



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE TOWNSEND BUILDING 401
FEDERAL STREET, SUITE 2
DOVER, DE 19901

February 23, 2016

Dear Dr. Allen:

On February 18, 2016, the State Board of Education (Board) took action deciding whether to approve the Wilmington Education Improvement Commission (WEIC) submitted plan, "Redistricting in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County: A Transition, Resource, and Implementation Plan", or to return the plan to the Commission with reasons it could not be approved at this time. The Board voted 3 - 4 on the motion to approve the plan as presented.

Reasons the Board was not able to approve the WEIC proposal in its current form are listed below:

- Members of the Board indicated that there were not sufficient details within the plans regarding how the funding would be utilized once received.
- Concerns remained about whether a sufficient connection was established for how shifting district boundary lines would lead to improved student outcomes.
- While letters were received from all NCC districts with regard to implementation and services to address student learning for Wilmington students to begin now and extend throughout the implementation timeline, it was noted that all of the letters received referenced programs and initiatives already underway at districts and did not bring new programs or supports to students. Additionally, one district's letter was presented as contingent upon action by their school board which was scheduled to take place at a future date, thus was not yet approved.
- The Board does not support all components as written within the "Board Resolution" drafted by WEIC and included within the WEIC plan. It does not support the inclusion of a "Board Resolution" being within the WEIC plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Teri Quinn Gray".

TERI QUINN GRAY, PH.D.
PRESIDENT

Cc: Members of the Delaware State Board of Education
Ilona Kirshon, DAG
S. Elizabeth Lockman, WEIC Vice Chair
Kenneth Rivera, WEIC Vice Chair
Dan Rich, Policy Director