

## **REDDING CONSORTIUM 2024-2025 PROPOSED SPENDING PLAN**

*Spending plan approved by the Redding Consortium voting members on September 9, 2024*

The Redding Consortium is required by language in the state's budget epilogue to submit a spending plan for its use of state funds. That spending plan must be approved by the Office of Management and Budget, and Controller General's Office, and the chairs of the Joint Finance Committee.

With the exception of spending relating to the redistricting planning that the Consortium called for at its last meeting, all of the below spending categories are to maintain programming that the Consortium recommended for funding during the last fiscal year.

The following is the recommendation of the Consortium's chairs for spending of the Consortium's operating funds and carryover funds.

1. **Redding Pre-K Slots.** Proposed funding: \$3.7 million, all in operating funds. These funds support the Consortium's recommendation that the state support full-day Pre-K slots for children in feeder patterns for high-poverty elementary schools in the City of Wilmington, with enhanced reimbursements for front-line staff to allow for improved recruitment and retention of Pre-K workers.
2. **Outside School Time Services and In-School Health Services:** Proposed funding: \$5,700,000 in operating funds. This funding is required to maintain the three-year commitment made to the schools that successfully responded to the state's RFP, and who just completed the first year of their programming.
3. **Scholarships.** Proposed funding: \$730,371, all in operating funds. These funds pay for scholarships for faculty and staff at high-poverty schools to enhance their skills and professional credentials. This amount is approximately double the amount recommended last year, to reflect the popularity of this program.
4. **Whole School Professional Development.** Proposed funding: \$785,000, all in carryover funds. The Consortium delegates to the co-chairs of the Education Working Group, Tika Hartsock and Karen Eller, the authority to recommend to the Consortium how these one-time funds should be spent on professional development in City of Wilmington schools.
5. **Support for Redistricting Planning.** Proposed funding: \$1,598,000, all in carryover funds. The Consortium co-chairs will make recommendations to the Consortium as to the expenditure of these funds, with the exception of awarding a grant based on competing proposals from vendors pre-approved by the Delaware Department of Education for preparation of the initial "landscape" analysis the Consortium requested

for purposes of its redistricting recommendations. The landscape analysis grant will be awarded, based on competing proposals, by Consortium members Senator Lockman, Dorrell Green, and Raye Jones Avery.

6. **Racial Equity Data Dashboard:** Proposed funding: \$1,204,525, all in carryover funds. This reflects one-time costs that will be incurred by the Department of Education for the construction of the data dashboard, which was one of the Consortium's formal recommendations.

7. **Middle School/High School OST Programming ("Boost" Program):** Proposed funding: \$640,000 in carryover funds. This would provide the second of two years of state funding for the existing Boost program to continue at its current level of operation.

8. **UD/DSU Staff Support for the Redding Consortium:** Proposed funding: \$240,000 in operating funds.