

Redding Consortium Planning Meeting
March 19, 2021
Meeting Minutes

The virtual meeting was convened at 10:30 a.m. Senator Elizabeth Lockman, Co-Chair of the Redding Consortium, welcomed all in attendance.

I. Next Consortium Meeting

The next full-body Consortium meeting is scheduled for April 29, 5:00-7:00 p.m. Members should have received a Google calendar invite for the meeting.

II. Work Group Updates

The Settlement Work Group is meeting on Monday, March 22 to hear from the Social Determinants Work Group and Educators Work Group and find alignment between each work group's goals. The group will be discussing active legislation and a potential framework for the Ombudsperson program. Sen. Lockman said she met with Sara Croce, CFO of Milford School District, and said that Sara may come to the meeting to offer her expertise on English Learner students and helping however she can.

The Social Determinants Work Group has nothing new to report. The Funding & Governance Work Group has nothing new to report. The Educators Work Group has nothing new to report.

III. Legislative & Budget Updates

Sen. Lockman stated that there has been no significant movement on the Consortium's recommended bills.

Matthew Denn, Co-Chair of the Redding Consortium, said that the Delaware Economic Financial Advisory Council (DEFAC) increased its revenue estimates for FY 2021 and 2022, which may make the Consortium's recommendations more actionable.

Raye Jones Avery asked if there is a streamlined way to monitor the bills related to the Consortium. Sen. Lockman said she would work with the staff to send out major updates to the mailing list.

Sen. Lockman noted that federal aid dollars may be coming into the state soon.

IV. Public Engagement

Haley Qaissaunee, Institute for Public Administration, asked how the Consortium could provide educational resources to the public. Sen. Lockman said that the group should have further conversations about this.

The March newsletter was released, and featured a Women’s History Month highlight and a section for the work of community partner groups. Tika Hartsock, Consortium Member, liked the inclusion of the community partners.

Work on the testimonial videos is ongoing. Haley edited the Facebook posts so they are a direct video instead of a link to YouTube. She also reminded everyone that sharing the posts is very helpful for increasing engagement.

V. Survey & Interviews

Cimone Philpotts, IPA, briefly discussed her doctoral work on education funding reform. She has been conducting surveys and interviews to assess the state’s ability to pass education funding reform. She is hoping to formally affiliate this project with the Redding Consortium. Having this affiliation would increase her ability to reach stakeholders. Sen. Lockman liked the project and the affiliation idea and requested for it to be on the agenda for the April 29 meeting.

VI. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Senator Lockman adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Attendance

Redding Consortium Members

Sen. Elizabeth Lockman, Co-Chair
Matthew Denn, Co-Chair
Dawn Alexander
Raye Jones Avery
Aaron Bass
Tika Hartsock
Jeffrey Menzer
Eugene Young

IPA/DSU Staff

Jason Bourke
Brendan Laux
Cimone Philpotts
Kelley Sherretz

Members of the Public

Kathryn Denhardt