

Redding Consortium for Educational Equity

Redding Planning Meeting

January 22, 2021

Meeting Minutes

The virtual meeting started at 10:30 a.m. Co-chair of the Redding Consortium for Educational Equity (Redding Consortium), Matthew Denn, welcomed all in attendance.

Virtual press conference and forum on recommendations – 2/5 at 11:00 a.m.

Denn explained at the press conference, members and non-members of the Consortium will speak in support of the interim recommendations. He added that co-chair Tizzy Lockman's communications staff are organizing the event. He suggested the Institute for Public Administration (IPA) staff, Delaware State University staff, and Consortium members stay in contact with Scott Goss, the head of communications for the Delaware Senate, to prepare for the press conference. Raye Jones Avery, co-chair of the Social Determinants Work Group and member of the Educators Work Group, inquired messages about the event would be circulated. Denn responded that consistent messaging would be shared prior to the press conference. Haley Qaissaunee, IPA staff, asked if the Consortium's staff support needed to gather materials before the event. Denn said that preparing content after the press conference should be the staff's focus.

Work Group Updates

Aaron Bass, co-chair of the Settlement Work Group said the first Work Group meeting would be Monday January 25, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. He added that during the meeting the Work Group would review the scope of work and the components of the Delaware education equity lawsuit settlement.

Jeff Menzer, the co-chair of the Social Determinants Work Group, stated Work Group members will receive an update on the path forward. He said their next meeting is February 11, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. At this meeting, they will start to develop a campaign to gather the necessary funding to realize their recommendations. Avery added their focus will be on advocating for their recommendations.

Eugene Young, co-chair of the Funding and Governance said the Work Group is working with civic groups on referendum reform. He explained that co-chair of the Work Group, Nnamdi Chukwuocha, is aiming to have House Bill 129 (referendum bill) finalized in March. Young added there will be meetings with key stakeholders to gather feedback about potential governance models. He said he and Chukwuocha are developing the path forward for the Work Group.

Sherretz explained the Educators Work Group are waiting to see if their recommendations are incorporated into Governor Carney's budget proposal.

Next Full Consortium Meeting Date—February 18, 2021, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

The group briefly reviewed the draft agenda and Qaissaunee asked for clarification on specific aspects of the agenda. Denn added that he and Lockman will ask a member of the Consortium to advocate for their recommendations during the Joint Finance Committee's education hearing.

Public Engagement

Qaissaunee explained that she is working with Lockman to complete the public comment document that responds to questions raised during the December 13, 2020 full Consortium meeting.

Tika Hartsock, member of the Funding & Governance, Settlement, and Social Determinants Work Groups, said she and Qaissaunee are working on diverse ways to engage the public. Chuck Longfellow, co-chair of the Settlement Work Group, asked if the Consortium could develop a strategy to navigate and collaborate with the various stakeholder groups in Delaware. Young agreed and said the Consortium needs to be clear with their messaging. Avery added they must articulate how the Consortium is distinct from other community stakeholder groups with similar purposes.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

The meeting ended at 11:04 a.m.

Attendance

Consortium Members

Co-chair, Matthew Denn

Raye Jones Avery

Aaron Bass

Tika Hartsock

Chuck Longfellow

Jeff Menzer

Eugene Young

Institute for Public Administration/Delaware State University Staff

Jason Bourke

Brendan Laux

Jerome Lewis

Kelly Sherretz

Haley Qaissaunee

Alexis Wrease

Members of the Public:

Kathryn Denhardt