincent High School, and Mr. Randall has continued participating in these discussions.

(12) On February 27, a special briefing was held on the Governor's Education Reform Agenda as well as discussion of legislative proposals developed from the recommendations of the taskforces on educator effectiveness, reading, and school accountability — taskforces which were formed by the Governor and State Superintendent, Tony Evers. Mr. Randall was in attendance.

(13) The MPA convened several focus groups and work sessions as well as other meetings with potential partners and support personnel to gather information and data and to discuss and develop a Milwaukee plan submission for the All-America City Awards/Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. Also, various Campaign informational and technical-support webinars were participated in and/or reviewed, and updates on the work were provided to our Campaign liaison. A plan proposal, the Milwaukee Community Solutions Action Plan, was submitted for consideration on March 12. Copies have been distributed to all members of the Milwaukee Board of School Directors.

(14) Mr. Randall attended a Milwaukee Workforce Partner meeting that included a discussion of the need for collaboration.

(15) Gerard Randall and Reggie Newson, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, were in Washington, DC, at the end of February to identify funding opportunities for various MPA collaborations. The MPA arranged for them both to meet with staff at the U.S. Department of Labor and with Emily DeRocca, the president of Manufacturing Institute, for discussion on moving youth into training that leads to certifications in the skilled trades.

**COMPREHENSIVE MATHEMATICS WORK GROUP/MILWAUKEE
MATHEMATICS PARTNERSHIP (MMP) UPDATE**

(16) The Math Alliance Project met on February 7 and 21.

(17) A Math Teacher Leader/Literacy Coach meeting was held on February 21.

(18) The February Math Teacher Leader Seminar was held on the 21. Further details about this seminar will be provided at a later date.

(19) The January 10 Math Teacher Leader Seminar included the following:

(a) A K-7 Content Session focused on operations and algebraic thinking K-2. Learning intentions included understanding strategies that can be used to solve various problem situations and to develop number fluency. The session also included progressions for the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics.

(b) A 6-12 Content Session focused on proportional reasoning. Learning intentions included deepening understanding of proportionality and its application, mathematical tasks framework, and the four levels of cognitive demand in mathematical tasks. This session addressed Common Core State Standard for Mathematical Practice #1 — to make sense of problems and to persevere in solving them; #3 — to construct viable arguments and to critique the reasoning of others; and #6 — to attend to precision.

(c) An Instructional Design Session focused on coaching around and planning and preparing for EXPLORE. Learning intentions included developing effective coaching questions to support the improvement of mathematics instruction. The session also included Cooperative Learning and Cooperative Grouping.

FURTHER UPDATES

(20) Professors DeAnn Huinker and Kevin McLeod from UWM gave a presentation on “Charting the Course for Mathematics Leadership: Continuum of Professional Work in a Large Urban District” at the annual meeting of the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators in Dallas, Texas, on February 10.

(21) The NEA/UWM Action Research Fellows met on February 4. The working themes of this meeting were around establishing PLC agreements, what action research is, and how it empowers teacher leaders/advocates.

(22) MPA Executive Partner and CEO of the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board, Don Sykes, was a Special Honoree: Social Justice Icon at the 27th Annual Black Excellence Awards event that took place on February 24.

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