

Kritek, Apps Named MPA Co-Executive Directors

William Kritek and Susan Apps have been named co-executive directors of the Milwaukee Partnership Academy (MPA) – a coalition of education, labor, business, government, universities, parents and community groups that works to enhance the quality of teaching and learning in Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS).

Apps is a former MPS principal and director of Leadership Support in MPS and is currently a leadership coach for New Leaders for New Schools. She has worked in various other capacities within MPS and has a vast knowledge of the district obtained over nearly 30 years of experience in Milwaukee.

Kritek is Professor Emeritus in the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) School of Education's Department of Administrative Leadership. Kritek had experience as a teacher of mathematics and principal before moving into his work role as a professor at UWM. Kritek also served in several administrative capacities including associate dean in the School of Education and as Special Assistant to the Vice Chancellor. In the latter role he had primary responsibility for building collaborations between UWM and MPS.

The purpose of the MPA is to enhance the quality of teaching and learning in MPS. The broad initiative of the MPA is to ensure that every child in MPS is performing at or above grade level in reading, writing, and mathematics through shared responsibility for student success. Primary goals include improving teacher and principal quality, increasing student achievement at all educational levels and addressing systemic issues across educational institutions.

As co-executive directors, Kritek and Apps will report to the MPA's Executive Leadership Team and will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the organization. They will assume leadership responsibilities in establishing the vision, goals and strategies and the fiscal health of the MPA.

MPA core members include: UWM, MPS, Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association, Milwaukee Board of School Directors, Milwaukee Area Technical College, Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board, Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce, Greater Milwaukee Committee, Milwaukee Mayor's Office, and Cardinal Stritch University on behalf of private colleges and universities. Other Milwaukee area partner organizations also work with the MPA to carry out its mission.