

**Redding Consortium Planning Meeting**  
**April 9, 2021**  
**Meeting Minutes**

The virtual meeting convened at 10:35 a.m. Senator Elizabeth Lockman, Co-Chair of the Redding Consortium, welcomed all in attendance.

**I. Full Body Consortium Meeting/Consortium Updates**

The next full-body Consortium meeting is scheduled for April 29, 5:00-7:00 p.m. The current draft of 4/29 agenda outlines work group and legislative updates, testimonial videos, and a presentation from Education Trust.

Sen. Lockman asked Jason Bourke, Delaware State University, which testimonial videos should be shown. Jason said that there are several to choose from and it's up to the group to decide.

**II. Work Group Updates**

The Settlement Work Group is meeting on Monday, April 12 to discuss the specifics of the Equity Statement required in the settlement. Aaron Bass, co-chair of the Settlement Work Group, led a meeting with Redding Consortium members and other stakeholders to outline a framework for the Ombudsperson program and present it to the Governor's office and the Department of Education.

Sen. Lockman asked Aaron if there is a sense when the RFP committee will be formed for the Ombudsperson program. Aaron said that it is moving expeditiously, and that a Redding Consortium member should be part of the committee.

Chuck Longfellow, co-chair of the Settlement Work Group, described the issues being discussed around the Equity Statement, including how the current framework is not transparent and allows inequity to grow through the realities of the referendum process for capital projects.

The Social Determinants Work Group is working to publicize its recommendations through public presentations. They have canceled their April meeting and will meet again in early May.

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

**III. Legislative & Budget Updates**

There were no major legislative updates to report.

Sen. Lockman commented that there is an increased awareness of incoming federal aid and she hopes that they can be used to make education more equitable. One of the challenges will be

to actively push for the funds to be used within the two-year window they are available. Aaron and Chuck commented that there are other considerations related to vendors and procurement that are relevant to utilizing the funding, especially related to diversity.

#### **IV. Public Engagement**

Work on the testimonial videos is ongoing. Posting the videos on Facebook directly has been successful.

There are metrics available for the March newsletter. Alexis Wrease, Institute for Public Administration, can present them at a later meeting. The April newsletter is being put together by Alexis. Any community news and Consortium updates to be included in the newsletter should be submitted to Alexis by April 15.

#### **V. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Senator Lockman adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.**

#### **Attendance**

##### **Redding Consortium Members**

Elizabeth Lockman, Co-Chair  
Matthew Denn, Co-Chair  
Aaron Bass  
Chuck Longfellow

##### **IPA/DSU Staff**

Jason Bourke  
Brendan Laux

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

Shané Darby  
Thea Lopez