

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

February 23, 2017

Submitted by Director Mark Sain

(1) Gerard Randall, the Executive Director of the Milwaukee Education Partnership (MEP), met with and engaged in discussions with various individuals within and outside of the Partnership regarding education legislation, grants, partnerships, various initiatives and projects, updates, MEP's administrative business, and more.

(2) Ray Allen, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, and Mr. Randall continued to discuss funding for youth and adult job training and employment.

(3) Conversations continued regarding possible a possible collaboration between MEP and the UW System, including the convening of a summit to review new models and best practices for teacher-certification programs.

(4) Dr. Vicki Martin, President of MATC, and Mr. Randall met and discussed the collaboration between the MEP and MATC, including how the MEP can support MATC's programs and initiatives.

(5) Mr. Randall and the Milwaukee Board of School Directors' president and vice president met to discuss state and federal legislative initiatives.

(6) Mr. Randall and Kevin Festerling, Director of Teacher Support at the Center for Urban Teaching, discussed private schools' initiatives in the Milwaukee area.

(7) Mr. Randall met with a number of people in Washington, DC, including:

- o Congressman Sean Duffy, regarding an invitation for the Congressman to visit Milwaukee Public Schools and public housing. The MEP will be organizing a tour of the City of Milwaukee;
- o Brandon Renz, Chief of Staff to Congresswoman Virginia Foxx, regarding planning for a visit to Milwaukee by Congresswoman Foxx, who is the Chair of the House Education and Workforce Committee; and
- o Maureen Hoyler, President, and Dr. Arnold Mitchem, President Emeritus, of the Council for Opportunity in Education, to discuss future funding for TRIO and GEAR UP.

(8) In January, the MEP convened two meetings of the governmental representatives of its Executive Partner institutions and organizations to share what their top state and federal legislative priorities are and why, to identify legislative priorities held in common, and to discuss ways in which they may work together as well as individually to better advance some of those priorities. Helpful information on budget processes, funding updates, resources, and more was shared at each meeting.

(9) The MEP's Executive Partners held their annual meeting on January 12, 2017. Updates on the work of the MEP and the first legislative priorities meeting were shared, and various items were discussed. Executive Partners shared invitations to several of their upcoming events. Election of officers took place and the new officers are:

- o President — Dr. James Loftus, President of Cardinal Stritch University

- o Vice President — Ashanti Hamilton, President of the Milwaukee Common Council
- o Secretary/Treasurer — Earl Buford, CEO of Employ Milwaukee.

(10) Ryan Daniels, Executive Director of the Milwaukee Public Library Foundation, and Mr. Randall met to continue discussions relative to the planning of a new proposal focused on the Birth-5 Literacy Initiative for submission to the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading.

(11) Research continued concerning resource mapping and data collection and distribution models and tools. Meetings also took place with several people to gather additional background information on the data landscape in Milwaukee and to share information about the MEP's Birth-5 Literacy Initiative.

(12) Planning is in progress for the MEP's annual HBCU Conference in 2017.

(13) New office space for the MEP is being sought due to the sale of the current office building for redevelopment as housing. A potential site has been identified in the same vicinity of the downtown area.

(14) Mr. Randall participated in the MPS Charter School Review Panel's orientation.

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