June 2022 Update
August-October 2021:
• Governor’s office and DOE meet with community leaders, district leaders, educators, and elected officials to discuss the Wilmington Learning Collaborative and receive feedback.

November-December 2021:
• Public presentations and community meetings to share vision and solicit feedback.

January-February 2022:
• School boards vote on moving to negotiations.
• School visits and continued public meetings.

March-June 2022:
• Continued public engagement
• Negotiations
• Smaller group meetings/negotiations (engaging community leaders and educators)

Review of Past Year
• **November 4:** Redding Consortium
• **November 9:** Christina School Board
• **November 15:** Brandywine School Board
• **November 17:** Red Clay School Board
• **November 30:** Christina Board Workshop
• **December 6:** DelawarePTA Town Hall
• **December 7:** Christina School Board
• **December 13:** Brandywine School Board
• **December 14:** Pulaski Information Session
• **December 15:** Red Clay Board Meeting
• **December 16:** Warner Information Session
• **December 20:** Harlan Information Session
• **December 21:** Bancroft Information Session
• **January 11:** Christina Board Meeting
• **January 18:** Spanish Language Information Session
• **January 18:** Friends of Christina School District
• **January 19:** Red Clay School Board
• **February 7:** Brandywine School Board
• **February 9:** Red Clay School Board
• **March 3:** Stubbs Family Engagement Session
• **March 5:** Virtual Engagement Session
• **March 9:** Harlan Family Engagement Session
• **March 12:** Teen Warehouse Family Engagement Session
• **March 16:** League of Women Voters Presentation
• **March 22:** Wilmington Public Library Family Engagement Session
• **March 24:** LACC Family Engagement Session
• **April 27:** Hicks Anderson Community Center Family Engagement Session
• **April 30:** Virtual Family Engagement Session
• **May 12:** Muslim Center Family Engagement Session
• **June 7:** Christina Board Meeting
• **June 8:** Virtual Feedback Meeting
• **June 11:** Teen Warehouse Meeting
• **June 13:** Brandywine Board Meeting
• **June 15:** Red Clay Board Meeting
• **June 21:** Warner Community Meeting
Winter 2021-2022

Winter brought further community and stakeholder engagement. The process to establish the WLC asked that each board vote in January or February to authorize their superintendent to enter into negotiations to create the WLC. Each board voted unanimously to move forward. The de.gov/wlcapril page was also up and running and began to generate lots of feedback in early to mid-December. In addition to the dozens of comments we received through the portal along with Zoom calls, and meetings, the following public meetings were held or presented at:

- December 21st Community Information Session at Bancroft
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5GkDilIq1sw]
- January 11th Crystal School Board Meeting
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZaikOCPbLx0]
- January 18th Virtual Spanish Information Session
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=39GjyHt064k]
- January 18th Friends of Christma School District Meeting
  [https://www.facebook.com/EFCDSociety/]
- January 23rd Red Clay School Board Meeting
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=39GjyHt064k]

In addition, the Governor's recommended budget included $7 million for schools participating in the WLC. Feedback from winners meetings and conversations can be found below:

February 7th Brandys Nave School Board Meeting
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5GkDilIq1sw]
February 9th Red Clay School Board Meeting
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZaikOCPbLx0]
March 2nd Daytona Family Engagement Session
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=39GjyHt064k]
March 5th Virtual Engagement Session
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5GkDilIq1sw]
March 9th Hartford Family Engagement Fair
March 12th Farmhouse Family Engagement Fair
March 16th League of Women Voters Presentation
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=39GjyHt064k]

City Focus:
- A city-based think tank is a great idea.
- Help children who want to stay close to home with choice.
- Get creative with transportation to help with student consistency.
- Expand the dual-gen approach across the city.
- Helping with student mobility issue would go a long way.
- Gun violence is in every education. City needs a say in helping improving education.

Educator Support:
- Need more paras in schools. Create a pipeline for them to also become teachers.
- Too much unneeded professional learning and meetings.
- Need more staff, mental health professionals, and interventionists.
- Residencies are a crucial piece here. Need funding for recruitment.
- Continue educator engagement.
- Need top technology in these schools.
- Educator ownership over this effort is needed.
- Consider loan forgiveness for educators. Teacher retention is a key goal.
- Focus on educator pipeline and substitutes to help.
- Co-teaching model would be great.
- Working conditions need improvement.
- Teacher pay must increase.
- Engage teachers in this process.
- Take things off teachers’ plates.
- Must keep great teachers in the classroom.
- More planning time needed, especially for special education teachers.

Refuge Fatigue:
- So many efforts have blamed teachers in the past.
- Past efforts have not delivered.
- Other efforts have been a flash in the pan.

Latin American Community Center (LACC) - March 24
- On-site interpretation services at schools for families.
- Family engagement around children’s learning.
- Clear information about schools in multiple languages.
- Project based learning.
- Support for transitions (to K, MS, HS).
- Added staff are needed.
- ESL, focus to support students.
- Meet family needs.
- Support whole child - think about dental clinics.
- Mentoring for students.
- Resilient practices.
- Focus on special education support.
- More pre-k support.
- Arts and engaging summer programming.
- Students need field trips.
- Homework help for parents.
- More support on transportation/buses.
- Flexibility for schools.
- Family-centered activities.
- Technology help for families.
- Parent engagement.
- Create time to build relationships.
- Proactive and proactive phone calls home.
- Summer camps for children are needed.
- De-escalation training.
- Social service support for children.
- Schools must be community hubs.
- ESL classes for families.
- Culturally relevant curricular supports.
Empowered schools that are community hubs, with additional resources, shared site-based decision making, flexibility, and robust support.

Wilmington Learning Collaborative Schools

- WLC Team
- WLC Council

A small team to support only participating schools, as outlined in the agreement.

A community-based governing council focused solely on these schools.

Brandywine  
Christina  
Red Clay
• Increased **building-level autonomy**.

• Educators and leaders working together with **shared decision-making**.
  ✓ School schedules and calendars.
  ✓ Resource and staff deployment.
  ✓ Professional learning topics, schedules, and interventions.
  ✓ Wraparound services and enrichment opportunities for students.
  ✓ New hires, staffing priorities, customized mentoring.

• **Educator Leader Teams** to formalize shared site-based decision-making.

• **Site-based Community Councils** to ensure parent, community, student, and educator partnership on key school-based decisions.
In order to support these empowered schools...

• A community-based governing council to ensure continued focus on, and success of, WLC schools.
  ▪ Each participating district’s superintendent
  ▪ Each participating district’s city school board member
  ▪ One parent from each participating district
  ▪ One former city educator
  ▪ One city appointee
  ▪ One student appointee

• A targeted team only focused on supporting WLC schools.

• Partnerships with community partners and higher education institutions to support success.

• An open/honest needs assessment of district and school practices and a root cause analysis to guide the work.
Collaborative Districts

Districts still retain ultimate authority for WLC schools but will delegate many agreed-upon responsibilities to the WLC and schools.

✓ Districts will:
  • Have representatives on the community-based governing council (superintendent and city board member).
  • Lend a team member to work with the WLC Team to build a structure consistent with the philosophy of the WLC.
  • Set goals and get frequent reports on progress of WLC schools.
  • Continue performing many operational functions to support schools.
• Schools will have **broad flexibility over resource deployment** to best meet student, educator, and community needs.

• In addition to the funding schools currently receive, there is an additional:

  ✓ **$7 million** in the Governor’s recommended budget for schools that join the WLC.

  ✓ **$12.8 million** in the Governor’s recommended budget for Redding Consortium recommendations.
High School Configuration:

✓ In the **short term**, DOE will work with NCCVT around space at Howard, and will partner with participating districts around more convenient choice options for students.

✓ In the **longer term**, the WLC will immediately begin conversations about the best way to navigate the high school configuration for city students.

Supporting City Students at Non-City Schools:

✓ The WLC will **annually publish a vetted guide** of resources, experts, and programs to support student, educator, and family success.
• Districts and the WLC will **collaboratively set goals**, based on multiple measures, to hold the WLC accountable.

• The WLC will **prioritize transparency** in its work, keeping the districts and community updated on how things are going in WLC schools.

• The **WLC is accountable to the districts** for meeting the agreed upon goals.

• The WLC will also **annually report** on the use of the $7 million.
## Summary

### Empowered Schools
- Community hubs
- Site-based shared decision-making
- Educator Leader Teams working with school leaders on key decisions
- Site-based Community Councils supporting school success

### Hyper-Focused Support Structure
- Community-based governing council and hyper-focused team solely supporting city schools
- Transparency and accountability for success

### Engaged Districts
- Maintain ultimate authority for city schools
- Collaborate across district lines through WLC structure
June: Board meetings, community meetings.

July: Requested Board votes, appointment of governing council.

Late Summer/Early Fall: Executive Director hired, begin planning year, begin needs assessment.

2022-2023 School Year: Planning year and additional/immediate supports.

2023-2024: Fuller implementation of WLC.
Discussion