

Redding Consortium for Educational Equity

FULL BODY CONSORTIUM MEETING

APRIL 29, 2021, 5:00-7:00 P.M.

Welcome & Roll Call



Please mute yourself when not talking



Use the chat function to ask questions



Please note this meeting is being recorded
and may be posted for the public



For Roll Call—**Consortium members—please
type your name in the Chat**

Approval of Minutes

Work Group Updates

Funding and Governance Work Group

CO-CHAIRS

NNAMDI CHUKWUOCHA, STATE REPRESENTATIVE

EUGENE YOUNG, PRESIDENT, METROPOLITAN WILMINGTON URBAN LEAGUE

Updates

Referendum Reform

- Currently working with House Attorneys to update referendum reform bill

University of Delaware Survey—Education Funding Reform in DE

- Cimone Philpotts, MPA; Doctoral Candidate at UD's Institute for Public Administration, Biden School of Public Policy and Administration

Questions?

Social Determinants Work Group

CO-CHAIRS

RAYE JONES AVERY, WILMINGTON CENTER FOR EDUCATION EQUITY AND PUBLIC
POLICY

JEFFREY MENZER, SUPERINTENDENT, COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Updates

Work group met on March 8

- Discussed strategies to leverage personal and professional networks to share the work of the Consortium and to share the importance of funding
- Brainstormed ideas for an “Advocacy Toolkit”
- Engaged in an interactive Data Portal session with Dr. Adrian Peoples, DDOE Education Associate of Data Management and Governance

Next meeting is May 10

- Information Sessions in the works: School Based Wellness Centers, Nemours and Child Developmental Screening, DDOE

Questions?

Settlement Work Group

CO-CHAIRS

AARON BASS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, EASTSIDE CHARTER SCHOOL

CHUCK LONGFELLOW, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, CHRISTINA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Work Group Scope & Goals

Scope:

In response to the Delaware education funding lawsuit settlement, the Settlement Work Group intends to:

- Be a watchdog for how the state and General Assembly implement the actions outlined in the settlement
- Ensure that the Consortium is responding appropriately to the settlement implementation
- Be the subject matter expert on the settlement for the Redding Consortium
- Create recommendations for the General Assembly to proceed/implement the actions outlined in the settlement

Goals:

- Offer guidance or influence when the General Assembly must make decisions related to the settlement
- Challenge the state and General Assembly to use the settlement as a floor, and push for further change
- Connect the settlement to systemic and equitable change

Work Group Progress

- Held discussions related to the Opportunity Fund and greater systemic funding reforms
- Heard from the Educators and Social Determinants Work Groups and aligned priorities
- Examined the new Department of Education Equity Statement requirement for Major Capital Improvement Projects
- Held stakeholder discussions and developed a framework for the Ombudsperson program

Equity Statement

Department of Education revises Major Capital Improvement Program to require Equity Statements

“Local school district submissions for a Certificate of Necessity shall provide an equity statement that identifies the demographic information (e.g. race, Low Income, English Learner) of the students who are expected to attend the new school, use a new facility, or benefit from an approved Major Capital Project and how the Major Capital Project impacts equitable distributions of new and renovated buildings throughout the school district.”

Equity Statement Recommendations

The Equity Statement regulation as written meets the minimum requirements of the settlement.

The Settlement Work Group recommends that the Consortium endorse the following:

1. That the Bond Bill Committee adds epilogue language to ensure that 14 Del. Admin Code 401 requires the Department of Education to post publicly on the Department website all Certificate of Necessity applications received, the equity statements associated with those applications, and a summary of all Certificate of Necessity applications approved by the Department.
2. The Department shall include specific guidance on how Certificate of Necessity equity statements must include references to the Districts' overall equity efforts or if available, formal plans. The Department shall also establish in the regulation minimum elements required in the equity statement to ensure that the statement is meaningful and establish a process for internal review of the statement outside of the DOE finance department.
3. That each district shall be required to create a baseline assessment of their district buildings and Certificate of Necessity Equity Statements must include how improvements are connected to the overall plan.
4. Equity Statement must be part of board approval for the Certificate of Necessity.

Questions?

Motion to Vote

Ombudsperson Program Recommendations

By FY 2022, an Ombudsperson program must be created and funded in each county.

“[the program] shall focus on non-legal interventions with school districts to resolve disputes or complaints concerning disparate discipline, inequitable access to school programs, or otherwise different or unfair treatment of students. The Ombudspersons will be available to act as non-lawyer advocates for students and their families in any proceedings conducted by schools or local, state or federal education agencies.

Ombudsperson Program

The Settlement Work Group discussed:

1. The drafted framework for the Ombudsperson program
2. The drafted Request for Proposal (RFP)
3. That a member of the Redding Consortium be on the RFP Committee for the Ombudsperson Program

Questions?

Legislative Updates

Endorsed Legislation Status Update

Bill	Status
Senate Bill 56: Opportunity Funding	Passed Senate 20-0-1; Released from House Education Committee
House Bill 86: K-3 Basic Special Education Unit	Passed House Education; Assigned to House Appropriations Committee
House Bill 100: Mental Health Services Unit for Elementary Schools	Passed House Education; Assigned to House Appropriations Committee House Amendment Introduced

Redding Consortium Interim Recommendations

Interim Recommendations for FY 2022 Budget

1

Providing focused, comprehensive help to the state's highest poverty schools and the children who attend those schools

2

Laying the foundation for broader future reforms to provide educational equity and improved educational outcomes for Delaware students

Budget Requests

- Expand intensive home visitation programs: *Estimated annual cost: \$600,000*
- Require and enforce developmental screening requirements for state-licensed childcare facilities: *Estimated annual cost: \$180,000*
- Ensure free, high-quality full-day Pre-K services: *Estimated annual cost: \$8 million*
- Create a whole school professional learning package: *Estimated annual cost: \$1.2 million*
- Implement comprehensive wraparound services: *Estimated annual cost: \$180,000*
- Collection of primary data (interviews) from students, parents, other community members and educators: *Estimated cost: \$2 million in FY22, lower amounts for maintenance of data in subsequent years.*
- Expand Teacher Academy programs: *Estimated cost: \$100,000 in FY22*
- Gather transparent, user-friendly, disaggregated, open-source schooling data

How Can You Support the Recommendations?

Email the Chairs of the Joint Finance Committee and share your support for the Redding Consortium Interim Recommendations

Chair: William J. Carson, William.Carson@delaware.gov

Vice-Chair: Trey Paradee, Trey.Paradee@delaware.gov

All JFC members: <https://legis.delaware.gov/Committee/JointFinance>

Mayor of Wilmington, Mike Purzycki

IN SUPPORT OF THE REDDING CONSORTIUM INTERIM
RECOMMENDATIONS

Want to record a testimonial?

Email Jason Bourke at jbourke@desu.edu

The Education Trust Presentation: Unfinished Learning

KAYLA PATRICK, SENIOR P-12 POLICY ANALYST, THE EDUCATION
TRUST

Public Comment

3-MINUTES PER COMMENT, THANK YOU

Thank you!

- Next meeting is June 24, 2021
- Contact Haley Qaissaunee with any questions at hqaissa@udel.edu
- Redding Consortium Website: <https://www.solutionsfordelawareschools.com/>
- Redding Consortium Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ReddingConsortium>
- Redding Consortium
YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi1pEH8Uq0SG6chLY-KpCjA?view_as=subscriber
- Subscribe to our newsletter: <https://udel.us2.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=52c762204cc63479f4cbd7d57&id=f199b83344>