

Educational Equity Settlement Progress Report

Redding Consortium for Educational Equity, Settlement Work Group

Settlement Item	Actions Taken	2021 Implementation Status	2021 Alignment Status
Opportunity Funding	SB 56 was passed and signed in the 151st legislative session, making the Opportunity Fund permanent and meeting the gradual funding increases stipulated in the settlement.	The Governor and State Legislature moved proactively to codify the Opportunity Fund and implement the funding increases stipulated in the settlement.	Changes are needed to the implementation of the Opportunity Fund to ensure that LEAs serving high populations of English Learners and students from low-income families are not unfairly burdened by regulations, grant applications, and reporting requirements. Rule changes are also needed to ensure that the Opportunity Fund systemically improves education funding equity.
K-3 Basic Special Education	HB 86 was passed and signed in the 151st legislative session, implementing the K-3 basic special education unit gradually over 3 years.	The Governor and State Legislature moved proactively to codify the K-3 Basic Special Education unit, and implement it ahead of the settlement's deadlines.	The implementation plan meets legally required minimums and aligns with educational equity goals.
Early Childhood	The FY 2022 budget for ECAP remained at \$6.1M.	In addition to adding funding to other programs in Early Childhood Education, the Governor and State Legislature are likely to meet the ECAP settlement provision by the deadline.	The implementation plan meets legally required minimums and aligns with educational equity goals.
Teacher Recruitment & Retention	The FY 2022 budget expressed the Governor's intent to allocate \$4M in the FY 2023 recommended budget.	Based on the expression of intent in the FY 2022 budget, the Governor and State Legislature are likely to meet the settlement deadline.	The Work Group expects Teacher Recruitment & Retention initiatives to be in the FY 2023 budget.
Ombudsperson Program	The program was funded for \$1M for FY 2022. The RFP was issued in April 2021, reissued in Sept. 2021, and awarded in December 2021 to the Parent Information Center of Delaware.	With the RFP awarded, it is expected that the Ombudsperson program will begin during FY 2022 as stipulated by the settlement.	The implementation plan meets legally required minimums and aligns with educational equity goals.

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Equity Statement Requirement	The equity statement requirement was put into effect in February 2021.	The equity statement requirement was implemented on time.	Though the legally required minimum has been met, actions are needed for the equity statements to make meaningful progress towards educational equity.
Independent Funding Assessment	Feedback on the RFP for the independent funding assessment was collected between November-December 2021.	The Independent Funding Assessment is currently on track to be completed by the January 2024 deadline.	The Work Group expects an RFP to be released in 2022, and for the assessment to be funded in FY 2023 to be completed on time.

Rubric		
	Implementation Status Are the responsible parties meeting their timing benchmarks to implement the settlement's provisions?	Alignment Status Has the implementation of each settlement provision made meaningful progress towards educational equity?
Strong	The responsible parties are proactively acting to meet the settlement provision ahead of the legally required deadline.	The implementation plan exceeds the legally required minimums and makes meaningful progress towards improving educational equity.
Minimal	The responsible parties are beginning to meet the deadline and are likely to meet it.	The implementation plan meets legally required minimums and aligns with educational equity goals.
Insufficient	The responsible parties are beginning to meet the deadline but progress has stalled or is insufficient.	The implementation plan only meets the legally required minimums and does not provide make meaningful progress towards improving educational equity.
Not Started	No action taken at this time.	Too early to assess.

Definition

Educational Equity: The Redding Consortium's [definition](#) of educational equity states: educational equity requires safe, secure, and student-focused learning environments where every student is intentionally provided access to the support, resources, and opportunities they need to reach their full academic and social potential, in and out of the classroom.