Keynote Speaker



Dr. Doris McEwen

President and CEO of M.E.C.C.A. (McEwen Education Consulting and Curriculum Auditing), Dr. McEwen has been on curriculum management audit teams in more than twenty school districts throughout the United States. She has a passion for excellence and equity. Dr. McEwen serves as a leadership thought partner for principals and superintendents throughout the country and overseas. She is a highly sought after motivational speaker on equity and closing the achievement gap.

Dr. McEwen was formerly Deputy Director for Curriculum and Instruction for the Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB), working to restructure education in the State of Oregon so that by 2025 all students are graduating from high school and at least 80% are in college or other postsecondary studies. Dr. McEwen's responsibilities were focused on equity, family and community engagement, and standards and assessments.

Dr. McEwen joined OEIB in September 2012, having previously been Vice President/General Manager for the Central Region for Pearson/America's Choice. She supervised project managers and staff and had responsibility for ensuring implementation of the America's Choice School Turnaround Design throughout the fifteen states making up the Central Region. The compelling mission of having students graduate from high school, college and career ready without remediation allowed Dr. McEwen to continue to live her passion of providing HOPE to every student.

Dr. McEwen came to America's Choice from the position of Distinguished P-12 Educator with University of Washington (Seattle) College of Education. This prestigious position was a three-year appointment with the College of Education to give a practitioners' voice to the theoretical and action-oriented research of the university. Dr. McEwen was uniquely qualified for this position after spending more than 40 years as an educator, including a successful seven-year tenure as superintendent of Clover Park School District (Lakewood, WA) where student

achievement dramatically increased during her tenure. She was the first African American female superintendent in Washington State, and for many years the only African American superintendent in Washington State.

Throughout her tenure as an educator, Dr. McEwen has had a commitment to children and a passion for working with staff and the community to increase academic achievement and to ensure that students in her charge are competitive with their peers. Under her leadership the district culture changed to one to advocate and support the learning of every child and as a result, test scores significantly improved.

Dr. McEwen holds a doctorate of philosophy and a master's degree in educational administration and higher education from Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan.

Her career includes experience as an associate professor and department chair for educational administration at Indiana University South Bend. She has been a building and district administrator, including being a director of evaluations and assessments, high school principal, a high school, middle school and junior high school assistant principal, and an alternative high school principal. She started her education career as a high school English teacher.

Dr. McEwen is past national secretary of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (2002-2006), a collegiate and alumnae organization of more than 200,000 college-educated women with a focus on community service and scholarship. She is a member of several professional and community organizations, serves on many advisory boards and is a popular speaker on Closing the Achievement Gap, Equity Education and other education topics. She serves as leadership thought partner to principals and superintendents throughout the country.

Dr. McEwen was a Scholar-In-Residence at the National Alliance of Black School Educators Conference in Orlando (November 2006) and represented the University of Washington as a visiting faculty of Educational Leadership in Dubai and Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates) for two consecutive year intersessions. Dr. McEwen has also authored numerous publications and presentations. She was recognized for her educational leadership in Washington state (March 2007) by Washington Association of School Administrators and superintendents in Pierce and King Counties.

Dr. McEwen has two adult children, Maleika Rene Walker and Cheo Damu Walker. Maleika is a graduate of Howard University (B.A.) and Pepperdine University (M.A., M.S.) and Cheo is a graduate of Miami (OH) University.