

Settlement Work Group Meeting

November 22, 2021

Redding Consortium for Educational Equity

A solid blue horizontal bar at the bottom of the slide.

Welcome & Roll Call



Roll Call— **Work group members—please type your name in the Chat**



Please mute yourself when not talking



Use the chat function to ask questions



Please note this meeting is being recorded and may be posted for the public

Welcome

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Goals

- Shannon Griffin update
- Discuss independent funding assessment RFP
- Public comment

Focus Areas & Monitoring Plans 2021-22

Settlement Item	Work Group Action Item
Independent Funding Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Work Group focus area for 2021● Related to overall DE funding system conversation
Opportunity Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Monitor to ensure funding not less than \$35 million and shall provide \$5M of this for mental health and reading supports
Teacher Recruitment and Retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Monitor to ensure \$4 million commitment in addition to FY21 allocations
Ombudsperson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Monitor RFP that was re-released - closed on October 12
Equity Statement for Capital Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Monitor content of equity statements when districts/schools submit them
Early Childhood Assistance Program (ECAP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Long-term monitoring focused on outcomes/impacts
K-3 Basic Special Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Long-term monitoring focused on outcomes/impacts

Shannon Griffin

ACLU of Delaware

Independent Funding Assessment Timeline

- **November 22:** Work Group finalizes input on draft RFP
- **November 28:** Work Group Co-chairs send draft RFP to Redding Consortium members for review
- **December 9:** Full Body Consortium Meeting - Redding Consortium members vote to approve/reject sending comments to DDOE
- ***If approved:** Senator Lockman and Matt Denn send RFP to DDOE
- ***December 10** feedback due to DDOE

Settlement Statement

“The Governor will include sufficient funding in his proposed budgets for a holistic assessment of the Delaware public school system financing to be completed by January 2024. The assessment shall consider total funding levels, the mechanisms for raising and distributing education revenue at the state and local level, and make recommendations for improvements to equity and efficiency. The legislation proposed by the Governor shall provide that (a) the assessment shall be done by an organization that is independent of the State, following State bidding laws and regulations; and (b) the Assessment shall be provided to the Governor, the Secretary of Education, Speaker of the House, Senate Pro Tempore and the House and Senate Education Committees. The Parties agree that the assessment shall not obligate the State to take any action and is limited to providing information concerning potential modifications and improvements to the financing of Delaware’s public school system.”

RFP for Public Comment

https://www.doe.k12.de.us/cms/lib/DE01922744/Centricity/Domain/646/scope_independentfundingassessment.pdf

Discussion - Independent Funding Assessment Draft RFP

Considerations:

- The funding assessment should explicitly include an adequacy study as a major effort of the assessment and as a deliverable.
- The assessment should include assessment of the equalization function of Delaware's school funding system.
- The RFP should ask bidders to describe how they will determine action steps Delaware can feasibly take to improve equity in the state.
- The successful bidders should use detailed data at the student, educator, principal, and school level from the past five to eight years.
- The successful bidder should focus on projecting and improving future outcomes instead of belaboring Delaware student proficiency of the past few decades.

Suggested components and requirements for potential bidders

Proposal Details	Weight
Explanation of design process, capabilities, and methods for addressing the major questions in RFP	30
Applicants must demonstrate experience and expertise in areas outlined in the scope of work as outlined in the RFP. Strong applicants will provide evidence of knowledge of the Delaware education system and state systems across the nation.	20
Project Cost Proposal	20
Evidence that product will provide actionable items for Delaware to enhance their education system and improve equitable outcomes	10
Applicants must show a strong commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in their work products	10
References	10

Next Steps

- Should the work group develop a rubric that tracks how the state is complying with the settlement and meeting the needs of students?
 - The rubric could focus on **status, outcomes, and eventually impact**
- Presentation from Jon Neubauer on the teacher pipeline

Draft Rubric

Status

Are the responsible parties meeting their timing benchmarks to implement settlement provisions?

- 4 – The responsible parties are proactively acting to meet the settlement provision ahead of the legally required deadline
- 3 – The responsible parties are beginning to meet the deadline and are likely to meet it.
- 2 – The responsible parties are beginning to meet the deadline but progress has stalled or is unsatisfactory.
- 1 – The responsible parties missed a deadline and are not actively trying to meet it.

Outcome/Alignment

What happened/did it align?

- 4 – The implementation plan exceeds the legally required minimums, and exceeds the Work Group’s expectations for what is needed to improve educational equity
- 3 – The implementation plan meets legally required minimums and aligns with the Work Group’s expectations for what is needed to improve educational equity
- 2 – The implementation plan only meets the legally required minimums and does not go far enough to reasonably align with the Work Group’s expectations for what is needed to improve educational equity meets or aligns
- 1 – The implementation plan does not meet the legally required minimums

Educational Equity Settlement Progress Report Implementation Status

Draft Rubric

Settlement Item	2021	Actions Taken	Grade Explanation
Opportunity Funding		SB 56 was passed and signed in the 151st legislative session, making the Opportunity Fund permanent and meeting the gradual funding increases stipulated in the settlement.	
K-3 Basic Special Education		HB 86 was passed and signed in the 151st legislative session, implementing the K-3 basic special education unit gradually over 3 years.	
Early Childhood			
Teacher Recruitment & Retention			
Ombudsperson Program		The program was funded for \$1 MM for FY 2022. The RFP was issued in April 2021 and reissued in Sept. 2021. The RFP is now closed.	
Certificate of Need Equity Statement Requirement		The equity statement requirement was put into effect in February 2021.	
Independent Funding Assessment		An RFP for the independent funding assessment was released in November 2021.	

Public Comment

3-minutes per comment

Future Meetings & Contact Info

→ January 24

Contact Information:

Kelly Sherretz, kscollon@udel.edu

Consortium website: <https://www.solutionsfordelawareschools.com/>

Consortium Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ReddingConsortium>

Consortium YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi1pEH8Uq0SG6chLY-KpCjA?view_as=subscriber

Delaware Lawsuit Settlement: Minimum Actions Needed for Compliance

	Fiscal Year 2021 (School Year 2020-21)	Fiscal Year 2022 (School Yr 2021-22)	Fiscal Year 2023 (School Yr 2022-23)	Fiscal Year 2024 (School Yr 2023-24)	Fiscal Year 2025 (School Yr 2024-25)	Future Years
Opportunity Funding	\$75M over 3 years	Increase to not less than \$35 million and shall provide \$5M of this for mental health or reading supports to schools with high concentrations of low-income and English Learners students. Legislation to make permanent & require LEAs to provide annual report in FY 23	Funding not less than \$35 million and shall provide \$5M of this for mental health and reading supports.	Funding not less than \$50 million and shall provide \$5M of this for mental health and reading supports.	Funding not less than \$60 M and shall provide \$5M of this for mental health and reading supports.	Grows in accordance with Low Income and English Learner student growth
K-3 Basic Special Education	None			Propose legislation via budget epilogue to change funding structure to be the same as the funding structure for basic special education students in grades 4-12		

Delaware Lawsuit Settlement: Minimum Actions Needed for Compliance

	Fiscal Year 2021 (School Year 2020-21)	Fiscal Year 2022 (School Yr 2021-22)	Fiscal Year 2023 (School Yr 2022-23)	Fiscal Year 2024 (School Yr 2023-24)	Fiscal Year 2025 (School Yr 2024-25)	Future Years
Early Education: Early Childhood Assistance Program (ECAP)	\$6.1 million			ECAP double to \$12.2 million	Keep at \$12.2 million	
Teacher Recruitment and Retention	Loan Forgiveness and Scholarships/Grants		\$4 million commitment in addition to FY21 allocations	\$4 million commitment in addition to FY21 allocations	\$4 million commitment in addition to FY21 allocations	
Ombudsperson	None in place	Create and fund one group in each county				
Equity Statement for Capital Projects	Not in place	No date specified				
Independent Funding Assessment		Include sufficient funding	Include sufficient funding	Complete by January 2024		