



**JSEP Monthly Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 1, 2022 9:00am – 11:00am**

The meeting will also be streamed live and recorded for the public on YouTube.

<https://youtu.be/tOKwMV6s56o>

Minutes

Members and Guests Present

Sec. Sam Abed- DJS

Dr. James Fielder

Sup. Mohammed Choudhury

Mrs. Sharon Merriweather

Dr. Monica Goldson-Absent

Mr. Richard Stevenson

Cory Fink

Andrew Tress

Dr. Peter Leone

Dr. Bernard Sadusky-Absent

Dr. Tracey L. Durant

Mrs. Grace Reusing

Mrs. Kimberly Pogue

Nick Moroney – JMU

I. Welcome and Roll Call

- Chair Reusing called the meeting to order and Cory Fink conducted the roll call.

II. Approval of Minutes

- The May 2nd and 3rd, 2022 Board Retreat minutes were reviewed and approved by the board. The May 4, 2022 Board meeting minutes were then also approved with no edits needed.

III. Public Comment: *If you wish to log in to comment, please email Monique Cheatham (Monique.Cheatham@maryland.gov) or Cory Fink (Cory.Fink@maryland.gov) by 2pm on Tuesday, May 31, 2022 with your full name, email address, and phone number. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker*

- N/A

IV. Executive Director Report - Mr. Cory Fink

- See attached.
- Cory Fink announced his new role as Deputy Secretary for Community Operations and introduced Andrew Tress as the new Executive Director for Education who will be replacing Cory as of June 1, 2022
- Andrew Tress introduced himself as the new Executive Director of JSEP.
- Mrs. Reusing thanked Cory and welcomed Andrew
- Sec Abed introduced Andrew and thanked Cory
- Dr. Leone thanked Cory for his efforts and thanked Sec. Abed for his support for education and welcomed Andrew Tress.

- Nick Moroney- Welcomed Andrew Tress and thanked Cory. Due to Covid resurgence, we have quarantine situations. Victor Cullen as a whole is on quarantine. They need tablets to continue their education during these times.
- Dr. Durant welcomed Andrew and thanked Cory for a great job. She had a question about the COVID numbers weather they were a systematic or were there actual symptoms.
- Sec. Abed answered that they were symptoms mostly headaches. Still doing weekly testing on everyone. Allergies are high and some youth have the flu. It is a mix of things right now. Not spreading as quickly as other variants, but it may require masking if it continues to worsen.
- Mrs. Reusing would like a report of the Covid cases monthly at the board meetings the will include a breakdown and quarantine status as it relates to educational impact - access to packets, Chromebooks, etc.
- Sec. Abed said he would get with Andrew about the Covid report and he would look into the Chromebook issue.
 - In the chat box Sec. Abed stated the following regarding the Chromebooks: "I am advised that there are sufficient Chromebooks for all youth at Victor Cullen. There are 3 tablets which were intended for two youth taking college courses and one youth taking a Spanish class needed to graduate."

V. Superintendent's Report - Mrs. Kimberly Pogue

- See attached.
- Welcomed Dr. Catherine Gammage as JSEP Field Director on June 15th.
- Mrs. Reusing contacted Governor's Appointment Office and we could expect a replacement in 4-6 weeks.
- Nick Moroney questioned whether Dr. Gammage would be in schools regularly. Kim advised that the JSEP team would be in schools regularly to overcome challenges for students, teachers and principals.
- Dr. Leone mentioned that "Break Free" is an amazing organization and the board can replicate and visit some new programs. New Beginnings in Laurel MD, Delaware and Fairfax Detention in Northern Virginia.

VI. Unfinished Business

- N/A

VII. Subcommittee Reports

1. Summer School - Mr. Richard Stevenson

- Thanked Cory from the teachers and keeping them on task, welcomed Andrew.
- Content meetings are scheduled, the purpose of the meetings is to review lesson plans, materials, scope and sequence for the educators that were not involved in the planning process.
- All courses are done and planned out. Had them done a month early so all educators have had a chance to look them over to see if any modifications are needed.
- Continuing to make sure all safety and security issues that we may encounter are being addressed.
- Courses are planned for In-Person but back up hybrid options are planned in case of quarantine or another outbreak due to Covid.
- Next summer meeting will be next week.
- Mr. Stevenson wanted to thank the teachers and administrators for helping with the process and going beyond their job duties.
- Mrs. Reusing asked if credit recovery is still an option if a student did not pass a class this year or last year. He answered yes.

2. Standards Committee - Dr. Peter Leone

- Met twice since last board meeting.
- Service learning will be available to students in the JSEP; Policy provides options and suggests a wide range of projects.
- Credit attainment – Time spent in the JESP classroom will transfer to their home school. Students must meet 60% of the course objectives and must pass with a D.

- DJS Quality Assurance team attended the meetings as well.
- Standards - Mrs. Pogue will be changing some of the assessments that may be used Cory sent draft standards many parts of that are linked to COMAR.
- Initial assessment within 5 days of their detention and reassessed within 30 days. Might have to examine more closely once we begin the process.
- Standards for instruction and attendance. Ninety percent of students are to be in school at the beginning of the day.
- Mrs. Pogue has a couple more edits on the quarterly report card at the school level. The report card form is on the Google Drive for anyone that wants to look at it.
- Nick Moroney questioned youth on quarantine: Chrome books will be delivered to those students on quarantine the same time as the school gives them to the students.
 - Mr. Stevenson said they have been teaching some youth virtually.
 - Cory Fink said there is a report that he gets that reports why a student was late due to staffing, nursing meds being given late, as well as there was JSEP not being there
- Mr. Stevenson wanted to know if after the merger takes place teachers would be allowed on the quarantine units. Sec. Abed said we have to do contact tracing and we want to limit the staff coming in contact and limit contacts.

3. Transition Committee - Chair Reusing

- Continue to work on MOU that we are entering into with LEAs to discuss the roles and responsibilities of each party in terms of transitioning from community school to JSEP schools and then back to community schools.
- Recommended changes is suggested by Dr. Goldson and the board attorney.
- Reached out to Baltimore City Public Schools to review.
- Next step is to finalize and route to each LEA.

VIII. New Business

1. Educational Standards
 - Approved by the board.
2. Credit Attainment Policy
 - Approved by the board.
3. Service Learning Policy
 - Approved by the board.

IX. Board Members' Remarks

- JSEP kick off June 28th – will need to place lunch orders
- Nick Moroney on behalf of his unit thank you to everyone been amazing journey tremendous board members and accomplishments.
- Cory would like to express his gratitude to Superintendent Choudhury and his team for their diligence working with him on this transition. He appointed Dr. Lawson back in August on behalf of MSDE and they have been nothing but wonderful to work with. They meet weekly and there is more but it's due to his commitment and leadership.

X. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 AM.

Staff Contact: Cory Fink
 Executive Director of DJS Education Services & Support
Cory.Fink@maryland.gov

To: Grace Reusing, JSEP Chair
From: Cory Fink, Executive Director JSEP
Date: 6/1/2022
RE: JSEP Executive Director's Report

- Covid mitigation strategies remain in place; unfortunately we have seen an uptick in cases, and that has resulted in several units being quarantined. Staff are still required to mask in our congregate care settings, and this includes education staff as well. Proper wearing of masks helps to prevent the spread – and will continue to be enforced.
- Director of Transition Services, Mrs. Tina Joseph begins work with the Department on June 15th, she will be responsible for the DJS Education Transition Unit, who will continue to work very closely with the staff at each of the JSEP school sites, LEA's, Community Colleges, and Workforce Investment Boards.
- Contracts continue to be reviewed; and scopes of work are being developed for others. We have an additional request into MSDE concerning a few contracts and awaiting that information. Where appropriate, novation paperwork is being created to transfer the contracts from MSDE to DJS
- Replacement furniture has been received by two of the four facilities that we placed orders for
- Weekly meetings with the following units – Procurement, Human Resources, and Budget/Finance are being held as we prepare for the June 29th transfer of staff.
- Weekly meetings continue to be held with MSDE representatives Dr. Lawson and Mrs. Brice, these meetings have been and continue to be very productive, most recently we have concentrated on the transfer of IT and furnishings at each school amongst a variety of other topics including personnel, and procurement
- Residential operations and programming are a weekly meeting with myself, Superintendent Pogue, and Deputy Secretary Norman, his support during this time of transition and programmatic change has been invaluable
- DJS Research continues to dig into the historical PowerSchool data, and working with MLDS on outcome measures
- MSDE and DJS have agreed that we will assume the hiring process once candidates are identified
- We are working with our Public Information Officer and WebMaster to revamp the JSEP section of our website – we have added the Summer Calendar and 2022-23 school year calendar to our documents section

A little over a year ago, with the passing of Senate Bill 497, Secretary Abed appointed me to the position of Executive Director for Education Services and Support – during this past year I have found the work to be incredibly rewarding, learning from our staff, stakeholders, and you, the members of our JSEP Board. There have been challenges, opportunities to think outside of the box and be creative, to collaborate with some incredibly passionate, caring professionals as we transition the incredible responsibility of the education of some of our most vulnerable students in Maryland from JSE to JSEP.

I am happy to report, that the education staff remain committed, are up to the challenge, and will rise to the occasion to make JSEP a robust educational program. The support of the Board and your wealth of knowledge and expertise, along with the commitment of our dedicated residential, support, and community operations teams at DJS, I am confident that the system will meet the needs of our students, expand opportunities for them, and successfully reintegrate them back into their local education programs.

Transition – the process or a period of changing from one state or condition to another

Secretary Abed recently announced several changes to our agency staff, and that includes my role within the Department – I will be transitioning to a new position as the Deputy Secretary of Community Operations effective today – I will stay involved in matters related to JSEP through the transition from MSDE on June 29th and have been meeting with and working with the newly named Executive Director for Education Services and Support, Mr. Andrew Tress. Andrew is not new to many of you, in fact, when this process started a year ago, Andrew was engaged in many different aspects of the Board – I know the support he will give to the Board and the Program moving forward will be to the same high standard in which he has worked. Andrew has joined us today, and I would like to give him an opportunity to say a few words.

Superintendent's Report: 6/1/22

- I want to thank Cory Fink for all of his support and guidance over the past 5 months, it would have been difficult to prepare for this transition without your hard work throughout this process. I wish you the best in your new position and I am sure you will do good work.
- I would also like to welcome Andrew Trees to his new position and I look forward to working with you.
- I would like to thank Shelby Webb for her hard work on preparing our submission the Local Application for Federal Funds Grant. I would also like to thank Alicia Palmer and Marney Helfrich at MSDE for their assistance with the grant.
- Met with the Principals at the treatment centers to discuss the opportunities and challenges of piloting a new way to group and move students to school. Reviewing current course enrollment of students and developing a plan to support the change.

- Held a meeting with all of the school Principals to discuss the school report cards and the new daily school schedule.
- I was able to attend the Break Free Education Retreat and visit a juvenile facility, meet leaders in juvenile justice education from across the country and attend some very informative workshops.
- CTE, Academic and Library Media Coordinator positions were posted and I look forward to reviewing applications and scheduling interviews.
- Dr. Catherine Gammage will be starting as JSEP Field Director on June 15th.
- Attended regular meetings with MSDE, DJS' Human Resources, Procurement, Communications, Training Unit and IT to prepare for the JSEP Kickoff on June 28th and the transition on June 29th.
- Material for Summer Instruction is out for delivery to the schools.