

INTERAGENCY COUNCIL FOR ENDING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP

December 13, 2022

Virtual Meeting

1:00 to 3:00 p.m.



OPENING REMARKS & ROLL CALL

The Honorable Susan Bysiewicz, Lieutenant Governor
State of Connecticut

Member Agencies

Roll Call – Kari Sullivan, State Department of Education

- Connecticut State Colleges and Universities
- Department of Administrative Services
- Department of Children and Families
- Department of Economic and Community Development
- Department of Housing
- Department of Public Health
- Department of Social Services
- Judicial Branch
- Office of Early Childhood
- Office of Policy and Management
- State Department of Education

Agenda

I. Opening Remarks & Roll Call

The Honorable Susan Bysiewicz
Lieutenant Governor, State of Connecticut

II. Acceptance of Minutes and Follow-up from Last Meeting Discussion

III. Oversight and Administration of Education in Juvenile Justice Facilities

Dr. Glen Worthy, Educational Administrator, Juvenile Justice, DCF
Patricia Nunez, Program Manager, Court Support Services Division, Judicial Branch

IV. Fatherhood Initiative

Michael Williams, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Children and Families

IV. Next Steps

V. Closing/Meeting Adjourned

Acceptance of Minutes and Follow Up from Last Meeting

Topic	Notes
Minutes from September 16, 2022, Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1462 532 1658 561">• Questions

OVERSIGHT AND ADMINISTRATION OF EDUCATION IN JUVENILE JUSTICE FACILITIES

Dr. Glen Worthy, Educational Administrator, Juvenile Justice, Department of Children and Families

Patricia Nunez, Program Manager, Court Support Services Division, Judicial Branch

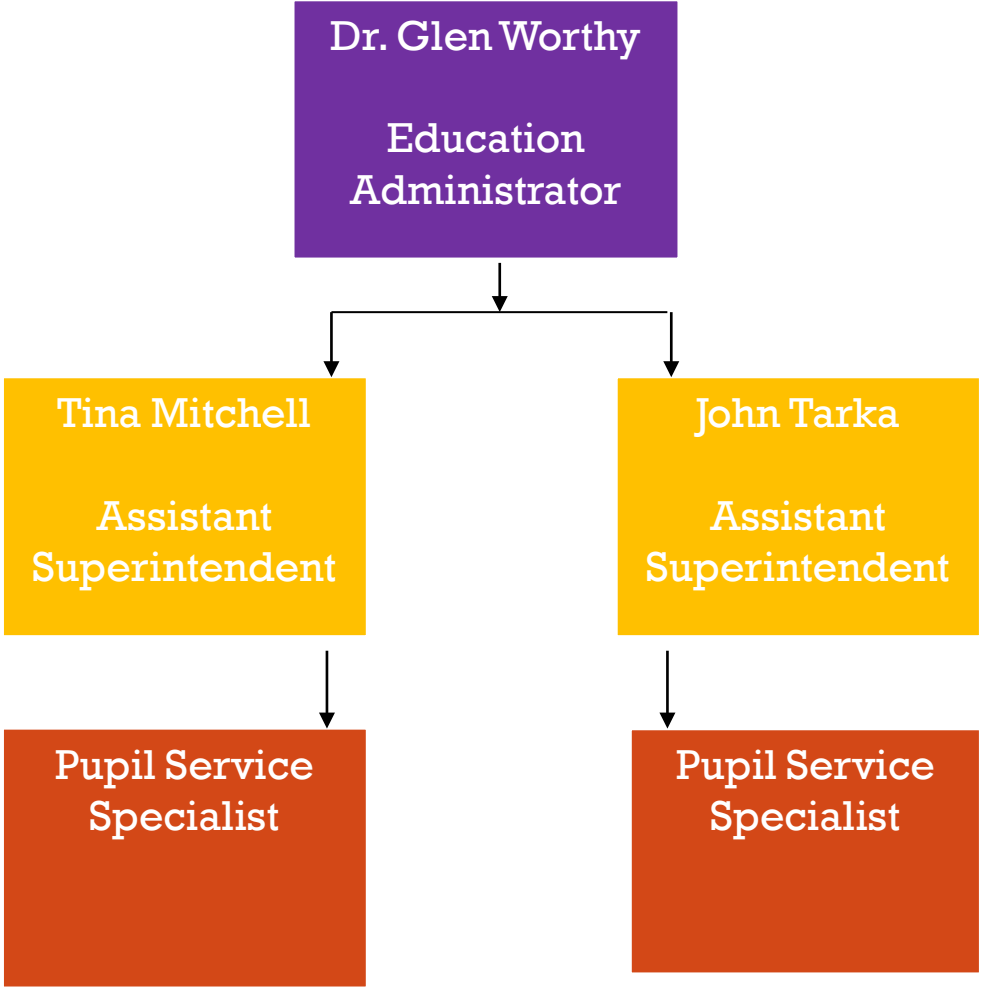
JUVENILE JUSTICE EDUCATION UNIT TEAM

Interagency Council to End the
Achievement Gap Presentation

December 13, 2022



THE JUVENILE JUSTICE EDUCATION UNIT TEAM:





BACKGROUND

- Public Act 18-31 established an Education Subcommittee within the Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee (JJPOC) to develop a detailed plan to address concerns and have oversight of all academic programs for school aged children who reside in juvenile justice facilities or are incarcerated.



Public Act 21-174 established an Implementation Team to develop an operational plan, timeline, funding, and other measures to establish a unit within DCF providing oversight for the education of any child who resides in a justice facility or who is incarcerated. The Implementation Team includes senators, state representatives, representatives of DCF, Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division (JBCSSD), Department of Correction Unified School District #1 (USD #1), the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), Office of Policy and Management (OPM), public school administrators, private providers of education services, and children and community members. The Tow Youth Justice Institute (TYJI) at the University of New Haven provides administrative support.

BACKGROUND



Public Act No. 21-174 tasked DCF with assessing the education programs for JJ involved youth. This will require the establishment of a new unit within DCF, that will analyze the educational records, perform needs assessments, and track the educational progress of individuals in the JJ population.



PROGRAMS OF SERVICE

Three (3) Hardware Secure for boys

- Bridgeport, State Juvenile Residential Center
- Hartford, State Juvenile Residential Center
- Hamden, Community Partners in Action

One (1) Limited Secure for girls

- Mansfield, Journey House (girls)

Three (3) Staff Secure for boys

- Hartford, Community Partners in Action
- Milford, Boys & Girls Village
- Waterbury, Connecticut Junior Republic

Department of Corrections

- Manson Youth Institution

Community Residential

- Connecticut Junior Republic AMIR,
- Connecticut Junior Republic TRAC,
- Connecticut Junior Republic TEAMS and AFIR



SINCE MARCH 2022

Interview CSSD

Document Reviews

Interview DOC

Department of
Children & Families

Stakeholders (Center
for Children
Advocacy, Office of
Child Advocate)

Juvenile Justice Policy
and Oversight
Committee (JJPOC)



UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGES

Problem 1

- Fragmentation: In a fragmented system, each facility is responsible for its own supports, service, and oversight.



Problem 2

- Accountability: No single entity is responsible for strong outcomes.



UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGES

Problem 3

Quality Control: We haven't defined what quality education looks like for youth in the justice system.



Problem 4

Transitions: Youth cycle through multiple providers-which increases the odds of dropped transitions.



THE WORK

Data and
Academic
Accountability
Measures

High School
Options and
Transition Plans

Create School
Network and
Alignment

Support
Teachers and
Administrators'
Effectiveness

Prioritize
Instructional
time

Invest
Resources in
Vocational
Training



ACCOUNTABILITY

Universal
 Screener

Student Academic
 performance
 (grades,
 assessments)

Create an
 implementation
 team for the data
 sharing platform

Attainment of
 credits toward
 high school
 graduation

Attendance



HIGH SCHOOL OPTIONS

Currently in place:

Standard High
Diploma Program

Virtual Academy
(Credit Recovery)

GED

High School Credit
Diploma Program



OUR VISION FOR HIGH SCHOOL OPTION:

Gateway to College Students could be enrolled in Gateway courses in the system and then when released would have the option of continuing their high school work at GCC with the wrap around supports the program offers, rather than going back to the traditional high school. We think that this concept could have a real impact on students and reduce recidivism.



TRANSITIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY REENTRY

1

Pupil Service Specialist works to collaborate with receiving schools, youth serving agencies, employers, and other community supports to plan and manage successful transition. Inclusive of all agencies (juvenile justice, probation, school.)

2

Track educational credits of youth while in and out of home placement and document the success of placements following youths' reentry into their communities through strategic goal setting and progress monitoring.

3

Advocating for students academic, social and emotional well being, as well as support student's efforts to find employment, post graduate options and beyond. The PSS is also responsible for communicating with reentry coordinators, and student's network of supports "the village."



CREATING A NETWORK OF SCHOOLS AND ALIGNMENT

Monthly meeting with CSSD educational providers including DOC

Meetings will address inequities, barriers to learning, shining a light on the best practices, developing a culture of collaboration between different facilities

Shared vision, values, standards, to make instruction more effective across all sites



SUPPORT TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS' INSTRUCTIONAL CAPACITY AND EFFECTIVENESS



TARGETED CONTINUOUS
PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT



STRENGTHEN BUILDING DATA
TEAMS



CREATE PROFESSIONAL
LEARNING COMMUNITIES
(PLCS)



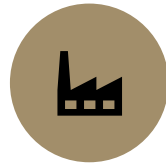
**PRIORITIZING
SKILL BUILDING**

**5.5 hours of
instruction**





vocational training



Manufacturing



Automotive



Culinary



Hospitality



Digital printing



Cosmetology/Barbering



Commercial maintenance

OPPORTUNITY FOR GROWTH: DESIGNATED TIME FOR INDUSTRY CREDENTIALLED VOCATIONAL TRAINING



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Having students increase their knowledge of self-efficacy and self-regulation as a foundation for their own academic and vocational learning. Students that experience belonging, and purpose have improved educational experiences and long-term success.



COLLABORATIVE WORK WITH OUR PARTNERS

CSSD:

- Meetings on how we can collaborate
- Professional development with our PSS
- Monthly meetings with the Education providers

CSDE:

- Met with the schools to provide information on CT-SEDS
- Provided the list of each school district's reentry liaisons
- Offered to provide professional development

DOC:

- Meetings on how we can collaborate and support students



OUR NEXT STEPS:



Continuous learning and data collection



Hiring an IT team for the development of data sharing platform



Identify Universal Screening tool to measure student growth



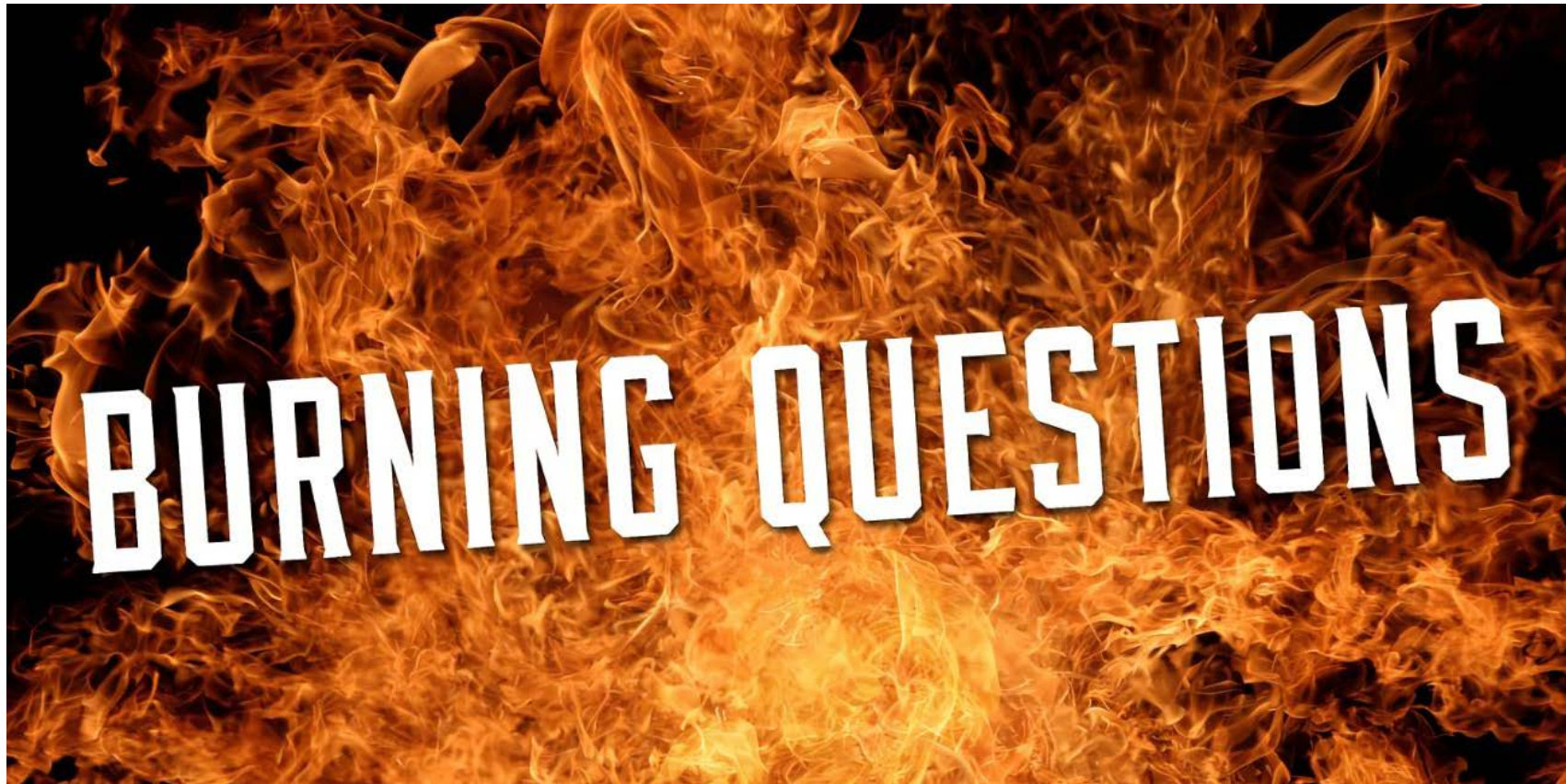
Expand high school options



Explore and expand reentry options and employment opportunities



QUESTIONS



FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE

Michael Williams, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Children and Families



Next Steps

- 2023 Meeting Schedule (all meetings will be held from 1 to 3 p.m.)
 - *March 7, 2023*
 - *June 20, 2023*
 - *September 19, 2023*
 - *December 12, 2023*
- Preparation for next meeting

Closure/Meeting Adjourned

