

STATUS UPDATE

Wilmington Education Improvement Commission

State Board of Education

December 15, 2016

Overview

- Outcomes of Legislative Session
- Action Agenda for Improved Student Outcomes
- Annual Report Overview
 - Action Agenda Status Report
 - Status of Wilmington Education
- Commission Path Forward

OUTCOMES OF LEGISLATIVE SESSION

June 30, 2016

Legislative Update

- Senate Joint Resolution 17
 - Affirmed the decision of the State Board of Education to approve the Commission's Plan for redistricting
 - Supports the continued work of the Commission in developing details of implementation of the Plan.
 - Recognized that the Plan would require necessary and sufficient funding to achieve the goals laid out in Redistricting plan
- **Outcome: Passed the General Assembly**

Legislative Update

- Senate Bill 300 (with House Amendment 1)
 - Clarified that a vote by the General Assembly confirmed support for the State Board's approval of redistricting. However, ***it requires the Commission to return to the legislature for final approval of the redistricting plan***
 - Action by the General Assembly did not constitute approval of any particular revenue or spending measure
 - Provided a \$200,000 supplemental appropriation to establish the Wilmington Redistricting Transition Fund, which can be used by the Commission to assess the fiscal impact of redistricting
- **Outcome: Passed the General Assembly**

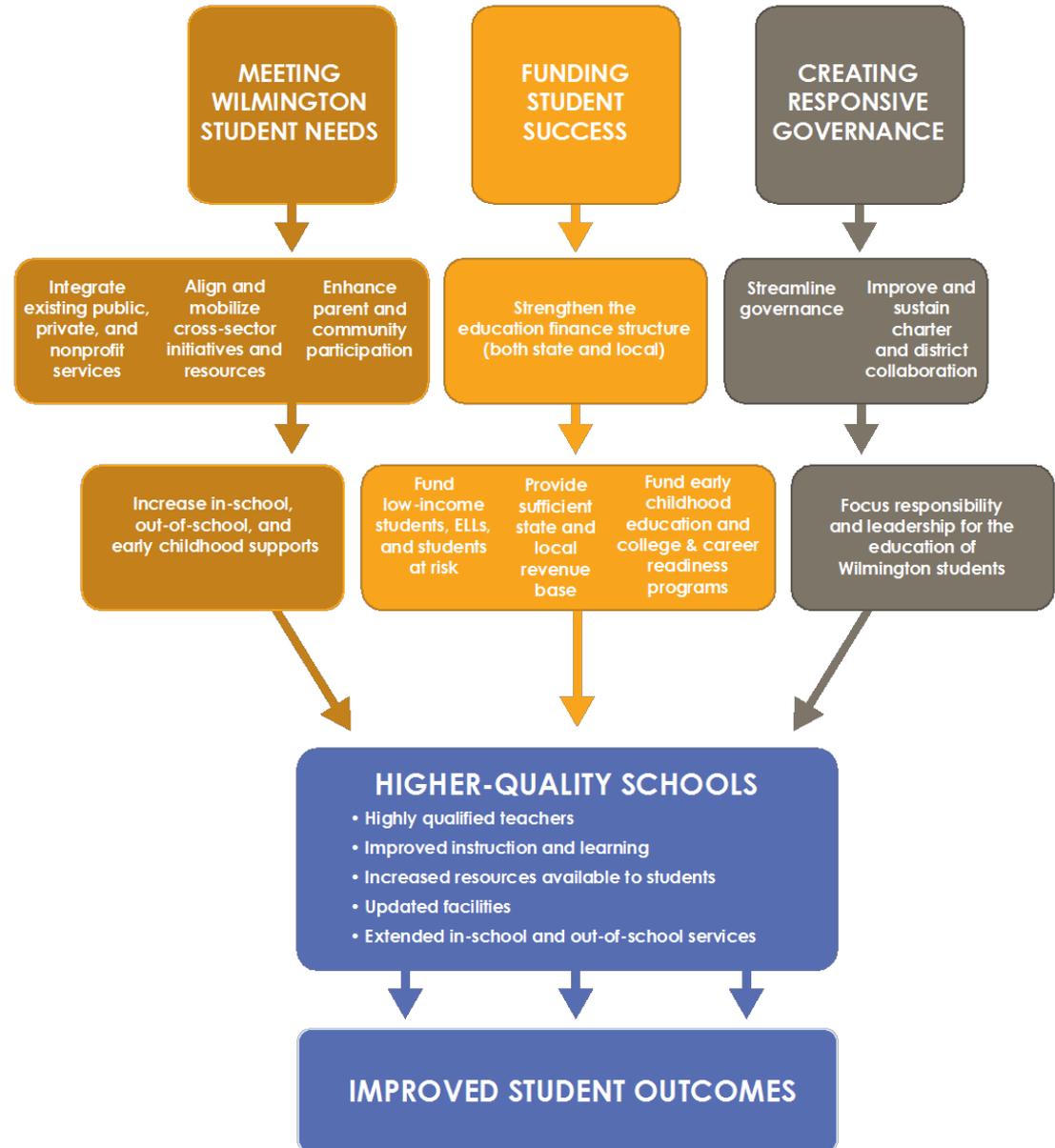
ANNUAL REPORT

Commission Work

July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

Framework

Action Agenda for Improved Student Outcomes



Status Report

Creating Responsive Governance

Priorities	Status	Action Taken	Responsibility
Develop plan for the Christina School District (CSD) to leave Wilmington & Red Clay Consolidated School District include CSD's Wilmington students and schools.		SB 122 signed August 2015 mandates the Commission to develop a transition, resource, and implementation plan to carry out the Advisory Committee's recommendation on redistricting.	General Assembly
Colonial and Brandywine School Districts should continue to serve Wilmington students.		Colonial and Brandywine Boards of Education voted to continue to serve Wilmington students.	Commission and School Boards
The State Board of Education should approve the Commission's redistricting plan.		Plan Submitted to State Board in December 2015. Approved by State Board in March 2016.	State Board of Education
The General Assembly should confirm the State Board's approval of Commission's redistricting plan.		SB 17 provides conditional approval, with requirement for return to legislature for final approval. SB 300 creates Wilmington Redistricting Transition Fund and mandates a fiscal impact analysis.	General Assembly
Complete fiscal impact analysis of redistricting for 2017 legislative session.		The Commission created an ad hoc committee to assess the fiscal impact of redistricting and provide a report to the General Assembly by March 2017.	Ad Hoc Committee and Commission

Status Report

Creating Responsive Governance			
Priorities	Status	Action Taken	Responsibility
New charter approvals and expansions should be deferred pending a statewide needs assessment and a comprehensive plan for the desired number and mix of charter, district, and vo-tech schools.		<p>HB 56 puts a moratorium on charter approval in Wilmington until July 2018 or pending a state plan.</p> <p>Governor Markell initiated the State Review of Education Opportunities to serve as the basis for a state plan on the desired configuration of schools.</p> <p>Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) has initiated a needs assessment prior to completion of state plan targeted for December 2016.</p>	Department of Education and General Assembly
Charter schools should develop in accordance with a new vision that promotes shared capacity, collaboration, and best practices among charters and between charter and traditional schools.		The Charter and District Collaboration committee has considered barriers to collaboration and national best practices.	Charter and District Collaboration Committee
A Charter Consortium or collaborative compact should be established to better support operational needs and best practices of all charter schools.		<p>Research is underway on effective models for support of charter schools across the U.S.</p> <p>No action taken on proposed consortium.</p>	Charter and District Collaboration Committee
An Office of Education and Public Policy should be created in City of Wilmington government to promote active community engagement in public education.		No action taken by the Commission.	City of Wilmington Government
The New Castle County (NCC) Vo-Tech District and traditional district schools and Wilmington charter schools should collaborate on expanded vocational education opportunities for Wilmington students.		No action taken by the Commission.	Commission with districts and charters

Status Report

Funding Student Success

Priorities	Status	Action Taken	Responsibility
State funding should be allocated statewide for low-income students, English language learners, and basic special education students K-3.		The Commission has proposed legislation to change the State's unit count allocation to include this funding. Governor Markell recommended a pilot program but funding was not allocated by the General Assembly. No action taken by the Delaware General Assembly on Commission proposal.	Commission working with the Governor, General Assembly, and community partners
Additional funding for early childhood education programs should be provided to meet the needs of students in poverty in Wilmington and statewide.		Governor Markell recommended and the General Assembly provided most of the additional funding requested by the Delaware Office of Early Learning and the Delaware Early Childhood Council.	Commission, Delaware Office of Early Learning, Delaware Early Childhood Council
The State should increase funding for extended in-school and out-of-school services and supports, including after-school programs.		Meeting the Needs of Students in Poverty Committee has made this a priority and is identifying best practices for improving state and community services. United Way of Delaware to take on the "My Very Own Library" early literacy initiative. Legislation proposed but not enacted in the last session on after-school programs.	Meeting the Needs of Students in Poverty Committee, Governor, and General Assembly, United Way of Delaware of Delaware

Status Report

Funding Student Success			
Priorities	Status	Action Taken	Responsibility
Strengthening the revenue base supporting public education at both the state and local levels, including property reassessment.		The Commission has proposed adjustments in the public education allocation system. No state or county action on property reassessment.	Commission, County Governments, and General Assembly
Establish Wilmington Redistricting Transition Fund to support the costs of district reorganization and approve other funding adjustments needed for implementation of redistricting.		SB 300 establishes the fund with an initial allocation of \$200,000. Commission's Ad Hoc Fiscal Impact Committee is evaluating overall costs.	Governor and General Assembly
Existing state funding for low-income children and families should be redirected by a comprehensive state plan to more effectively address the needs of students in poverty.		No action taken.	Governor and State Agencies with Commission

Status Report

Meeting the Needs of Wilmington Students

Priorities	Status	Action Taken	Responsibility
A comprehensive early childhood education plan for high-quality programs and services for all children in Wilmington.		No action taken on a Wilmington plan. State investments have increased access of low-income children to high-quality programs.	Delaware Office of Early Learning, Delaware Early Childhood Council, Wilmington Early Childhood Council, Commission
A comprehensive plan for improving state and local services for low-income children and their families and for schools with high low-income student enrollment, including the integration of services and partnerships with private and nonprofit institutions.		Commission conducting Wilmington asset mapping, inventory of state policies, and mapping of finances.	Meeting the Needs of Students in Poverty Committee, Commission, Governor, and prospective the Interagency Resource Management Committee
The State should increase in-school supports for students experiencing trauma and other social and emotional challenges.		Legislation expands school-based health centers to all secondary schools. No allocation to meet trauma and socio-emotional needs.	Meeting the Needs of Students in Poverty Committee, Governor, General Assembly, and State Departments
Delaware P-20 Council should be mandated to recommend improved alignment of resources and programs to support student learning and development from birth through college and workforce.		No action has been taken by the P-20 council.	Governor, Secretary of Education, and P-20 Council

Status Report

Meeting the Needs of Wilmington Students

Priorities	Status	Action Taken	Responsibility
Mobilize and coordinate community (nonprofit and private) programs in support of schools with high concentrations of students in poverty.		United Way of Delaware leading plan to coordinate efforts in Wilmington and statewide. Wilmington Alliance proposed but not implemented by city government.	United Way of Delaware, Meeting the Needs of Students in Poverty Committee, community partners, Wilmington city government, and state agencies
Governor should convene higher education partnership to strengthen Delaware education including coordinated programs of professional development, school improvement, and adoption of national best practices.		No State action taken. University of Delaware established the Partnership for Public Education.	Governor and Higher Education Institutions
Governor and business community should launch a business sponsorship program focused on Delaware schools with high percentages of low-income students.		No action taken.	Governor and Business Leaders with State and County Chambers.
Strengthen parents, educators, and community engagement and support with schools as community assets.		Research on best practices reviewed by Parent, Educator, and Community Engagement (PEaCE) Committee. No actions taken.	PEaCE and Meeting the Needs of Students in Poverty Committees

WILMINGTON PUBLIC EDUCATION

Wilmington Demographics

As of 2015, there are **23 governing units** that serve **11,595 Wilmington** students in the public school system.

83% of Wilmington students are from low-income families

74% of Wilmington students identify as African American

1 out of 9 students with special needs in Delaware lives in Wilmington

1 out of 10 English Language Learning (ELL) students in Delaware lives in Wilmington

Status of Wilmington Education

On virtually every indicator (academic performance, drop-out rates, and graduation rates) Wilmington students perform at a lower level than non-Wilmington students including low-income students.

ELA and Math Standards

- Nearly **75% of students** from the City of Wilmington **failed** to meet state standards in English/Language Arts in 2015
- Approximately **84% of students** from the City of Wilmington **failed** to meet state standards in Mathematics during the 2015 testing cycle.

Graduation Rates

As of 2015, Less than 70% of Wilmington students graduate from high school in four years

Dropout Rates

In 2015, the **dropout rate for Wilmington students was 4.7%** compared to 2.1% of low-income students statewide

COMMISSION PATH FORWARD

School Year 2016-17

Path Forward

Our *top priority* remains:

Statewide, equitable funding for low-income students, English language learners, and basic special education students K–3.

Path Forward

Additional priorities include:

- Request final approval from the legislature for the Commission's redistricting plan
- Improve alignment of resources and programs to support student learning and development from birth through college and workforce.
- Strengthen parent, educator, and community engagement and support with schools as community assets.
- Improve and sustain collaboration among all schools that serve Wilmington students.

Resources

To keep informed, monitor progress,
please visit our website:

SolutionsforDelawareSchools.com