



JJPOC Education Committee

October 28, 2019

2:00-3:30pm

State Department of Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT 06103

Meeting Summary:

- Subcommittee Updates
 - Infrastructure
 - Per the request made during the October JJPOC meeting, a new option was presented that would call for the expansion of USD#2 to provide educational services for all justice-involved youth. A meeting has been set up with the DCF Commissioner to discuss details.
 - Several Committee members raised concerns with this option including the State's special education requirements that guarantees access to public education up until the 22nd birthday.
 - There is a potential conflict of interest due to DCF's current practice of prosecuting cases of educational neglect.
 - USD#1 has already received most of USD#2's staff upon closure of CJTS. There is currently 9 ex-USD#2 staff teaching at Manson.
 - Some Committee members expressed that a Juvenile Justice Commission under SDE is essential for oversight and accountability purposes.
 - The Committee discussed the potential that certain service providers may not be able to continue providing housing of youth without the money they receive for educational services.
 - There was talk about the potential problems that would arise from changes in the current system due to current union contracts.
 - There was discussion surrounding the concern over lack of substitute teachers in USD#1 but it was noted that there are additional teachers currently in the training academy.
 - There was discussion regarding students' lack of access to the SAT while in USD#1 educational programming.
 - Transition/Reentry
 - USD#1 has a need for access to technology (internet, e-mail) to connect with a student's home district.
 - A uniform system of state-wide electronic record transfers would be beneficial for sharing educational records of juveniles.
 - There was discussion on the potential mandate for a student's home district to offer diplomas if earned in an out-of-home placement.

- The Committee talked about state-wide expectations for ensuring credit transfers/partial credit transfers.
 - There was discussion on the importance of holding receiving schools accountable for a smooth transition process.
 - There was talk on the current discrepancies between the way Hartford and Bridgeport Detention Centers currently handle educational services as well as the differences between districts and their methods of unit testing.
 - The Committee also discussed the need for the Re-entry Coordinator List to be distributed and made available online by SDE.
- Quality Control
 - Did not meet today
- Next Steps
 - Draft document for Executive Committee is planned to be completed for December 20th
 - There was a data request for USD#1 and other educational providers to supply outcome data for their juvenile population
 - Intrastructure Subgroup will meet once more before the next meeting

Next Meeting: 11/25/19