

Revised Resolution

WHEREAS the Governor has written to the Wilmington Education Improvement Commission (the “Commission”) requesting reconsideration of its prior decision to resubmit the Plan without amendment to the State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS the Governor’s proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2017 does not include the necessary and sufficient funding and transition supports set forth in the Compendium dated February 11, 2016; and

WHEREAS without the necessary and sufficient funding and transition supports, the successful implementation of the Plan cannot be achieved; and

WHEREAS the estimated costs reflected in the Plan and the Compendium dated February 11, 2016 are not exhaustive and represent minimum estimates in meeting students’ needs including the weights proposed in the unit model; and

WHEREAS the affected school districts are concerned that the boundary changes in the Plan will go into effect without the necessary and sufficient funding and transition supports, and without the benefit of the phased transition process (the Approval, Planning, and Transition stages) described in the Plan;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission, after careful consideration, that:

1. The second sentence of Paragraph 2 of the Redistricting Resolution be struck in its entirety and replaced by “If the necessary and sufficient funding and transition supports, as laid out in the Compendium dated February 11, 2016, are not provided by the conclusion of each stage and in the manner proposed, the Commission, after consulting with the affected districts, shall suspend the timetable for implementation until the resources and supports are provided,” and that the Redistricting Resolution be re-adopted as amended and, together with the Plan, be submitted to the State Board of Education;
2. As used in Paragraph 2 of the Redistricting Resolution, the terms “stipulated milestones,” “stage” or “stages,” “the timetable,” and “timeframe,” shall refer to the stages, milestones, timetables and timeframes described in the Plan and the Compendium dated February 11, 2016;
3. The Commission shall suspend the timetable for implementation of the Plan at the request of the boards of education of the Red Clay or Christina school districts if either of them determine that the necessary and sufficient funding and transition supports, as laid out in the Compendium dated February 11, 2016, are not provided by the conclusion of each stage and in the manner proposed. The Commission will not require the districts to continue with implementation if the necessary and sufficient resources are not provided;
4. Any suspension of the Plan’s implementation during either the Approval, Planning, or Transition stages shall automatically mean that the Plan will not resume unless and until the necessary and sufficient funds are provided. If those necessary and sufficient resources as laid out in the Compendium of February 11, 2016 are not confirmed by the Commission in consultation with the affected districts by July, 2018, the Plan will expire. If the necessary and sufficient resources are confirmed by July, 2018, then at the joint request of the boards of education of the Red Clay and Christina school districts, the Commission will add the time of any suspension to the date of change of district boundaries.

5. The Commission will communicate our expectation that the Governor's office will support the successful implementation of the Plan by working collaboratively with the General Assembly and the Joint Finance Committee to ensure that the Plan is fully funded; and

6. Any future action by the Commission to rescind, amend, or modify this Resolution shall require a supermajority vote in its favor by two-thirds of the voting members of the Commission.