Great Oaks Charter to Join Skills Builder Accelerator

During the Lead for Delaware Leadership Journey to London in June, 4DL hosted a panel of career and technical education experts including James Prideaux, Lead Associate International at Skills Builder Partnership. Skills Builder Partnership is a global group of more than 725 businesses, education institutions, and impact organizations committed to transforming how the world builds essential skills such as listening, speaking, problem solving and creativity. Prideaux spoke passionately about their Global Accelerator program, which works with schools worldwide to develop and implement a complete strategy for teaching essential skills. Lead for Delaware alumni, Great Oaks Executive Director Leland Kent and Head of School Samanta Lopez, were in the room that day. “When I learned about the Accelerator, I immediately knew we wanted to apply,” said Lopez. Two months later, Great Oaks has been invited to join the Accelerator and will work with an international group of Skills leaders, schools and colleges over the coming year to help their students develop skills they’ll use for a lifetime. Congratulations, Great Oaks!

The Equity Practitioner Programs 6th Cohort!

This month, we welcomed a new group of fellows to the 6th cohort of the Equity Practitioner Program! We are excited to have returning and new organization partners join us for this cohort.

We asked fellows, “How would you describe where you are on your journey toward becoming a practitioner of equity?”

"I would say I am not exactly in my infancy of being an equity practitioner, but I am still in my early stages of understanding ...of how to have an equitable attitude and demeanor through life and in the classroom."

"I’m definitely on the journey. This opportunity is rejuvenating!!"
In celebration of Black Philanthropy Month, Angela was invited to participate in a national panel about capacity building from the perspective of Black-led/serving organizations. Transparent as always, she took funders to task about slighting Black-led/serving organizations with low expectations, extraordinary deliverables and timeframes, and the tendency to look at these organizations as needing handouts instead of seeing them as creators of real and meaningful social impact. She continued to call out the inconsistent, guilt-based responses that funders often have when seeking to support Black-led/serving organizations after a major cultural event and the protests that follow.

We encourage each of you across our coalition, in the same honest and transparent way, to challenge the status quo in your work and take to task those who claim to be your ardent supporters. Change isn’t only necessary. It’s achievable.

Onward,

The 4DL Team