

Redding Consortium for Educational Equity

Redding Full Body Meeting

February 18, 2021

Meeting Minutes

Welcome & Roll Call

The virtual meeting started at 5:00 p.m. Co-chair for the Redding Consortium for Educational Equity (Redding Consortium), Senator Tizzy Lockman welcomed all in attendance. Lockman recapped the Consortium's accomplishments since releasing their recommendations in December 2020. Jason Bourke, Delaware State University staff, led the roll call.

Work Group Updates

Lockman explained the Educators Work Group no longer meets formally. She added the Work Group is now focused on ensuring their recommendations are implemented.

Jeffery Menzer, co-chair of the Social Determinants Work Group, said the Work Group started to develop a strategic advocacy campaign to fund their recommendations. He stated the messaging from the press conference on February 5, 2021, is the foundation of their plan. Menzer explained they are looking to their members to utilize their networks as well as record testimonials to heighten awareness around their work. Dawn Alexander, member of the Social Determinants Work Group, presented Representative Williams draft bill on Developmental Screenings. Alexander discussed the importance of the bill and how it relates to the Social Determinants Work Group's recommendations. Members of the Consortium asked about the mechanics of the bill.

Representative Nnamdi Chukwuocha, co-chair of the Funding and Governance Work Group said the House attorneys are incorporating the Work Group members' feedback into the latest version of the referendum reform bill, House Bill 129. He added there will be a community-run issues campaign to gain support for the updated legislation. Chukwuocha explained the Work Group is re-focusing on governance. Eugene Young, co-chair, reviewed the components of the work plan for 2021.

Chuck Longfellow, co-chair of the Settlement Work Group discussed the goals and scope of the Work Group and reviewed the components of the settlement. A motion was passed for the Consortium to support the Settlement as a starting point for education reform. Aaron Bass, co-chair of the Settlement Work Group introduced upcoming legislation that related to the settlement. He discussed the mechanics of House Bill 86, House Bill 100, and Senate Bill 56. From their perspectives, Consortium members reviewed the pros and cons of each piece of legislation. Various members of the Consortium expressed each bill did not sufficiently address equity issues in Delaware's education system. Others felt this legislation was a steppingstone for more progressive change. Ultimately, the Consortium passed a motion to support House Bill 86, House Bill 100, and Senate Bill 56.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

The meeting ended at 6:38 p.m.

Attendees

Consortium Members

Tizzy Lockman

Matthew Denn

Dawn Alexander

Aaron Bass

Nnamdi Chukwuocha

James Dechene

Rick Geisenberger

Dorrell Green

Tika Hartsock

Stephanie Ingram

Ernesto Lopez

Maria Matos

Jeffery Menzer

Noelle Picara

Dan Shelton

Micheale Smith

Henry Smith

Mary Nash Wilson

Margie Lopez Waite

Work Group Members

Roger Harrison

Chuck Longfellow

James Simmons

IPA/DSU

Jason Bourke

Chris Kelly

Kelly Sherretz

Haley Qaissaunee

Brendan Laux

Alexis Wrease

Public

Patricia Dallas

Xavia Mills

Tina Lykens

Senator David Sokola

Jamie Johnstone

Jamie Walki