

## Kathryn T. Daniels Preparatory Academy

4834 N. Mother Daniels Way Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53209 414-463-6000

January 14, 2021

Dr. Keith Posley Superintendent of Schools Milwaukee Public Schools 5225 West Vliet Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

## Dear Dr. Posley:

The contractual relationship between the Milwaukee Public Schools (Hereinafter "MPS") and Kathryn T. Daniels University Preparatory Academy (Hereinafter "KTD") established through a non-instrumentality charter granted by the Board of Directors of Milwaukee Public Schools has been beneficial to the students and families served by KTD staff for the past ten years. The relationship has provided access to high-quality professional development for KTD staff and bolstered instructional structure offered KTD through established MPS systems and supports. The relationship also allowed the reach of MPS to extend to families who are part of a growing demographic that is abandoning traditional educational organizations like MPS for alternative options such as school choice. The relationship has been mutually beneficial for both of our institutions.

Since the inception of the charter between our two organizations, KTD has made incremental modifications to the academic program. The changes have advanced our fine arts program, strengthen our instructional technology infrastructure that has resulted in establishing a 1:1 technology initiative for our students, and improved our instructional supports procedures, ensuring our students have access to quality student services like counseling, special education and Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS).

The progress made this year has been immense. A continuous effort of school improvement currently in progress by national consultants; Dr. Clarence Nixon, Jr. and Dr. Sheryl Randolph which provides our staff with extensive training and professional development in the design and utilization of a virtual platform which will increase student outcomes. The additional professional development and coaching secured by KTD leadership and led by CESA #1, focus on increased instructional improvement through focused classroom observations and meaningful feedback to instructors has accelerated the progress expected at KTD. Finally, we have been pleased with the collaboration between the MPS instructional technology team and KTD leadership in establishing training in topics such as Google Classroom, effective virtual learning and how to efficiently use the electronic gradebook. All of these improvements, along with recently added leadership at KTD this school year has reinforced our conviction that KTD has a firm enough educational foundation to continue educating students without a charter from the Board of Director of MPS.

After significant consideration and deliberation, the governance board of KTD, Executive Director, Bishop Sedgwick Daniels and Chief Education Officer, Dr. Floyd Williams, Jr. regret to inform you that we are seeking to terminate our mutual partnership effective June 30, 2021. The decision was reached after reviewing the current trajectory of our school and the confidence that we will continue to make



## Kathryn T. Daniels Preparatory Academy

4834 N. Mother Daniels Way Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53209 414-463-6000

positive strides in improving our school. The relationship through the charter agreement has been worthwhile and we are pleased that the process was able to net additional students to the overall student enrollment count to MPS. We believe the time has come for a new era at KTD. We are well suited to re-introduce our brand for high quality instruction, access to cutting edge co-curricular subjects such as the fine arts and instructional technology to the Greater Milwaukee community. Our future is bright as we eagerly explore new horizons.

We are thankful for the collaboration and look forward to continuing to working with MPS at the table of advocacy for all of the children of Milwaukee in the future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Floyd E. Williams, Jr.

Chief Education Officer

HR Educational Consortium

Cc: Bishop Sedgwick Daniels, Executive Director, HR Educational Consortium

Ericka Rush, Board President of Kathryn T. Daniels University Preparatory Academy

Kimberly Means, Principal, Kathryn T. Daniels Preparatory Academy