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The Wilmington Learning Collaborative Announces Action Commitments for 2024/2025

Connected Communities event gives voice to the WLC's charge for the upcoming school year

WILMINGTON, DE (April 4, 2024) On April 3, the Wilmington Learning Collaborative (WLC) unveiled the organization's primary objectives for the 2024/2025 school year, at an event titled Connected Communities: A WLC Dinner and Design Experience. Announced as the first in a series of open conversations, the event focused on allowing community members to share their ideas about needed action steps, to advance the WLC's mission of shifting the educational landscape in city of Wilmington schools.

Formed in 2022, by the Delaware Department of Education in collaboration with Governor John Carney, the WLC is a groundbreaking initiative and the center point of a strategic effort to empower students, families, and educators by providing them a voice in policy-making. As part of this initiative, the WLC has outlined its commitment to three Big Shifts: Students First, Connected Schools, and Purposeful Partnerships.

Students First: Prioritizing the needs, well-being, and educational outcomes of all students.

Connected Schools: Creating interconnected learning environments that extend beyond the traditional boundaries of the classrooms and engage the community as a whole.

Purposeful Partnerships: Building strong collaborations and relationships with various stakeholders, including families, community organizations, businesses, government agencies, and educational institutions.

"We know that our families and community-based organizations play an essential role in actualizing our collective mission, serving as true collaborators and accountability partners. From our WLC leadership team to the networked educator teams and councils across our school communities, we are leading change through investing in people," said **Wilmington Learning Collaborative Executive Director Laura Burgos**. "I am well aware that we have just one opportunity to redefine educational excellence for city of Wilmington schools and that success will require an unwavering commitment to change."

At the Connected Communities meeting, attendees were asked to identify the top action commitments they feel the WLC will need to prioritize to create these Big Shifts. Community members were also encouraged to participate in group discussions about educational outcomes they would like to see in the city of Wilmington.

In addition to Wednesday's event, the WLC holds monthly virtual and in-person meetings, which are open to the public. As the 2024/2025 approaches, the Collaborative's leadership team plans to announce more events and

opportunities aimed at engaging educators, students, parents, community members, and leaders.

ABOUT THE WILMINGTON LEARNING COLLABORATIVE

The Wilmington Learning Collaborative (WLC) is a network of schools operating across the Christina, Brandywine, and Red Clay school districts, committed to creating positive change across schools in Wilmington, Delaware. The nine schools that comprise the collaborative include Harlan Elementary School, Stubbs Early Education Center, Bayard School, TheBancroft School, Pulaski Early Education Center, Shortlidge Academy, Warner ElementarySchool, Joseph E. Johnson Elementary School, and William C. Lewis Dual Language Elementary School.

The WLC's primary objective is to establish a consistent learning experience for students, while simultaneously fostering the empowerment of educators, school leaders, and communities—thereby enhancing overall student outcomes within the City of Wilmington schools. To learn more about the Wilmington Learning Collaborative, visit <u>https://wlc-de.org/</u>





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