

Settlement Work Group Meeting

April 12, 2021

Redding Consortium for Educational Equity

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

Approval of Minutes

Meeting Goals

- Legislative Update
- Review of what the group has done
- Create recommendations to share with the Consortium at the April 29 meeting that connect the settlement to systemic and equitable change

Legislation Introduced- Status Update

Bill	Status
Senate Bill 56: Opportunity Funding	Released from House Ed.
House Bill 86: K-3 Basic Special Education Unit	Assigned to House Appropriations Committee
House Bill 100: Mental Health Services Unit for Elementary Schools	Assigned to House Appropriations Committee

What have we done?

- Created a mission and vision for the work group
- Reviewed the Settlement
- Recommended to the Consortium:
 - Settlement is a baseline
 - Support legislation
- Funding Discussion (ongoing)
- Equity Statement Conversation (ongoing)
- Ombudsperson conversation (ongoing)
- Heard from the Educators and Social Determinants Work Group and other speakers

Ombudsperson Presentation

Ombudsperson

Effective FY 2022:

- One program per county
- Assist individual students and families in resolving disputes or complaints concerning disparate discipline, inequitable access to school programs, and different or unfair treatment
- Non-lawyer advocates for students and their families
- Bid out to an independent non state organization in accordance with the State's bidding laws and regulations.
- The successful bidder may, if it determines it to be appropriate and desirable, seek pro bono or subcontract for legal services. The Parties or their designees will meet and confer concerning the specific elements and allocation of funds for this program.

Equity Statement Regulation

- Department of Education revises Major Capital Improvement Program to require Equity Statements

“Local school district submissions for a Certificate of Necessity shall provide an equity statement that identifies the demographic information (e.g. race, Low Income, English Learner) of the students who are expected to attend the new school, use a new facility, or benefit from an approved Major Capital Project and how the Major Capital Project impacts equitable distributions of new and renovated buildings throughout the school district.”

Equity Statement-What else is needed?

Notes on the equity statement from 3/22 meeting:

- Needs to be comparative in nature to see if project improves equity
- Metrics need to be different than demographics
- Inclusive of students with disabilities
- Needs transparency, process right now is to FOIA for an equity statement, no current requirement for statement to be posted
- Statement alone is not going to lead to equity
- Needs to have one or more bodies pushing for accountability
- Be aware of unintended consequences of any measures
- The equity statement should be broader than capital projects and should also address operating referendum
 - One idea is to reform capital projects more broadly, by adding a “moderate capital” tier

Breakout Room Discussions

Breakout Room 1: Equity Statement

Discussion Questions

- What further improvements should be made to the regulation?
- What accountability should be in place?
- What level of transparency is needed for these Equity Statements? Active/Passive
- How should inequities be resolved if they are discovered through the equity statement?
- What types of data/outcome projections/etc., should be part of these equity assessments and statements?
- What should this group recommend to the Redding Consortium about the equity statement?

Breakout Room 2: Ombudsperson

Discussion Questions

- Budget for JFC
- What to include in the RFP?
- What is missing from the scope of work for the RFP?
- What should this group recommend to the Redding Consortium about the ombudsperson position/program?

Report Out and Discussion

Next Steps

- Finalize recommendations around the equity statement and ombudsperson program for this work group to present at the April 29 full body Consortium meeting

Future Meetings & Contact Info

Future Meetings:

- May 3, 2021
- May 24, 2021
- June 14, 2021

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

Public Comment

3-minutes per comment

Delaware Lawsuit Settlement: Minimum Actions Needed for Compliance

	Current 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

	Current 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		

Approved Consortium Recs & Settlement Alignment

	Educator Work Group Recommendations	Social Determinants Work Group	Governance and Funding Work Group
Opportunity Funding			
K-3 Special Education		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended K-3 Special Education funding for FY22 	
Early Education		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed enhanced ECAP funding 	
Teacher Recruitment and Retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grow Our Own Program Whole School Professional Learning 		
Ombudsperson			
Capital Projects			
Independent Assessment			