

WELCOME TO ED-RED

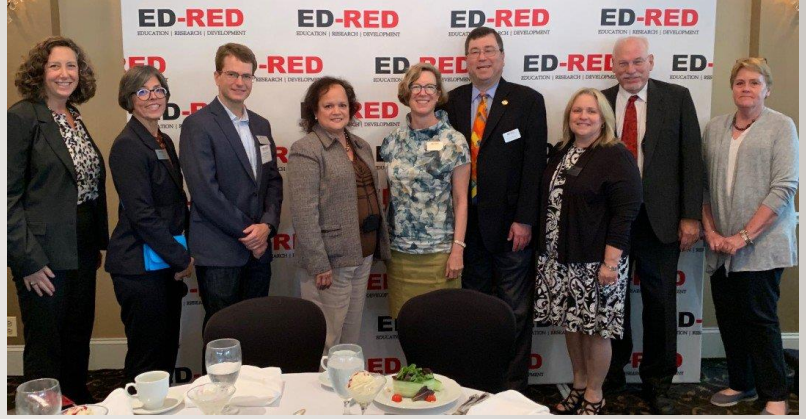
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A UNITED VOICE ADVOCATING FOR THE DIVERSE NEEDS OF SUBURBAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ED-RED EST. 1971



ED-RED OVERVIEW



EXECUTIVE BOARD AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- ED-RED was established in 1971 by a group of suburban public-school districts.
- ED-RED represents over 80 suburban public school districts, special education cooperatives and intermediate service centers in Cook and Lake counties.
- ED-RED is governed by a 12-member Executive Board that is composed of six school board members and six school administrators from our member districts.

MEMBERSHIP ADVOCACY

Primary goal is to advocate on behalf of suburban public school districts.

- Monthly Member Meetings and Annual Events
- ED-RED utilizes various tools to support and build our advocacy efforts:
 - Weekly (during session) and monthly communication updates from ED-RED
 - Newly launched “Advocacy 101 Toolkit” found on our website.
 - Social media platforms (YouTube, Facebook and Twitter)
 - Ad Hoc Committee Structure
 - Member Outreach

SUCCESS OF OUR 2020 AD HOC COMMITTEE WORK

- Finance Ad Hoc Committee
 - The finance ad-hoc committee served as our sounding board as we navigated the discussions of the property relief task force and the Governor's Office.
- Mandates Ad Hoc Committee
 - This served as a foundation for a legislative solution which would address the burden that the numerous professional development mandates place on our districts. Unfortunately, when COVID suspended session for the year, progress on this issue stalled.
 - ED-RED was even able to engage representatives of the teacher unions who are also working with their members to find potential relief and solutions around this issue.



ED-RED ADVOCACY & LEGISLATIVE WORK



ED-RED's 2021 Equity Ad Hoc Committee



Goal and Purpose of the Equity Ad Hoc Committee

- Diverse committee membership with varying district roles
- ED-RED will use this work to determine our role in the conversation and to develop policy standards for future legislative negotiations.
- Plan of Action
 - Subcommittee work
 - Develop legislative priorities and guiding principles for use in future legislative negotiations
 - Other uses for this work among member districts?

Summary of Survey Results

- Committee membership is composed of varying district roles related to equity work:
 - Senior staff roles focused on equity
 - School board members and staff that are looking to incorporate and “embrace racial, ethnic, gender, religious and socioeconomic diversity to reflect the values of the community.”
 - Focus on improving school culture and diversity understanding
- Identification of additional supports to improve equity, diversity and inclusion within districts:
 - Formal board and policy statements on addressing gap
 - Working with diversity consultants and/or conducting an equity audit
 - Professional development and staff training
 - Funding equity

Summary of Survey Results: Identifying Equity Legislative Opportunities

- Funding equity: EBF, charters, proration, etc.
- Testing and assessment
- Remote learning equity
 - access and equity to internet and devices
- Building culture and diversity into teaching and learning requirements
- Mental health services
- Local flexibility based on community needs
- Incorporation of equity audits?

Legislative Summary



Four Subcommittees

- Student Discipline and SRO/Police Presence on School Grounds
- Data Reporting (Discipline and Arrest Data)
- Curriculum
- Increasing Minority Candidates/Hiring and Professional Development

Note: separate subcommittee work will incorporate the members of ED-RED's Finance Ad Hoc Committee

Next steps

- Schedule regular committee meetings
- Establish membership of the four subcommittees:
 - Homework: Review the Equity Ad Hoc Committee Memo
 - Sign up for subcommittee work
- Future meetings:
 - Representative LaShawn Ford, House Leader Chris Welch, Senate Leader Kimberly Lightford
 - Additional speakers?
 - ED-RED sponsor resources
- Collaborate with ED-RED's Communication Committee
 - News article featuring member districts
 - How do we help ED-RED district tell the story of their work?

Questions?



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