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# "If One Fails the Community Fails"

## THE PUBLICATION OF THE African American Communication and Collaboration Council (AACCC)

[AfricanAmericanCommunication.com](http://AfricanAmericanCommunication.com)

February 2012

### Calendar of Events

[Click here](#) to view the entire AACCC Calendar of Events.

### Let's Commemorate Black History Month by Making Some - Let's "Show Up and Show Out!"



**I NEED YOU**

Calling the honorable members of 100 Black Men of Madison Inc., the African Association of Madison Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., the Center for Family Policy and Practice, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., the Madison Network of Black Professionals, the NAACP Madison Branch, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc., students and faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, students and faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Urban League of Greater Madison, Women in Focus Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., the entire Madison Church Community, and all well-meaning groups in our community. **I need YOU!**

I need each group listed above (and more) to attend a Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) Board of Education meeting by "**Showing Up and Showing Out.**" Historically, MMSD Board meetings have been devoid of African-American participation. We must demonstrate to our elected officials that we are concerned about the decisions that are made on behalf of our children. And we must provide critique, commentary and direction at those meetings.

Therefore, it is proposed that each group pick a specific MMSD Board of Education Meeting and attend en masse dressed in appropriate regalia.

That's right! We want all participating groups to show up and show out in the colors of their organization. Crimson and Cream, Royal Purple and Old Gold, Black and Old Gold, Salmon Pink and Apple Green, Royal Blue and Pure White, Charcoal Brown and Gilded Gold, Blue and Gold, etc. are acceptable dress and "requested."

**It is time that we provide the stewardship for which we all have fiduciary responsibility. And, it is time to express, as organized groups, who we are, what we seek and what we will not let stand.**

Please access <http://showingupshowingout2012.eventbrite.com/> to view

### February 2012

**8 February 2012**  
African American Achievement Team at LaFollette High School

**10 February 2012**  
Sickle Cell Blood Drive

**10 February 2012**  
Read Your Heart Out

**11 February 2012**  
Heart and Soul Scholarship Ball

**14 February 2012**  
Orchard Ridge Elementary Reading Program

### MISSION

To provide support to positive efforts that are conducted with and on behalf of the African American Community of Greater Madison, Wisconsin;

To establish mutually beneficial relationships between African American organizations of Greater Madison, Wisconsin; and

To establish ongoing dialogue concerning common issues of the African American Community of Greater Madison, Wisconsin.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

African American Communication and

**group registration for available MMSD School Board meeting dates.**

## AACCC to Host MMSD School Board Candidate Forum, 27 March

Collaboration Council  
(AACCC)

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Pictured left to right: Arlene Silveira, Nichelle Nichols, Mary Burke and Michael Flores

The African American Communication and Collaboration Council (AACCC) will host a Forum to engage candidates vying for Seats 1 and 2 of the Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) Board of Education. The Forum will be held on **27 March 2012, at 6:00 p.m. at St. Paul AME Church, 4525 Diamond Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53714.**

Candidates running for Seat #1 are incumbent, [Arlene Silveira](#), and [Nichelle Nichols](#). Candidates running for Seat #2 are [Mary Burke](#) and [Michael Flores](#). All candidates have been invited to participate.

During the Forum, candidates will present information about their qualifications and backgrounds and address issues that are currently facing the MMSD, such as the achievement gap and school safety.

## MMSD Superintendent Addresses Achievement Gap

Superintendent, Dr. Daniel Nerad, presented the Madison Metropolitan School District's (MMSD) plan to build the future of the District and close the achievement gaps for low-income students and students of color at a special meeting of the Board of Education on Monday, 6 February 2012.



Dr. Daniel Nerad  
MMSD Superintendent

"Today, I present a call to action to our staff, our families, and our community as we move into this next phase of our transformation," Superintendent Nerad said. "These untenable disparities have institutional and community roots. We know this. We're listening. And together, with our community, we intend to change it."

The MMSD will provide opportunities for community input over the next two months and will use that input to revise and refine the Plan, details of which can be found at <http://www.mmsd.org/thefuture>.

### Locations and Dates of Community Input Sessions

- West High School (21 February)
- Urban League of Greater Madison (28 February)
- La Follette High School (29 February)
- Memorial High School (1 March)
- East High School (6 March)
- Bridge Lakepoint Waunona Neighborhood Center (7 March)
- Lussier Education Center (8 March)

- Community Conversation at CUNA (14 March)
- East Madison Community Center (27 March)

### **Community Input Session Registration and Volunteer Opportunities**

To sign up and/or volunteer for any of these Community Input Sessions, visit <http://www.mmsd.org/inputsession>. All of these public forums will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

## **Now Accepting Articles & Photos**

We are currently accepting stories and photographs for future issues of "If One Fails the Community Fails." Please submit your stories and event photos for consideration. Submission does not guarantee placement in this publication.

Stories should be 200 words or less and electronic photos should be 300 DPI or better in JPG format (NO SCANNED PHOTOS). Include captions for each photo (who, what, when, and where). Photos without captions WILL NOT be considered.

**Submit your stories and photos (with captions) to  
[president@africanamericancommunication.com](mailto:president@africanamericancommunication.com).**

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