

**Redding Consortium for Educational Equity**  
**Social Determinants Work Group**  
**August 20, 2020**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Welcome**

Meeting started at 5pm. Quick introduction, housekeeping ‘rules’ and Roll Call. July 23 Minutes were approved.

**Focusing and Level Setting**

M. Denn described the genesis of this work group: A lot of what the kids in Wilmington need is missing and there is a need to be comprehensive in how we look at education and what is needed to thoroughly serve kids in Wilmington as a Consortium. J. Menzer shares that there is a lot of good work being done to serve Wilmington students, but much of it is done in isolation. All entities have gaps, but if they are aligned, we can be more effective. We have all the pieces, can align the arrows. J. Menzer shared a video produced by Simon Sinek about adapting to change. Taking the opportunity to work differently. R. Jones-Avery lead a discussion, “How are we going to be different?” Asked for reactions to video. The pandemic is forcing us to adapt and change the way we work. What is the why? The various entities can and should think about how to work toward using the same metrics, sharing the same goals. Focus needs to be on Wilmington students because that is where the need is. Students without white identity are left at a resource disadvantage, yet we tend to dance around race in lieu of geographic terms.

**Process**

J. Bourke described a process of Backward Mapping with Feb 2021 ‘end-point.’ Walked through month-by-month to get to that end-point.

**Small Work Groups**

R. Jones-Avery introduces concept of small work groups and started with the themes that emerged at previous meeting (Birth-to-five; School and Nonprofit Partnerships, Wraparound, Mental Wellness; and Racial and Social Injustice, Unrest, Student Advocacy) and asked for feedback. This is an opportunity to get more people involved. Content is as important as process. Need to define concepts, need to think in terms of the culture we’re trying to serve, need to challenge power. If the intention is to solve these problems for real, the timeline will not work. Need to be more aggressive. Need to define scope, but without limitations. The kinds of supports that are available to white students are not available to Black students – need to be bold enough to support students without white identity. How can we replicate what is going well?

**Note:** Nobody signed up for Public Comment so the discussion continued through the end of the meeting time.

R. Jones-Avery renewed question: are these the right work groups? Discussion about what the groups should be. Identified overarching themes of Mental Wellness, Community Connections. Identified three groups as (Holistic Child Development, including Birth-to-Five; School and

Nonprofit Partnerships and Wraparound Services; Racial and Social Justice including Student Voice, Advocacy, Cultural Competence, Curriculum, Sensitivity and Anti-Racism).

D. Blackston asks the group to identify and define the clear issues that drive the work of the small groups. M. Denn expresses that State officials have interest in moving and we have an opportunity to make positive recommendations that they could run with. Can develop interim steps. Staying in the organic conversation for now.

**Small Group Leaders:**

Holistic Child Development – Dawn Alexander

Racial and Social Justice – Yasser Payne, Roger Harrison

Nonprofit Partnerships and Wraparound Services – Seeking Leader

**Next Meeting:** September 24, 2020 at 5pm.

END

**Attendees:**

Raye Jones-Avery - Co-Chair; Jeff Menzer - Co-Chair; Evelyn Edney; Tika Hartsock; Teri Lawler; Yasser Payne; Mark Pruitt; Yvette Santiago; Aaron Selekman; Tamara Smith; David Sokola; Kim Williams; Jeff Taschner; Salome Thomas-El; Dawn Alexander; Roger Harrison; Darren Blackston; VJ. Leonard; Kelly Sherretz; Cimone Philpotts; Adetola Magbagbeola; Jason Bourke