

## **Redding Consortium for Educational Equity**

### **Redding Planning Meeting**

**February 12, 2021**

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **Welcome**

The virtual meeting started at 10:30 a.m., Co-chair of the Redding Consortium for Educational Equity, Senator Tizzy Lockman, greeted the attendees.

#### **Work Group Updates**

Haley Qaissaunee, Institute of Public Administration (IPA) staff, explained the Funding and Governance Work Group is developing a work plan that includes both governance and funding issues. She added the co-chairs, Representative Nnamdi Chukwuocha and Eugene Young, want to address funding issues as they relate to governance. Lockman asked if the Work Group intends to focus on systemic funding issues. Qaissaunee responded that currently the co-chairs are invested in governance and the finances related to redistricting/governance shifts. Chris Kelly, IPA staff, said the process of working through governance issues would help identify key systemic funding issues for the Consortium. Lockman stated the path forward needs to be established soon. Tika Hartsock, member of the Funding and Governance, Social Determinants, and Settlement Work Groups, asked for an update on the draft bill for referendum reform. Qaissaunee said Chukwuocha has met with House attorneys to incorporate the Work Group's feedback into the referendum reform bill.

Jeffrey Menzer, co-chair of the Social Determinants Work Group, said on February 11, 2021 the Work Group met and started a strategic advocacy plan to push forward their recommendations. Dawn Alexander, member of the Social Determinants Work Group, added Representative Williams drafted a developmental screening bill, which addresses a component of the Social Determinants Work Group's recommendations.

Aaron Bass stated the Settlement Work Group finalized their scope and goals. He explained the Work Group is calling on the Consortium to support Senate Bill 56, House Bill 86, and House Bill 100 because these pieces of legislation all relate to aspects of the Delaware education lawsuit settlement. Kelly Sherretz, IPA staff, asked Lockman if the Settlement Work Group could present a motion to garner support for this upcoming legislation. Lockman approved and added the Work Group should explain their scope and clarify the mechanics of the settlement during the full body meeting.

Sherretz stated the Educator Work Group is waiting to see how the General Assembly is incorporating their recommendations.

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

Lockman reviewed and edited the agenda. Hartsock suggested the Consortium play a more active role in the implementation of their recommendations to ensure its success. Qaissaunee asked Lockman if a written statement is needed if the Consortium takes a position on particular legislation. Lockman responded yes and to have that written support shared on all platforms.

**Joint Finance Committee Hearing- February 17, 2021 12:30 p.m.**

Lockman recommended members of the Consortium speak at the Joint Finance Committee hearing or send a written note in support of the recommendations to reinforce the Consortium's position.

**Public Engagement**

Qaissaunee and Alexis Wrease, IPA student support, showed the final draft of the Consortium newsletter. Lockman approved and requested that the newsletter be released monthly. Jason Bourke, Delaware State University staff, requested each Work Group collaborate with him to create short videos highlighting their progress in pushing the recommendations forward.

**Public Comment**

Amy Solomon commented about the funding inequities in the education system and the need for Delaware to push forward a more aggressive budget to make necessary changes.

**The meeting ended at 11:32 a.m.**

## **Attendees**

### **Consortium Members**

Co-chair, Tizzy Lockman

Aaron Bass

Dawn Alexander

Chuck Longfellow

Jeff Menzer

Michael Smith

Margie Lopez Waite

Susan Bunting

### **Institute for Public Administration/Delaware State University Staff**

Jason Bourke

Brendan Laux

Jerome Lewis

Chris Kelly

Kelly Sherretz

Haley Qaissaunee

Alexis Wrease

### **Members of the Public:**

Cyndie Romer

Crystal Sherman

Cora Scott

Shannon Griffin

Amy Solomon

Christy Wright