

Redding Consortium for Education Equity: Educator Work Group
March 23rd, 2020
Online Meeting-- Zoom
Meeting Minutes- For approval

Welcome

The Work Group co-chairs, Representative Michael Smith and Noelle Picara, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. They opened the floor to introductions from the Work Group members.

Recap of the Last Full Redding Consortium Meeting

Representative Smith provided a recap of the last Redding Consortium meeting, which was held on February 13th, 2020, at which the Educator Work Group presented their recommendations. All four recommendations were approved by the Consortium, conditional on several questions for the Work Group to address.

Out of the four recommendations presented to the Consortium, the Work Group chose to focus on recommendations one and four due to the potential for deliverables. The Work Group's goal is to review these recommendations and gather more background information with the purpose of delivering the recommendations to the full Consortium.

Reviewing Responses to Consortium Questions and Updating Recommendations

Picara shared a list of questions gathered from the previous Consortium meeting. The Work Group members reviewed and shared their thoughts on those questions.

The Work Group members discussed broadening the application of the proposed recommendations. The recommendations could include schools outside the City of Wilmington limits, but which also serve Wilmington students. Additionally, the Work Group discussed the need for teacher turnover data that accurately reflects high needs schools that are not skewed by high performing schools.

Work Group members reviewed the recommendations and provided new considerations. Members noted the need for a clear definition of the term 'high quality educators' that encompasses quantifiable qualifications without excluding promising novice teachers. Additionally, Work Group members stressed the importance of including positions such as counselors, support staff, etc. when recruiting diverse educators.

New Business

Representative Smith noted that, because of the current COVID-19 crisis, it is important to consider that the budget and path forward might look very different than expected. Picara mentioned this could be an opportunity for those involved with education as well as other professions to examine current practices and put forward new, transformative approaches.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Meeting Attendees

Work Group Members:

Representative Michael Smith, Co-Chair

Noelle Picara, Co-Chair

Danya Woods

James Simmons

Ray Jones Avery

Shelly Rouser

Susan Bunting

Members of the Public:

Abigail Armstrong

Ellie Fleming

Francis O'Malley

Jeff Klein

Kelly Sherretz

Representative Tizzy Lockman