

Redding Consortium for Education Equity

Redding Planning Meeting

July 31, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Welcome: The virtual meeting started at 10:30 a.m. Co-chair of the Redding Consortium for Educational Equity (Redding Consortium) Tizzy Lockman promptly started the meeting.

Redding Consortium Meeting Agenda, August 13, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Lockman reviewed the finalized agenda for the full Consortium meeting on August 13 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. She explained that she will discuss the changes to the mandated timeline and afterwards each work group will have five-10 minutes to provide updates.

Lockman asked Qaissaanee about her conversations with Jim Simmons, Chief Equity Officer of the Department of Education's (DOE) Office of Equity and Innovation. Qaissaanee explained that Simmons will discuss his new position and transparency around the CARES Act funding at the state and local levels. Noelle Picara, Co-chair of the Educator Work Group, inquired if the Redding Consortium could guide the spending the CARES Act funding to help high-needs students effectively. Lockman stated that the funding formula and the budget is set, but the Consortium can learn where the funds are being allocated and provide insight on the allocation of the CARES Act funding. Tika Hartsock, Consortium member, requested clarification on how the CARES Act funding is being divided between private, charter, and public schools. Joseph Pika, IPA staff, asked is there is a connection between the equity officers in various school districts and Simmons' office.

Lockman stated that she and several others met with Monique Martin, Education Associate of the DOE's Office of Equity and Innovation. Martin agreed to facilitate the equity and anti-racism conversation for the full Consortium meeting. The conversation will provide the Consortium members with tools to implement equity into their work and resources. Hartsock added that an implicit bias survey Martin suggested to be sent out to the Consortium members in preparation for the discussion. Picara asked if the purpose of the conversation was for the Consortium members to address their own internal bias or for the Consortium to point to equity issues in current policies. Lockman expressed that both were connected, but the Consortium will focus on applying an equity lens in their policy evaluations and recommendations. Nnamdi Chukwuocha, Funding and Redistricting Work Group Co-chair suggested we include the districts public statements regarding equity. Lockman explained she had concerns about the time constraints, opening such heavy topic, and not overwhelming members, but emphasized that this conversation was necessary. Picara added that the Consortium must have this conversation, especially when Delaware's segregated public education system is mentioned in the book *White Rage*. Sarah Bruch, IPA staff, emphasized that work groups continue the discussion about equity and anti-racism so that the principles are less abstract and implemented within the recommendations.

Next Redding Consortium Meetings in October and December

Lockman and Qaissaanee stated a doodle poll will be sent out for the Consortium proposing October 22 or 29 and December 10 or 17.

Work Group Updates

Sherretz explained the Educator Work Group is creating a set of questions to ask stakeholders.

Jason Bourke, Delaware State University staff, stated the Social Determinants Work Group decided to meet again on August 20.

Funding Work Group Co-chair, Nnamdi Chukwuocha, has read the draft about the New Castle County Tax District that the IPA research team created. He explained that draft highlights the funding issues between the districts and current inequities.

Research Underway

Lockman stated the scope of work has been approved by the Co-chairs. Sherretz explained the research offices are the last group that must approve.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

The meeting ended at 11:20 a.m.

Attendees:

Consortium Members

Co-chair, Tizzy Lockman

Co-chair Matthew Denn

Tika Hartsock

Nnamdi Chukwuocha

Noelle Picara

Institute for Public Administration/Delaware State University Staff

Jason Bourke

Sarah Bruch

Joseph Pika

Haley Qaissaunee

Kelly Sherretz

Alexis Wrease

Members of the Public: