

FSF Working Group: Meeting #4 Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: September 1st, 2022

Meeting Time: 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

Members Present: Alan Ong, Constance Asiedu, Chris Caruso, Dia Bryant (Co-Chair), Elizabeth (Liz) Haela, Ellen McHugh, Gabrielle Cayo, Jan Atwell, Jasmine Gripper (Co-Chair), Jessica Swanson (Presenter), Joanne Buckheit, Jonathan Rosenberg, Lara Lai, Marguerite Rosa (Presenter), Mary Vaccaro, Melessa Avery, Michael Athy, Michael Mulgrew, Poullette Healy, Randi Levine, Reana Akthar, Sam Weinberger, Santa Soriano Vazquez, Sarita Subramanian, Sheree Gibson, Tazin Azad, Ted Leather, Tom Sheppard, Chair Rita Joseph

NYC Department of Education Staff Present: Emma Vadehra, Kenita Lloyd, Benjamin Schanback, Erin Gehant, Katherine Maro, Rana Khan, Xavier Edwards, Elizabeth Hoffman, Jenna Lyle, Mark Treyger

All presentations from the meeting are available on the NYC Department of Education website at:

<https://infohub.nyced.org/reports/financial/financial-data-and-reports>

1. Welcome

COO Emma Vadehra opened the session and introduced Co-Chair Dia Bryant. Dia shared the agenda for the meeting and reviewed the scope of work for the working group and norms for the group. Dia also noted feedback from previous sessions, including an interest in having a longer meeting and more time in small group breakout sessions. Dia also noted that the group would convene for a half-day meeting to come together. Options for dates will be shared in follow-up email.

2. Content Presentations and Opportunity for Questions and Comments

Dr. Marguerite Roza from Georgetown University's Edunomics lab shared an overview of how other districts handle some of the specific policy items that have been raised within this Working Group including base per pupil allocation, the types of weighting categories that districts utilize (the most commonly utilized weights are grade level, ELL and special education), analysis of approaches to special education weights (some districts provide a cost range while others have weights based on disability, or fund from outside the weighted student formula), English language learner weights (many districts provide a range of tiers of support), and considerations for how districts are weighting poverty versus low performance (most districts weight poverty over low performance). Dr. Roza also discussed how districts consider the allocation of funds to schools outside of weighted student funding formulas (some provide no extra funding, while others allocate positions or funding for positions, others provide a fixed supplement for schools under a certain size and others even provide a one-year fixed supplement to help schools with enrollment losses). The group then engaged in a discussion of the content.

3. Small Group Breakout Sessions

Participants transitioned into small group break outs in the following categories, based on issues identified by participants and DOE:

- Special Populations Weights
  - Including Student with Disabilities, English Language Learners and Academic Intervention Services
- Poverty: Rates and Weights

- Meeting the Diverse Needs of All NYC Public Schools
- Portfolio Weights
- Public Engagement
- Potential Future FSF WG Scope

Participants worked to develop preliminary recommendations for changes to the formula. Participants were asked to provide additional recommendations that they have into the feedback survey.

#### 4. Community Engagement Overview

Deputy Chancellor Kenita Lloyd engaged participants in a conversation about a community engagement proposal. The group discussed how to conduct the community outreach sessions, including the roles of PEP members in the engagement process, the need for accessibility for families, including through language accessibility. DC Lloyd asked that members interested in supporting the community engagement work indicate their interest via the Feedback Survey.

#### 5. Summary

Co-Chair Dia Bryant closed the meeting out by reminding meeting participants to complete the feedback form.