The 7th Cohort of 4DL’s principal/assistant principal certification program kicked off on Saturday, September 17th with the induction of six new fellows:

Connie Hendricks (Sussex Academy), Andrea Jackson (Concord High School), Nicole Justice (Magnolia Middle School), Marley Luke (Freire Charter), Katie Pollard (Freire Charter), and Maddie Weckel (Freire Charter)

In the morning, Fellows were introduced to 4DL’s vision for school transformation and spent time in cohort-building exercises, setting the stage for their two-year journey together. The afternoon was devoted to speakers beginning with Delaware’s longtime education activist and champion for racial justice, Ms. Bebe Coker. Ms. Coker shared her perspective on the continuing struggle to improve education for black and brown children and argued that teachers should be called “engineers” to reflect the depth of knowledge, skills and responsibility associated with the role. Day 1 Induction wrapped up with presentations from two of Delaware’s advocacy organizations including 4DL’s own board chair Laurisa Schutt, executive director of First State Educate, and Britney Mumford and Erika Gutierrez of DelawareCAN. Day 2 of Induction is scheduled for October 8!

MEET LEAD FOR DELAWARE’S ADJUNCT FAULTY

Rachel Valentin is currently the executive director and principal of Charter School of New Castle (CSNC) Elementary Campus.

Nakia Fambro is currently the principal/administrator of the Christina Adult Education & Literacy program.

A BITTERSWEET FAREWELL TO 4DL’S DIRECTOR OF PARTNERSHIPS

Jon Chavez, 4DL’s director of partnerships, will be leaving our organization next month for a new opportunity. We’re immensely grateful for his many contributions during his time with us, and we’ll miss his authenticity, his sense of humor and the many thoughtful conversations we’ve had about our work. Best of luck, Jon!