

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

March 22, 2018

Submitted by President Mark Sain

(1) Meetings and conversations were held among Gerard Randall, the Milwaukee Education Partnership's Executive Director, and various individuals within and outside of the Partnership regarding educational legislation, grants, partnerships, various initiatives and projects, updates, MEP's administrative business, and more.

(2) Mr. Randall met with Maureen Hoyler, President, and Dr. Arnold Mitchem, President Emeritus, of the Council for Opportunity in Education in Washington, DC, to discuss future funding for TRIO and GEAR-UP. Information learned from this meeting was shared with MEP's Executive Partners.

(3) Mr. Randall has had several discussions with Dr. Cassandra Herring, former Dean of Education at Hampton University, who is now President and CEO of the newly launched Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity. Dr. Herring was invited to be a guest panelist for the HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) Conference's panel discussion.

(4) Carl Hampton, Special Assistant to UW System President Ray Cross for Diversity and Inclusion, and Mr. Randall met concerning the UW System's Diversity Council and its efforts.

(5) Mr. Randall met with Dr. Eric Gallien, Deputy Superintendent of Racine Unified School District, to discuss the district's participation in the MEP.

(6) The MEP Executive Partners held their regular meeting on February 19. Discussion was held on several MEP initiatives and items in the federal budget.

(7) Mr. Randall and Dr. Shandowlyon Hendricks-Williams of the Department of Public Instruction discussed updates relating to a possible articulation agreement between UW-Milwaukee and HBCUs, as well as the expansion of an educator pathway for early childhood beyond Riverside High School to Pulaski and Madison high schools. Also discussed were the HBCU job/recruitment fairs and how other districts within the state can participate and planning for the Deans of Education Summit. In January, Dr. Hendricks-Williams had shared about a permanent rule with provisions that will assist in improving the teacher pipeline by easing the burden of teaching, providing ways for currently licensed teachers to add other subject-area licenses while teaching under licenses with stipulations, and, changing developmental levels. This permanent rule may be viewed at <https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/policy-budget/PI%2034%20proposed.pdf>. She also shared logistics on the public hearing concerning this rule. MEP shared all of this information with its Executive Partners and the Chiefs of Human Resources at MPS and Racine Unified School District.

(8) Planning continued concerning the upcoming summit for Wisconsin deans of schools of education being planned for June 2018, including conversation with Dr. Hendricks-Williams regarding DPI's participation. The University of Wisconsin-Parkside has been identified as the location for the summit, the focus of which will be on urban teacher-education programs.

(9) HBCU Initiative:

- (a) HBCU Conference — Planning is in progress for the MEP's fifth annual HBCU Conference, which will be held April 9-11, 2018, at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center Hotel. This year's conference will again feature tracks in education, engineering, and healthcare and a new track in agriculture. Our goal is that HBCUs will develop or

strengthen collaborations with MPS and encourage their graduates — particularly those who possess degrees and certifications in education or degrees in engineering, information technology, agriculture, nursing or other healthcare-related fields — to consider employment in the Milwaukee region.

1. Presidents and deans from more than 65 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU, as well as all active work group members, have been invited. Expansion has also included invitations to several tribal colleges.
 2. Conference activities will include professional cohort meetings; presentations and meetings with local senior leaders in engineering, healthcare, agriculture, and education, including MPS, and associated school/facility tours; a tour of the city; a reception with Milwaukee area alums of HBCU institutions; and discussion led by prominent higher-education leaders from HBCUs on the topic of creating and enhancing the student and professional pipelines between participating HBCUs and regional Milwaukee organizations, especially employers.
- (b) Job Fairs/Recruitment — Planning continued for the spring-summer 2018 job fairs. The first fair will be held in Nashville, Tennessee, in late April.
- (c) Funding Support — Efforts continue to gain funding support for the HBCU Initiative and the 2018 HBCU Conference. Additional information was provided concerning the submitted grant application to the Forest County Potawatomi Foundation, and a brief presentation was given to its Advisory Board.

(10) MEP convened another meeting regarding Carver School and Project Lead The Way (PLTW). The meeting included Carver’s principal, the MPS PLTW liaison, Historic Brewers Hill Association leadership, and the both the Statewide Chair and Affiliate Director for PLTW. Potential corporate partners will be touring Carver over the next several months.

(11) Tracey Sparrow from Next Door-Milwaukee and Mr. Randall continued work and regular conversations with The Literacy Lab/Leading Men Fellows leadership and other people and organizations concerning bringing the Leading Men Fellows program to Milwaukee. A grant for \$500,000 over two years was secured from the Department of Workforce Development to support this initiative. This will complement the award of \$100,000 from the Milwaukee Succeeds Funding Collaborative to launch the program in Milwaukee. A site visit to the Leading Men Fellowship program in Washington, DC, took place on February 12 and included The Literacy Lab and Trinity College, their higher-education partner. Dr. Sadique Isahaku, Dean of Liberal Arts & Sciences at MATC, the higher-education partner for Milwaukee, was on this trip. Site visits for other parties are being scheduled.

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