The following organizations signed the Compact and agreed to develop action plans and work collaboratively to increase educational attainment in Cleveland.

**Community Partners**
- ACE Mentor Program of Cleveland
- America Scores
- Aspire Program at Hathaway Brown
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Cleveland
- Boys & Girls Club of Cleveland
- Breakthrough Charter Schools
- Broadway/Slavic Village P-16 Project
- Business of Good Foundation
- City of Cleveland
- City Year
- Cleveland Clinic
- Cleveland Metropolitan School District
- Cleveland Public Library
- College Now Greater Cleveland
- Cuyahoga Community College
- Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio
- Dream On Foundation
- Eaton Corporation Foundation
- Educational Services Center of Cuyahoga County
- Esperanza Inc.
- Facing History and Ourselves
- Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland
- Friendly Inn Settlement
- Greater Cleveland Partnership
- Greater Cleveland YMCA
- ideastream
- Junior Achievement of Greater Cleveland
- KeyBank Foundation
- The Literacy Cooperative
- Martha Holden Jennings Foundation
- Minds Matter
- NEOMED
- NewBridge
- Policy Bridge
- The Presidents’ Council Foundation
- Saint Luke’s Foundation of Cleveland
- Saint Martin de Porres High School
- Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland
- Third Federal Foundation
- Urban League of Greater Cleveland
- WIRE-Net
- Young Audiences of Northeast Ohio
- Youth Opportunities Unlimited

**Educational Partners**
- CEOs for Cities
- Cleveland Metropolitan School District
- Baldwin-Wallace College
- Bowling Green State University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Cleveland State University
- Cuyahoga Community College
- Hiram College
- John Carroll University
- Kent State University
- Northeast Ohio Council on Higher Education
- Notre Dame College
- Oberlin College
- Ohio Board of Regents
- Ohio State University
- Ohio University
- University of Akron
- University of Toledo
- Ursuline College

**First Annual Higher Education Compact Symposium**

**Degrees by Design:**
**From Theory to Practice**

**Monday, June 11, 2012**
**8 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

Hilton Garden Inn
1100 Carnegie Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44115

**Featured Speakers:**
- Mayor Frank G. Jackson
  City of Cleveland
- Ed Fitzgerald
  Cuyahoga County Executive
- Charis Mcgaughey, Ph.D.
  Director of Partnerships and Development Division, Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC)
- James L. Applegate
  Vice President, Program Development Luminis Foundation for Education
- Corinne Webb
  Project Manager, Higher Education Compact of Greater Cleveland
- Don R. Slocum
  Founder and Executive Director, Neighborhood Leadership Institute
The Higher Education Attainment Problem
Based on the most recent educational attainment data from the National Student Clearinghouse and the Ohio Department of Education, for every 100 entering ninth grade in Cleveland in 2001... 52 graduated high school, 27 enrolled in college within one year and, and 7 earned a college degree within six years.

The Compact Is Working to Change That.

The Higher Education Compact of Greater Cleveland (the Compact) is a collaborative partnership among the City of Cleveland, the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, 15 Ohio colleges and universities, and more than 40 community organizations that seeks to remove the obstacles that prevent Cleveland youth from going to and succeeding in college. Launched in 2011, the Compact’s goal is to align the efforts of member organizations to best use limited precious resources and increase the city’s number of college graduates. Building on success in Cleveland, the work of the Compact will expand to include other municipalities within Cuyahoga County.

Thank You to the Best Practices Task Force of the Higher Education Compact of Greater Cleveland

Shemariah Arki
Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio

Nichelle McCall
Community Strategies Consulting, LLC

Mim Conway
Dream On Foundation

Katie McMahon
Notre Dame College

Fashaad Crawford
Kent State University

Karen Miller
Cuyahoga Community College

Elizabeth Day
College Now Greater Cleveland

Marsha Mockabee
Urban League of Greater Cleveland

Fran DiDonato
Freshwater Innovation Alliance

Malik Moore
Greater Cleveland YMCA

Susan Dileno
Baldwin-Wallace College

Florence Mustric
Youth Opportunities Unlimited

Marsha Dobrzynski
Young Audiences of Northeast Ohio

Sonya Pryor-Jones
Synchronicity Consulting, LLC

Timothy Dorsey
Cuyahoga Community College

Elizabeth Saxton
Cleveland Public Library

Gloria Dunnivan
Kent State University

Brianna Schultz
City Year Cleveland

Laura Floyd
Greater Cleveland YMCA

Michele Scott Taylor (Co-Chair)
College Now Greater Cleveland

Dolores Garcia-Prignitz
Minds Matter

Kahlil Seren
Cuyahoga County

Jessica Gonzalez
Esperanza, Inc.

Allen Smith
Boys & Girls Club of Cleveland

Mark Harris (Co-Chair)
The George Gund Foundation

Rosemary Sutton
Cleveland State University

Frank Hemphill
Hiram College

Julie Szeltner
College Now Greater Cleveland

AmariYah Israel
Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio

Charles Taylor
Friendly Inn Settlement

Danyll Jones-Lockhart
Urban League of Greater Cleveland

Karen Thompson
Cleveland Metropolitan School District

Bill Leamon (Co-Chair)
The Business of Good Foundation

Jennifer Yuhas
Junior Achievement of Greater Cleveland

Matt McCaffrey
Ursuline College
Exhibitor Organizations

Progressive Arts Alliance

Since 2002, Progressive Arts Alliance (PAA) has been exciting students, teachers, and the general public with dynamic arts-in-education programs that showcase the depth and scope of the contemporary arts. PAA seeks to make the arts accessible to students of all ages regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender, education, or income level. PAA works hard to provide stimulating programs that are at the cutting edge in terms of artistic merit and methodology in education. Much of PAA’s educational mission centers around the utilization of the contemporary popular arts as a compelling educational tool. Each Progressive Arts Alliance program supports our mission of providing experiences in the contemporary arts that stimulate critical thinking and promote progressive thought.

Urban League of Greater Cleveland

The Urban League of Greater Cleveland is a non-profit social service organization, connected to the National Urban League as one of 97 affiliates in 36 states. As a funded community partner of United Way of Greater Cleveland, the League seeks to improve the economic, cultural, social and educational conditions affecting all citizens of Cuyahoga County. From elementary to high school students, Urban League of Greater Cleveland is molding the future direction of Cleveland youth and helping them become successful and prosperous young adults. Our partnerships with local and national organizations allow the Urban League of Greater Cleveland to build a portfolio of programs and services for youth K-12 throughout the City of Cleveland.

Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.)

Y.O.U. empowers youth to succeed in school, in the workplace, and in life. Academic success and career success are the most direct and cost-effective route for teens to escape the cycle of poverty. All Y.O.U. programs focus on empowering teens to succeed. We believe in the following shared principles, beliefs and priorities:

- **EXCELLENCE** - Y.O.U. believes in setting standards of excellence and quality for delivery of services.
- **EQUITY** - Y.O.U. believes that education and learning are the great equalizers and open doors to full participation in society.
- **OPPORTUNITY** - Y.O.U. brings to bear all of our talents and resources to provide opportunities for our customers to succeed and thrive.

Dear Participant:

Thank you for joining us today for the first annual Higher Education Compact Best Practices Symposium, *Degrees by Design: From Theory to Practice*. Today’s program focuses on college readiness. The Best Practices Task Force of the Compact, the group responsible for putting together this conference, felt it better to focus on one piece of the college attainment puzzle, readiness, in our first year than to try and cover readiness, access and completion all in one day. We will focus on college access next year and college completion the year after. By focusing solely on readiness, it is our hope that you have the ability to delve deeply into the issue, understand the challenges we face as a region with regard to college readiness and learn about some of the innovative and effective practices that are being implemented—across the community, across the state, across the nation—to ensure that our students are ready for college and ready to compete in a global economy.

The Best Practices Task Force has been working hard since January to put together an engaging and thought-provoking agenda. We hope you enjoy your time spent with us and that you walk away filled with new ideas that you can take back to your organizations and new connections to help you implement them.

We’d like to thank all of the members of the Task Force, particularly Nichelle McCall of Community Strategies Consulting, LLC, as well as the members of the Operations Committee of the Compact and City of Cleveland Mayor Frank G. Jackson for his leadership.

Sincerely,

Mark Harris  
Co-Chair  
Best Practice Task Force

Bill Leamon  
Co-Chair  
Best Practice Task Force

Dr. Michele Scott Taylor  
Co-Chair  
Best Practice Task Force
Program Agenda

7:30—8:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30—10:00 a.m. Morning Plenary Session

8:30—8:45 a.m. Welcome Remarks
Mayor Frank G. Jackson, City of Cleveland
Cuyahoga County Executive Ed FitzGerald

8:45—9:15 a.m. Keynote Address: Broadening our Definition of College Readiness
Dr. Charis McGaughy, Director of Partnerships and Development Division, Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC)

9:15—10:00 a.m. Moderated Panel Discussion: What College Readiness Means to Our Community
Moderator: Dr. Rosemary Sutton, Vice Provost for Academic Programs, Cleveland State University
Panelists: Eric S. Gordon, CEO, Cleveland Metropolitan School District
Randell McShepard, Vice President, Public Affairs, RPM International; Co-Founder, PolicyBridge
Hal Smith, Vice President, Education and Youth Development, National Urban League
Brenda Stotesbery, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics, Cuyahoga Community College

10:15 a.m. —12:00 p.m. Morning Breakout Sessions

Topic 1: Fostering College Knowledge, Skills and Awareness for Postsecondary Success

Topic 2: Developing Cognitive Strategies and Content Knowledge to Improve Academic Achievement

Topic 3: Exploring Non-Academic Issues that Support College Readiness

Exhibitor Organizations

Baldwin-Wallace College B-W Scholars
In 2003, Baldwin-Wallace College, in collaboration with the CMSD and the Cleveland Scholarship Program, implemented the Barbara Byrd-Bennett Scholars Program targeted at African-American male high school students for the purpose of preparing them for college and seeing them enrolled in post-secondary education. To achieve this goal, the program has a model to equip young African-American males with the confidence, skills, and knowledge which will allow them to view education as a conduit to their future success. The participants are expected to commit to the program for four years, earn their high school diploma, and enroll in a higher education institution ranging from community college to public or private four-year institutions.

City Year Cleveland
City Year Cleveland is an education focused, nonprofit organization powered by national service that partners with public schools to provide full-time targeted intervention for students most at risk of dropping out. Our teams of young AmeriCorps leaders support students by focusing on attendance, behavior, and course performance through in-class tutoring, mentoring, and after school programs that keep kids in school and on track to graduate.

Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio
The Diversity Center is a human relations organization dedicated to eliminating bias, bigotry, and racism and is committed to building communities where all people are respected, connected, and valued.

Minds Matter
Minds Matter of Cleveland is a chapter of the national Minds Matter organization. The Cleveland chapter established a strong organization since its founding in 2008. Our students made substantial improvements in their writing and critical thinking, math and SAT scores. Equally important is that 100 percent of our students gained admission to leading college summer programs. Operationally, the organization exceeded all of its goals by enrolling more students, recruiting more volunteers and raising more funds than initially planned. Building upon this foundation of success, we expanded the organization. In September of 2011, we launched our fourth year of programming with 48 students and 120 volunteers!

Naviance Succeed
Every student should graduate career and college ready. Naviance Succeed is an innovative, high-impact solution that becomes part of the fabric of the schools where it's deployed - linking students and their success coaches in pursuit of shared goals. Naviance Succeed integrates tools for planning across four critical areas into a single powerful solution. These four functional areas are combined with robust analytics, powerful communication tools and a student/family portal to give you the ability to raise accountability and performance across a number of key indicators leading to increased engagement, improvements in academic performance and overall workplace and college readiness.
Panel Descriptions

Topic 1: Fostering College Knowledge, Skills and Awareness for College Success

This session will engage participants in discussions about the best practices and promising trends related to helping academically strong students build the non-academic skills and competencies necessary for college success.

Moderator: Carol Lockhart, Principal, John Hay Early College
Panelists:
Susan Dileno, Vice President of Enrollment, Baldwin-Wallace College
Gloria Dunnivan, Director of Dual Enrollment, Kent State University
Karla Krodel, Director, Metro Credit Education Department, Youngstown State University
Santina Protopapa, Executive Director, Progressive Arts Alliance

Topic 2: Developing Cognitive Strategies and Content Knowledge to Improve Academic Achievement

This session will engage participants in discussions about the best practices and promising trends related to systematically addressing academic challenges for students with college aspirations.

Moderator: Sonya Pryor-Jones, Synchronicity Consulting, LLC
Panelists:
Richard Clark, President, Saint Martin de Porres High School
Dr. Judith Toure', Director, M.Ed. Program and Educational Leadership, Carlow University
Christine Vodicka, Director, Tutoring and Academic Success Center, Cleveland State University

Topic 3: Exploring Non-Academic Issues that Support College Readiness

This session will engage participants in discussions about the best practices and promising trends related to dealing with the social and cultural expectations for first-generation college students and how school and community environments can best support these students.

Moderator: Marsha Mockabee, President and CEO, Urban League of Greater Cleveland
Panelists:
Shemariah J. Arki, Sr. Director, Leadership Development & Strategic Initiatives, Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio
Adriennie Y. Hatten, Ph.D., Program Director, Education, Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland
Mike O’Brien, Chief Executive Officer, iMentor

Program Agenda

12:15—1:30 p.m.  Lunch/Presentation: The National and State Landscape of College Readiness Policies and Activities
James L. Applegate, Vice President, Program Development Lumina Foundation for Education
Corinne Webb, Project Manager, Higher Education Compact of Greater Cleveland

1:45—3:00 p.m.  Concurrent Working Sessions
Topic 1: Fostering College Knowledge, Skills and Awareness for Postsecondary Success
Topic 2: Developing Cognitive Strategies and Content Knowledge to Improve Academic Achievement
Topic 3: Exploring Non-Academic Issues that Support College Readiness

3:15—4:45 p.m.  Closing Plenary
3:15—3:45 p.m.  Keynote Address: Authentic Community Engagement in Change
Don R. Slocum, Founder and Executive Director, Neighborhood Leadership Institute
3:45—4:30 p.m.  Moderated Community/Student Panel: How Students Experience and Assess School Reform
Moderator:
Kim Wheeler, Education Reporter, WKYC
Participants:
Storm Blanchard, Maple Heights High School
Anshawn Ivery, Notre Dame College
Allison Ragland, Ohio University
Amrita Samaroo, Cleveland State University
Eric Wingfield, MC2STEM/The Ohio State University

4:30—4:45 p.m.  Wrap-up/Next Steps
5:00—6:00 p.m.  Networking/Exhibit Hall
Featured Speakers

**Frank G. Jackson, Mayor, City of Cleveland**

Frank G. Jackson, the 56th Mayor of Cleveland, lives in Cleveland’s Central neighborhood, where he grew up. He graduated from Cleveland Public Schools and served in the U.S. Army. After returning to Cleveland, he earned an associate’s degree from Cuyahoga Community College and his bachelor’s degree, master’s degree, and law degree from Cleveland State University.

He began his public service career as an Assistant City Prosecutor in the Cleveland Municipal Court Clerk’s Office. From 1990 through 2005, Jackson represented Cleveland’s 5th Ward on Cleveland City Council. From 2002-2005, Jackson also served as President of Cleveland City Council.

In January, 2006, Jackson began his tenure as Mayor of Cleveland. As Mayor, Jackson is focused on ensuring that the city offers an excellent quality of life for every resident, business and visitor and is addressing every aspect of City operations and policy to guarantee that he reaches that goal.

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**Ed Fitzgerald, Cuyahoga County Executive**

Ed Fitzgerald has spent more than two decades in service to others–as a community volunteer, Congressional staff member, FBI Special Agent, Assistant County Prosecutor, City Councilman, Mayor of Lakewood, Ohio and now Cuyahoga County’s first County Executive.

The seventh of eight children, Ed worked his way through Ohio State University, and then attended night law school while serving as a staff member for the U.S. House of Representatives.

After graduating from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Ed was commissioned as a Special Agent with the FBI, assigned to the Organized Crime Task Force in Chicago. As a Special Agent, Fitzgerald was recognized by the FBI Director for excellence while heading up a wide-ranging and successful investigation into organized crime and political corruption.

Returning to the Cleveland area, Fitzgerald then served as a supervising Assistant County Prosecutor, a lawyer in private practice and then Mayor of Lakewood. Ed’s campaign for County Executive emphasized job creation, restoring integrity to county government and delivering superior human services county wide.

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**Don R. Slocum, Founder and Executive Director, Neighborhood Leadership Institute**

Don R. Slocum is the founder and executive director of the Neighborhood Leadership Institute. Mr. Slocum served as associate director of the Greater Cleveland Neighborhood Centers Association for thirteen years, during which he developed Neighborhood Leadership Cleveland in conjunction with the Center for Neighborhood Development at Cleveland State University. As executive director of the Collinwood Community Services Center from 1983 to 1989 he developed his skills and commitment to community-based programming and neighborhood resident empowerment.

As a Kellogg International Leadership Fellow from 1995 to 1999, Mr. Slocum visited and studied community-based leadership and economic development in Ecuador, Zimbabwe, Brazil, Venezuela, Honduras, Dominican Republic, South Africa, Israel and parts of the United States. He led two study groups within the Fellows Program. The first was designed to increase awareness of the ways in which race and racism affect the nonprofit, governmental and international service sectors. The second created an international grassroots leadership exchange that resulted in the sponsorship of two Kellogg-funded meetings of local activists from Cleveland, Zimbabwe, and Ecuador.

Mr. Slocum was also selected as a Fellow of the Salzburg Seminar Program and participated in its session on "Community Leadership and Policy Change" held in Salzburg, Austria in December 2001.
Featured Speakers

James L. Applegate, Vice President, Program Development, Lumina Foundation for Education

James L. Applegate serves as Vice President for Program Development at the Lumina Foundation. In this role, he leads in development of the Foundation’s funding programs supporting achievement of “Goal 2025” to dramatically increase educational attainment in the U.S. especially for low income, first-generation, minority, and adult students. That work includes strategic implementation of effective practices and policies supporting increases in the number of prepared students entering higher education, the number of students succeeding in college, and in the productivity and capacity of the system to provide many more people high quality credentials.

Prior to coming to Lumina in 2008, he served as Senior Fellow and Vice President for Academic Affairs at the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education from 1999 through 2008. As chief academic officer in Kentucky, he coordinated statewide initiatives supporting institutional engagement in a public agenda for higher education that over the decade produced improvements in state college attainment that were among the best in the nation.

Jim earned his B.A from Georgetown College (KY) as well as an M.A. and Ph.D. from University of Illinois. His dissertation received the award given to the most outstanding dissertations completed in his field.

Corinne M. Webb, Project Manager, Higher Education Compact of Greater Cleveland

Corinne M. Webb currently serves as the project manager for the Higher Education Compact of Greater Cleveland. This new initiative was launched by Mayor Jackson last October wherein he invited key stakeholders from higher education, government, business and community-based organizations to work collaboratively to increase educational attainment.

To date, 63 organizations have joined the Compact and, in so doing, have pledged their support to increase the number of students who graduate high school, enroll in college and, more importantly, earn a college degree in timely fashion. Corinne is actively engaged in assisting the higher education partners establish graduation improvement goals and implementing pro-active intervention strategies to ensure goals are satisfied and students remain on-track for graduation. Corinne brings over 30 years of higher education experience in strategic planning, enrollment management, program assessment and student support services to the Compact.

Charis McGaughy, Director of Partnerships and Development Division, Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC)

Dr. Charis McGaughy directs the Field Services Division at the Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC). She came to EPIC in 2006 and now oversees multiple projects across the nation, travels extensively, speaks frequently, and constantly strives to improve students’ college readiness at both the policy and the classroom levels. She received her PhD in educational leadership and policy from Vanderbilt University, a master’s degree in public affairs from the University of Texas in Austin, and her bachelor’s degree in government from Pomona College. She has extensive experience with quantitative and qualitative research within the educational-policy arena and has taught in public schools in Houston and Boston. She also worked on state-level policy and budget issues for the Texas Education Agency and the Tennessee Department of Children’s Services.

Dr. Rosemary Sutton, Vice Provost of Academic Programs, Cleveland State University

After four years of teaching high school mathematics in New Zealand, Dr. Sutton attended graduate school and earned her Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University in Human Development. She joined the CSU faculty in 1983 and since that time has taught pre-service and in-service undergraduates and graduate students educational technology and educational psychology. She has received several University awards for her teaching and has conducted numerous workshops for teachers in Northeast Ohio.

Dr. Sutton published a number research articles on teacher development as well as equity issues in mathematics, technology, and assessment. More recent interests were focused in two areas: teaching educational psychology and teachers’ emotions. Recent publications can be found in Social Psychology of Education, Educational Psychology Review, Journal of Teacher Education, and an edited volume, Emotions and Education.

In January 2004, Dr. Sutton was appointed Director of Assessment for the University. In this position she was responsible for coordinating the student learning assessment for all graduate and undergraduate programs as well as student support programs. In August 2007, Dr. Sutton was appointed Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies. The division coordinated offices and functions from academic and student service areas in order to create a campus culture that coordinates student services with the academic mission of the University. In January 1, 2011, the responsibilities were modified to include the Center for Teaching Excellence, new faculty orientation as well as partnerships and off campus programs. Consequently, the title changed to Vice Provost of Academic Programs.
Randell McShepard, Vice President, Public Affairs, RPM International, Inc; Co-Founder, PolicyBridge

Randell McShepard was elected vice president - public affairs in October 2007. He is primarily responsible for coordinating external and governmental affairs for the company. His duties also include managing the corporate philanthropy program and facilitating corporate purchasing initiatives. He previously served as executive director of City Year Cleveland, assistant director of administration and program development for the Cleveland Bicentennial Commission and supervisor of training services for Vocational Guidance Services in Cleveland.

Mr. McShepard is very active in the Cleveland community with The Sisters of Charity Foundation (chairman emeritus), Fund for Our Economic Future (vice-chairman), Business Volunteers Unlimited, and Baldwin-Wallace College. His professional affiliations include the Public Affairs Committee for the National Association of Manufacturers and the State Affairs Committee of the National Paint and Coatings Association. He is also the co-founder of PolicyBridge, a public policy think tank serving the Northeast Ohio region.

Mr. McShepard holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and communications from Baldwin-Wallace College and a master's degree in urban studies from Cleveland State University. He is a graduate of Leadership Cleveland and a distinguished alumnus of Cleveland State University.

Under his leadership, CMSD has engaged in the development of a three-tiered academic improvement model that focuses on both traditional academic achievement strategies and also on improving the conditions for learning for students and families. The strategy produced dramatic reductions in serious safety incidents, suspensions, and expulsions in Cleveland’s schools and overall increases in student attendance, an increase in achievement test scores, and the District’s highest-ever state rating of Continuous Improvement. With a commitment to providing high quality education for urban students, Mr. Gordon implemented a district-wide scope and sequence curriculum and implemented the CMSD's conditions for learning “Humanware” strategy.

Prior to joining the leadership team at CMSD, Mr. Gordon taught in the New Orleans Public Schools and the Toledo Public Schools and has served as a high school principal in urban, rural, and suburban school districts. Mr. Gordon earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Mathematics Education and a Master's of Education degree in School Administration at Bowling Green State University.

Featured Speakers

Eric S. Gordon, CEO, Cleveland Metropolitan School District

Eric Gordon served the Cleveland Metropolitan School District as its Chief Academic Officer from 2007-2011, when the Cleveland Board of Education voted unanimously to appoint him as Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Gordon was one of the major architects of the District’s Academic Transformation Plan that garnered national recognition for its dramatic approach to top-to-bottom school reform.

Under his leadership, CMSD has engaged in the development of a three-tiered academic improvement model that focuses on both traditional academic achievement strategies and also on improving the conditions for learning for students and families. The strategy produced dramatic reductions in serious safety incidents, suspensions, and expulsions in Cleveland’s schools and overall increases in student attendance, an increase in achievement test scores, and the District’s highest-ever state rating of Continuous Improvement. With a commitment to providing high quality education for urban students, Mr. Gordon implemented a district-wide scope and sequence curriculum and implemented the CMSD's conditions for learning “Humanware” strategy.

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Featured Speakers

Hal Smith, Vice President, Education and Youth Development, National Urban League

Hal Smith, Ed.D. is the Vice President for Education & Youth Development, Health & Quality of Life and a Senior Research Fellow with the National Urban League. Prior to joining the National Urban League in 2008, Hal held teaching, administrative, policy and advocacy positions with the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), the Annenberg Institute for School Reform @ Brown University, the City College of New York, the College of the Holy Cross, Northern Illinois University, Lesley University and Harvard University. He holds a B.B.A. in Human Resource Administration from Temple University, an M.A. in Africana studies from the State University of New York at Albany and an Ed.M. and Ed.D. in Community Education and Lifelong Learning from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Brenda Stotesbery, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics, Cuyahoga Community College

Brenda Stotesbery, an Assistant Professor of Mathematics at the Metropolitan Campus of Cuyahoga Community College, completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering at Cleveland State University and a Master of Arts degree in Mathematics at John Carroll University. She has taught mathematics at Tri-C and Lakeland Community College for more than twenty years. During her years of teaching she has gained extensive experience working with students in Developmental Mathematics. In conjunction with her teaching experience, she has business and marketing experience working directly with CEOs, Presidents, and Owners of small to mid-size companies in the Cleveland area and has worked in the engineering field.

Ms. Stotesbery is an active member of the Cuyahoga Community College Developmental Education Council and the Ohio HS/HE Alignment Team. She has developed and employed a training program, “Dev Ed with Pizzazz – Enhance, Engage, Empower” for faculty members of developmental courses. She also serves on the Choose Ohio First Scholarship Committee, teaches for the Cleveland Transfer Connection program, mentors students, and is involved in multiple student success grant initiatives. She holds certification in the areas of Cooperative Learning and “On Course Strategies for Success in College and Life”. 