



# Redding Consortium for Educational Equity Community Town Hall

**State Senator Elizabeth “Tizzy” Lockman,  
Senate District 3**

**November 19, 2025**

# Town Hall Overview

- A Brief History of Redistricting
- Redistricting Planning & Process
- ***The Three Redistricting Options***
- Public Comment
- Recap & Next Steps

# Welcome

- **Reminder, please mute yourself when not speaking.**
- **Please note this meeting is being recorded and will be posted for the public.**

# A Vision for Strong Public Schools



Every child deserves access to **great schools** providing a **high-quality education**, no matter where they live or what their background.

Changing school district boundaries won't solve everything, but it's a **crucial first step toward a coherent system**.

This is part of a **bigger plan** to improve schools by enabling stronger, less fragmented communities of support.

# Redding Consortium: Mission

The Redding Consortium was created legislatively in 2019 to recommend policies and practices to the Governor and Delaware General Assembly that will improve educational equity for students.

Our goal is to improve academic and learning outcomes for all students in Pre-K through 12th grade in the city of Wilmington and northern New Castle County.

The Consortium is mandated by the state to develop a redistricting plan (Senate Bill 148; House Bills 222 & 229).

**We are working to expand opportunities so that every student has access to a world-class education.**



# The Redding Consortium's Definition of Educational Equity

The Redding Consortium's definition for educational equity states:

*“Educational equity requires safe, secure, and student-focused learning environments where every student is intentionally provided access to the support, resources, and opportunities they need to reach their full academic and social potential, in and out of the classroom.”*

# Redistricting Historical Context

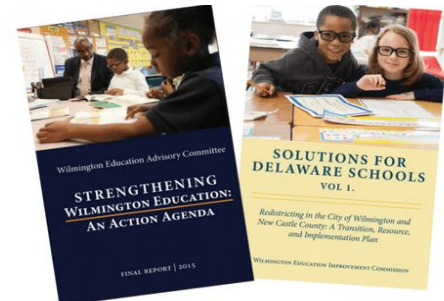
There are **18 public schools** located in the **city of Wilmington**, serving slightly more than **11,000 students**.

Over the years, school leaders and community members have worked together to help improve education for Wilmington students. Today, the system is still too complex, and we need a **more unified way to support all students and schools**.

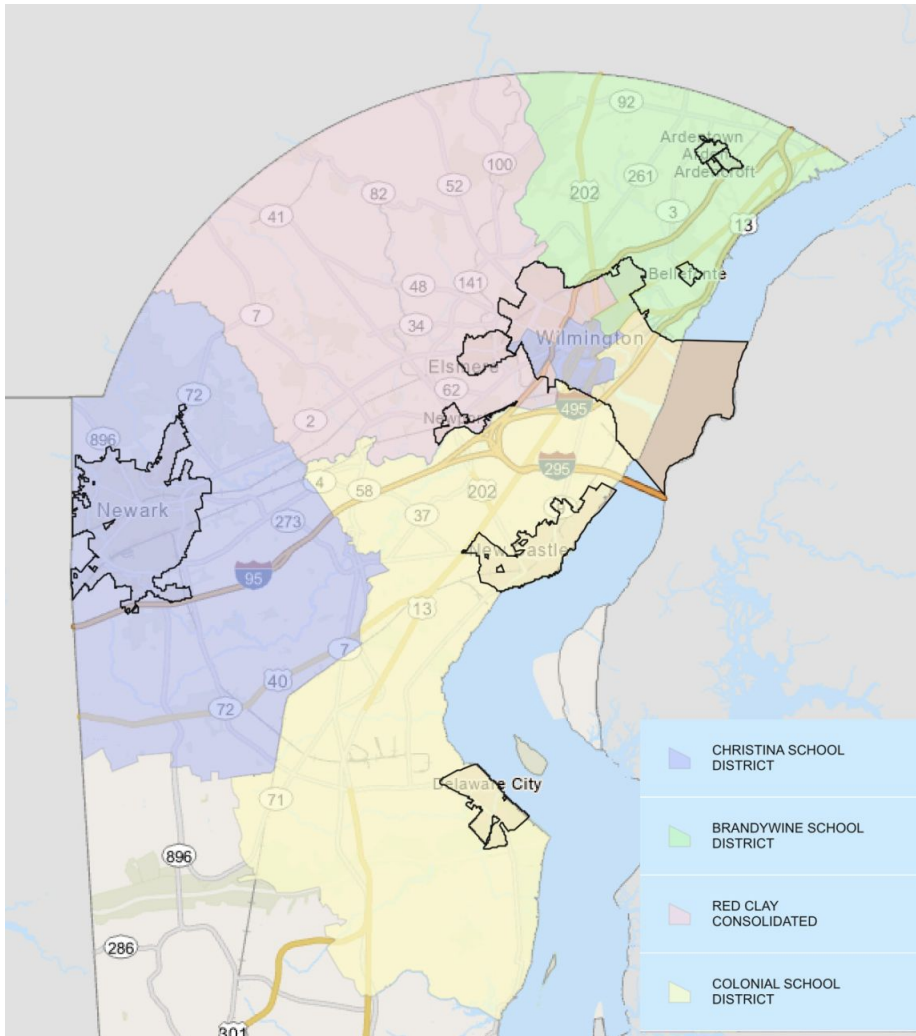
The Redding Consortium is using **over 20 years of reports** and **community input** to guide our work. *All of these commissions made similar recommendations that consolidation was necessary.*

## Decades of Past Redistricting Efforts:

- Wilmington Neighborhood Schools Committee (2001)
- Wilmington Education Task Force (2008)
- Wilmington Education Advisory Committee (2015)
- Wilmington Education Improvement Commission (2016)



# Current City of Wilmington School District Boundaries



**—** Municipal Boundary Line

**■** Brandywine

**■** Christina

**■** Colonial

**■** Red Clay

Source: *Institute for Public Administration, 2024*

# Approved Interim Plan

The interim plan was **approved by the Consortium on May 9, 2024** and affirmed by the General Assembly

Key areas of the plan include:

- **No more than two school districts** should serve city of Wilmington students, focusing on removing the Christina School District from serving the city.
- **18-Month Timeline (May 2024 - December 2025)** - \*planning timeline adjusted at the 11/6 full body meeting
- **Three Subcommittees** - working to address the 13 stipulations for the final Redding plan.
- **Landscape Analysis completed by AIR in October** - examines the factors outside of school that impact students' educational outcomes.
- **Further Recommendations for Action**

# Redding Consortium - 13 Stipulations for Redistricting

## Operational Impacts Subcommittee will address:

1. The orderly and minimally disruptive reassignment of students affected by the boundary change and the reassignment of governance responsibilities.
2. The plan must permit students to continue their attendance at the school they attended prior to the boundary change with tuition payments made by the sending district as provided in [Chapter 6](#) [tuition charges] of this title until such time as the pupils complete the grade levels offered in that school.
3. Student transportation.
4. A timetable for implementing each element of the redistricting plan and the designated responsibility for carrying out responsibilities until the date of full implementation.

## 13 Stipulations for Redistricting - cont'd.

### **Fiscal Impacts Subcommittee will address:**

1. Resources that will be required, from state, district, and local sources, to support the redistricting transition and provide for the effective ongoing education of all affected students, and for the support of schools with high concentrations of low-income students and English learners.
2. Distribution of capital assets and financial obligations or a process for such distribution.
3. A stipulation that the funding statewide and locally will facilitate effective implementation of the proposed comprehensive plan in a manner that will improve the educational outcomes for all of the students impacted by that plan.

## 13 Stipulations for Redistricting - cont'd.

### Community Engagement Subcommittee will address:

1. Implications for educators, administrators, and other personnel that may lead to equitable adjustments to local collective bargaining agreements.
2. Engagement of educators, staff, parents, district personnel, and community members throughout the transition.
3. An assessment of the educational needs of city of Wilmington students and the resources required to meet those needs.
4. Directives for improving secondary education options for city of Wilmington students, such as the provision of additional secondary schools.
5. A process for the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the educational impacts and outcomes of implementation, which will include an annual report by the Consortium to the Governor, the General Assembly, the Secretary of Education, and the State Board of Education.

# Where Are We Now?



# Redistricting Update - Community Engagement

- Hosted **3 “Strong Schools” Town Halls** in May 2025
- Convened **3 subcommittee retreats** in March, June, and October 2025
- Hosted **3 full body meetings** in May, July, and November 2025
- Hosted a **community co-interpretation** event with AIR in September 2025

# Redistricting Update - Narrowing from 9 to 3

## **March 2025 - Retreat #1**

- 9 redistricting models discussed,
- 6 were elevated for consideration by the full body

## **May 2025 Full Body Meeting**

- Consortium voted to continue to consider 6 options

## **June 2025 - Retreat #2**

- 6 redistricting models discussed,
- 3 were elevated for consideration by the full body

## **July 2025 Full Body Meeting**

- Consortium voted to continue to consider 3 options

## **October 2025 - Retreat #3**

- 3 redistricting models were discussed

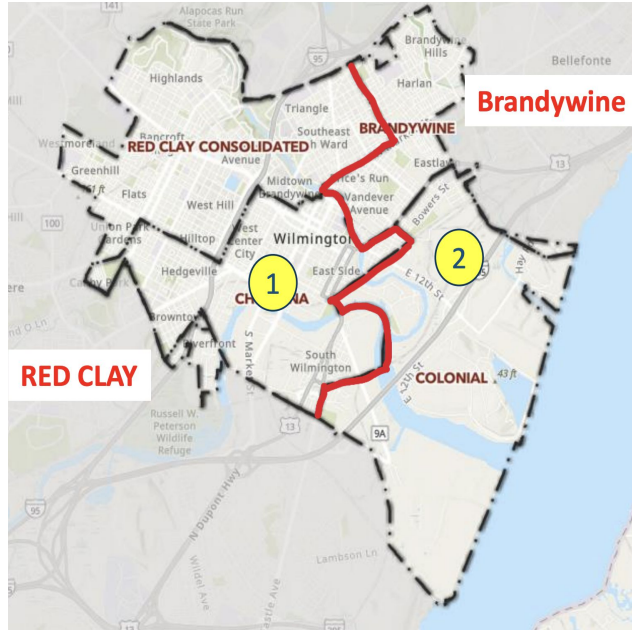
# Three Redistricting Models for Consideration

- **Brandywine and Red Clay School District**
- **Metropolitan Wilmington School District**
- **Northern New Castle County Consolidated School District**

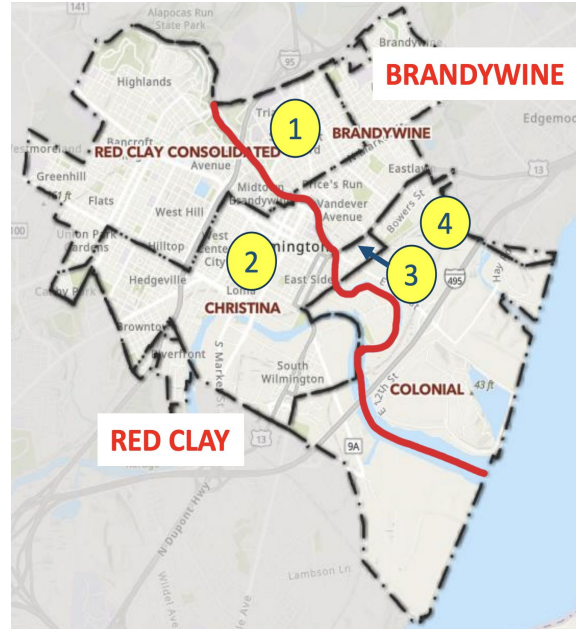
# Three Redistricting Models for Consideration

**Brandywine and Red Clay School District:** The Brandywine and Red Clay School Districts divide responsibility for the education of all students within the geographical boundaries of the city of Wilmington.

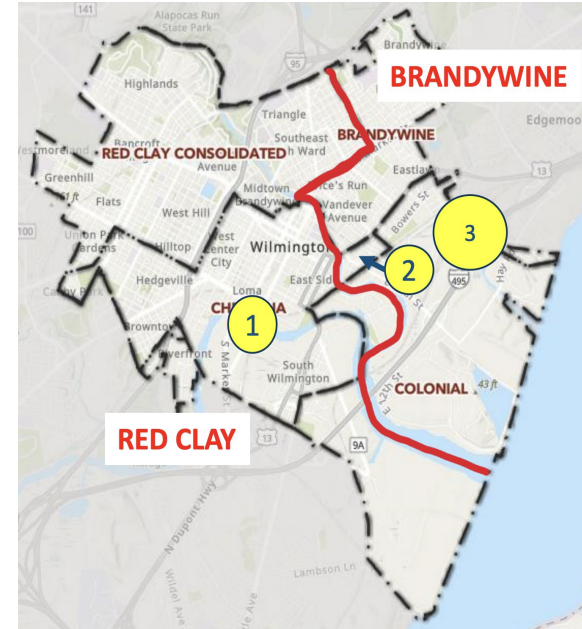
# Brandywine and Red Clay School District



**Existing  
Boundaries**



**River  
Model**

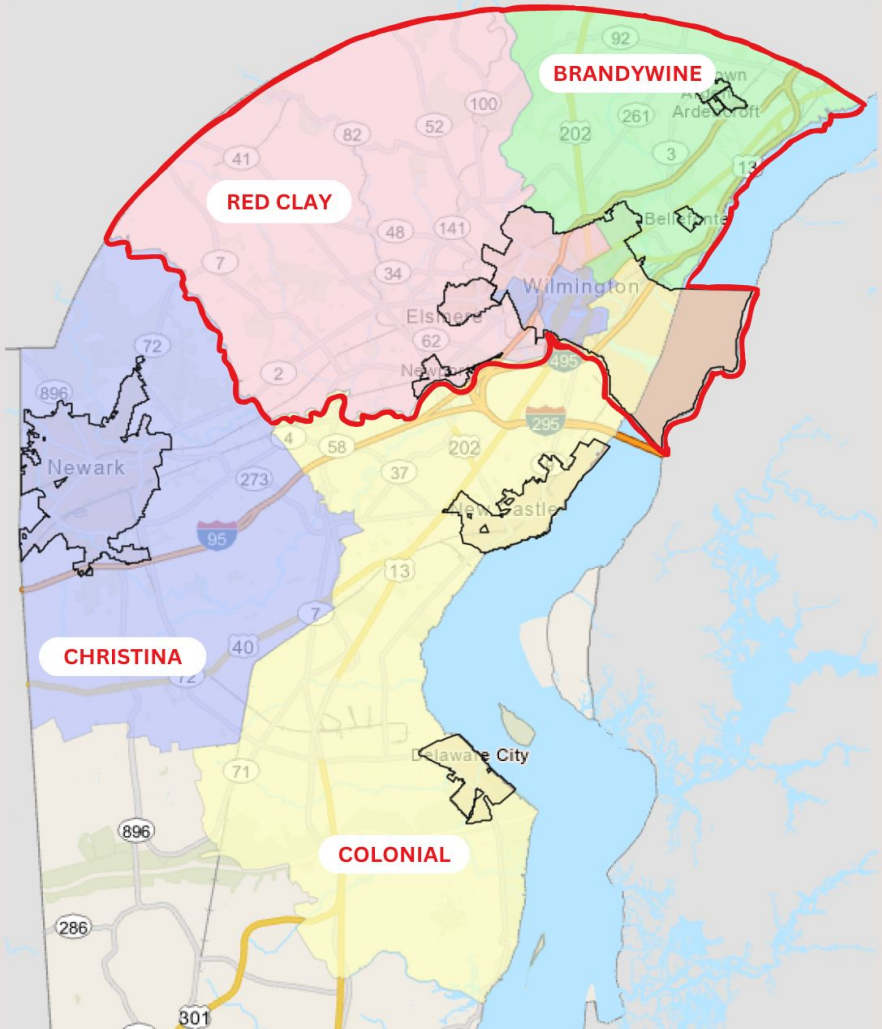


**MODIFIED River  
Model**



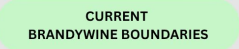
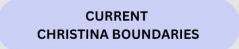
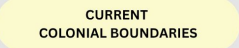
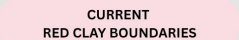
# Three Redistricting Models for Consideration

**Metropolitan Wilmington District:** Consolidates the districts that would serve students within the geographical boundaries of the city of Wilmington and the Brandywine and Red Clay School Districts. This option would consolidate Brandywine, Red Clay, and the city of Wilmington into one district.

# Metropolitan Wilmington School District



## MAP KEY

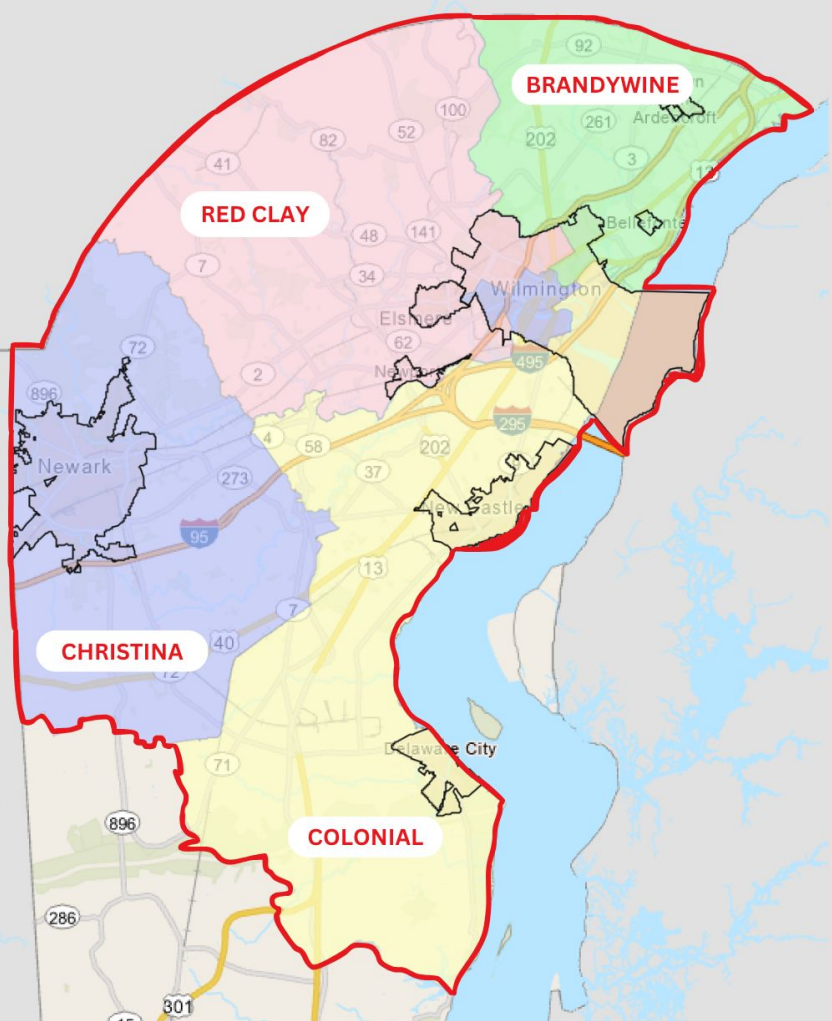
-  = MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY
-  = NEW PROPOSED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOUNDARY
-  CURRENT BRANDYWINE BOUNDARIES
-  CURRENT CHRISTINA BOUNDARIES
-  CURRENT COLONIAL BOUNDARIES
-  CURRENT RED CLAY BOUNDARIES

# Three Redistricting Models for Consideration



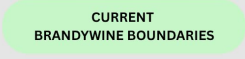
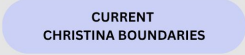
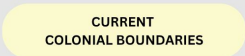
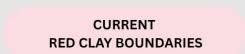
## **Northern New Castle County Consolidated District:**

Consolidates the districts serving northern New Castle County comprising the city of Wilmington, the city of Newark, and all suburbs north and west of the city of Wilmington (not including the Appoquinimink School District unless otherwise proposed). This option consolidates all four districts serving Wilmington: Red Clay, Christina, Brandywine, and Colonial into one district.

# Northern New Castle County Consolidated School District



### MAP KEY

-  = MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY
-  = NEW PROPOSED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOUNDARY
-  CURRENT BRANDYWINE BOUNDARIES
-  CURRENT CHRISTINA BOUNDARIES
-  CURRENT COLONIAL BOUNDARIES
-  CURRENT RED CLAY BOUNDARIES



## Redding Consortium for Educational Equity

Social Drivers of Health and Education Landscape Analysis

Trent Sharp, Ph.D. | Visha Patel | Lillianna Carrera, Ph.D. | Jasmine Howard  
Nastaran Pourebrahim, Ph.D. | Caitlin Deal | Emma Stein

In collaboration with the Center for Structural Equity Youth Research Team  
Bernice Petit | Jamie Yap | Malachi Colbert | Zaiynah Muhammad  
Asma Muhammad | Jacelyn Saylor

OCTOBER 2025



# AIR Social Drivers Landscape Analysis

Final report  
[available online](#)

# Further Recommendations for Action

The Discretionary Recommendations Committee focuses on **programmatic options outside of changing the district boundary lines** that can help improve student outcomes. The Redding Consortium has indicated that some discretionary recommendations will likely be part of its recommended plan, and the goal of this committee was to screen and refine options for the full Redding Consortium to consider as part of its proposed plan.

**The Committee has hosted several meetings over the past three months to discuss these policy reforms and asked for feedback from the Fiscal and Community Engagement Subcommittees regarding the following subjects:**

- Enhanced wraparound services
- Recruitment and retention salary premiums for qualified teachers and paraprofessionals working in high-needs schools
- Supports for 9-12th grade students residing in the city of Wilmington
- The expansion of early education and pre-K programs
- An examination by the newly created district of potential charter and/or choice reforms
- Specialized programs in City of Wilmington schools

# Redistricting Process Planning Timeline

Date	Description
<b>November 2025</b>	Community discussion regarding 3 redistricting options under consideration
December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● School board presentations (by Redding co-chairs)</li> <li>● Consideration of updated financial analysis</li> </ul>
December 16, 2025  <b>*VOTE*</b>	<b>Redding Consortium Full Body Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Selection of redistricting option to initiate full plan drafting</li> </ul>
January 2026	Plan Drafting/Subcommittees Meet
January 2026	<b>Redding Consortium Full Body Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Status update on drafting process</li> </ul>

Date	Description
February 2026	Share the plan draft with Consortium members/public for review
February 2026	Redding Consortium hosts Public Hearings to solicit input on plan draft <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● at least 1 public hearing in each of the school districts to be affected, including at least 2 in the City of Wilmington</li> </ul>
February 2026  <b>Proposed *VOTE*</b>	<b>Redding Consortium Full Body Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Redding Consortium members may vote on the final written redistricting plan</li> <li>● This final plan must answer the 13 stipulations in code</li> </ul>
February 2026	Submit Final Approved Plan to the State Board of Education (SBE)
March - May 2026	SBE Review Period
May - June 2026	<b>Upon SBE Approval, Final Plan Goes to General Assembly for Consideration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Controller General's Office provides final fiscal analysis of the final redistricting plan, as outlined in legislation</li> <li>● General Assembly Votes on Final Redistricting Plan as Submitted</li> </ul>



# Community Input & Feedback

# A Few Important Reminders

This will not be the only time we gather feedback. There will be multiple opportunities to share your input at upcoming Redding Consortium community meetings and events.

**No decisions have been made yet about changing school boundary lines.**

**...but the Consortium will make this recommendation to the State Board of Education in February 2026.**

We are focused on **hearing from community members about their ideas and how to best support student, educator, and community needs** regarding the Consortium's redistricting planning effort.

We will use this feedback to inform considerations about potential redistricting options.

# Community Feedback

## *Three Options for Consideration:*

- **Brandywine and Red Clay School District:** The Brandywine and Red Clay School Districts divide responsibility for the education of all students within the geographical boundaries of the city of Wilmington (i.e., River Plan).
- **Metropolitan Wilmington District:** Consolidates the districts that would serve students within the geographical boundaries of the city of Wilmington and the Brandywine and Red Clay School Districts. This option would consolidate Brandywine, Red Clay, and the city of Wilmington into one district.
- **Northern New Castle County Consolidated District:** Consolidates the districts serving northern New Castle County comprising the city of Wilmington, the city of Newark, and all suburbs north and west of the city of Wilmington (not including the Appoquinimink School District unless otherwise proposed). This option consolidates all four districts serving Wilmington: Red Clay, Christina, Brandywine, and Colonial into one district.

# Public Comment

Please provide public comment within:

2 minutes per individual

3 minutes per organization

Thank you!

# Next Steps

## December 2025:

- School board presentations by the Redding co-chairs
- **December 16:** Redding Consortium Full Body Meeting
  - Selection of redistricting option to initiate full plan drafting

# Thanks for attending our community town hall!

*Community Feedback Form:*



**Questions? Contact:**

**[solutionsfordelawareschools@gmail.com](mailto:solutionsfordelawareschools@gmail.com)**

# Appendix

# Community Engagement Subcommittee - Updates

- **Appointed Panel members:** recommended by local presidents and DSEA UniServ Directors
- **Hosted 2 educator town halls** on September 29th and October 15th
- **Engaged over 40 educators and school staff** during these town halls
  - Representation from **educators and school staff in the impacted city schools** and from schools across northern New Castle County
  - Gathered feedback regarding the three options, educators needs and supports, and the approved resolutions from the Discretionary Recommendations Committee
- **Outreach:** distributed and shared the town hall flyer in city schools and on social media
- **Feedback:** created and shared a feedback form to engage educators in this process

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# Community Engagement from Other Groups

- **One-pager created and distributed** to city of Wilmington students and families
- **Wilmington Interagency Collaboration** presentations on 10/17, 11/3, 11/4, and 11/12
- **PACE Parent Engagement Dinner Series** - presentations about redistricting on 9/29 and 10/27
- **Wilmington City Council:** Education, Youth & Family Services Committee Meeting on 10/8
- Presentations at local school events across the city of Wilmington

# Operational Impacts Subcommittee - Updates

Since the co-interpretation event in September 2025, the subcommittee hosted two meetings:

- Meeting 1: Discussed **school choice** implications for the 3 redistricting models
- Meeting 2: Discussed **building capacity and transportation** impacts for the 3 redistricting models

**The Subcommittee is currently working on:**

- Collecting building capacity and enrollment information for the potentially affected districts
- Summarizing the information from meeting discussions around **current realities, bright spots, and persistent challenges** related to operationalizing redistricting

## Fiscal Impacts Subcommittee - Updates

**Requested support from Controller General's Office (CGO) for drafting preliminary cost estimates.**

- Includes **cost estimates for leveled up pay scales for educators and school staff** in each of the four traditional public school districts to the highest district in under any potential school district consolidation.
- The CFOs from these four districts have shared additional information and data with the CG's Office.

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