



Juvenile Services Education Program (JSEP)

JSEP Monthly Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 9:00am – 11:00am

<https://youtu.be/ZioMhFF8swE>

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

MINUTES

Members and Guests in Attendance

Dr Leone
Dr. Sandusky
Superintendent Mohammed Choudhury
Mrs. Sharon Merriweather
Dr. Monica Goldson
Mr. Richard Stevenson III
Dr. Tracy Durant
Chair Grace Reusing

Acting Sec.. Vincent Schiraldi
Mr. Leonard Webb
Mrs. Kimberly Pogue
Ms. Melanie Graves
Mr. Nick Moroney
Ms. Hilma Munson

I. Welcome and Roll Call – *Chair Grace Reusing*

- Chair Reusing welcomed everyone with a special welcome to Acting Sec.. Vincent Schiraldi
 - . Melanie Graves called the role and noted that there is a quorum.

II. Approval of Minutes

- Motion by Ms. Merriweather, seconded by Dr. Monica Goldson. January minutes are approved as written.

III. Public Comment: *No Public comment*

IV. Superintendent Report - *Mrs. Kimberly Pogue*

- Full report attached. Welcome to our new Counselor and Records Coordinator Ms Jeffery and Ms Jones new school counselor @ BCJJC
- Chair Reusing asked how we are addressing GED testing concerns?
- N. Moroney asked how the curriculum is being developed compared to public school, staff updates, and kudos about having a new Library Coordinator and the progress with the GED and CTE availability. Are any seclusions being reported?
- Acting Sec.. Schiraldi-Research in Chicago significant improvement in Math using the stand up method in the classroom - Suggested a presentation in future board meetings. Extended day school hours for CTE, GED, and evening programs and credit recovery. Sec. Schiraldi reported that he toured Cheltenham on 1/31/23. He indicated that it was apparent that the youth liked the school, and the teachers were doing a great job. Sec. Schiraldi asked if the Board considered doing an extended school day. Chair Reusing indicated that the Board had

not considered it, but would be willing to do so. She indicated that a concern is that our students struggle to earn credits in part because they go to school with housing units rather than grades. She also explained that topics such as extended school day could be discussed further in the Standards Subcommittee and then brought back to the Board.

- Dr Leone stressed the need for students to be engaged in activity. He suggested a facility wide contest to include literacy, art etc. helps build momentum in the facility. He stressed these activities can strengthen bonds between facility staff and teachers.
- Mr. Stevenson indicated that we table the discussion regarding extended day school and discuss it in the standard's committee. He indicated that teachers in part work for JSEP due to the school schedule, and teachers have MS22s that need to be considered.
- Mr. Maroney indicated there are many ways to address the need. It may not have to be educational teachers. It could be contracted personnel or non-profits. He indicated that there is a great deal of down time and offered suggestions such as coding. He also indicated that Dr. Gammage knows a great deal about credit recovery and extra curricula as she has experience from doing it at Silver Oak Academy. He indicated that students with diplomas or GED students are often bored or not getting adequate programming.

V. Executive Director's Report - *Ms. Melanie Graves*

- Full report attached.
- Chair Reusing questions the MOA's and how are they different depending on the jurisdiction? Nothing significant, just understanding of the language and how records are shared and the transition. Nothing that changed the initial purpose, just a reminder of the new legislation.
- Dr. Leone - regarding MOA's - Do they prohibit DJS from sharing youth charges. He has concerns about the issue of the youth charges getting out. DJS is not permitted to share information related to youth's charges. Dr. Leone expressed concern about it prohibiting re-enrollment for youth. Ms. Graves indicated that one issue that we are seeing is on reportable offenses. JSEP with the help of Hilma Munson are working on an FAQ to remind them what the processes surrounding reportable offenses require.
- Mr. Moroney - comments juvenile records will transfer from school to school effectively interferes in the students progression when background charges/ records are unveiled in their home schools. Mr. Moroney suggested that Melissa Feio from the OPD would be a good person to have as a guest speaker to discuss the problems with student transition, and the awarding of credit.
- Mr. Stevenson III- Can we contact former youths that are years removed for true feedback and reflections. - Upcoming leadership Summit May 2023 open to former students to attend a panel discussion.
- Superintendent Pogue- is aware of issues we hold regular meetings with Ms. Feio. She has been asked to contact Superintendent Pogue and Dr. Miller with specific issues regarding students getting back into school. A plan is being developed to identify issues, and how to track the data around that.
- Chair Reusing- Parents unknowingly do not know what information to give. Suggest a parents /student rights be given to the parents upon discharge.
- Mr. Stevenson asked if there is an update regarding the completion of parity for supervisors. HR and Superintendent Pogue are working on this and then it will go to DBM, so an exact date is not identified.
- Mr. Moroney asked who makes the decisions related to who is hired. Does HR make those decisions? Superintendent explained that building principals make the decision to hire for their teams. HR ensures

candidates meet minimum requirements, facilitate prescreening with OIG, and assist with ensuring if candidates meet certification requirements.

- Mr. Maroney indicated that what the percentage of vacancy rates for JSEP.
- Dr. Leone asked what the anticipated outcome of the salary study. Does the DJS group have an expectation of what the outcome might be - parity with the public school? He has had concerns with the recruitment and retention of teachers. We need to make JSEP more attractive to teachers to make a 12-month commitments. He thinks an option should be made available for people to work 9 or 12-months. We need to find a way to boost compensation in the Washington / Baltimore Coordinator. Can we do salary boosts for those areas? Dr. Leone does not want to wait until July to address the issue when we are not able to hire because contracts with public schools have been signed.
- Chair Reusing indicated that giving a retention bonuses and sign-on bonuses need to be explored. She sited the JMU report in which RAs were given bonuses.
- Ms. Graves indicated that teachers are given a 6% increase as compared to what they have made in their previous teaching assignments. They also receive steps in the state system based on their years of experience. Questions and discussion regarding if the 6% makes up for the 12-month assignment.
- Chair Reusing asked about the wifi report. The wifi “drops” have arrived, and it is anticipated that installation will be done by April 2023. Ms. Graves explained that all facilities need to be surveyed first before the installation of the wifi access points, so that they ensure they have enough access points.
- Dr. Leone asked what having wifi access in the schools means. Does use vary from different schools. Is there training to learn how to incorporate it into instruction. Dr. Leone had a library question. He was introduced to Ebsco, which is a program that allows students to check out books and can monitor usage. Superintendent Pogue explained that students use wifi mostly on their Chromebooks when they receive online instruction from Garrett. She also explained that we use a program called Libby, which will allow books to be checked out electronically.
- Mr. Maroney asked if earphones are accessible. With Libby they will have access to online books to read and potentially to audiobooks to listen to, so will they have access to audiobooks. Superintendent will look into whether or not the earphones are available.

VI. Unfinished Business

- JSEP Board Goals for Public Comment – The Board determined that this topic will be addressed in the March 2023 JSEP Board Meeting

VII. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Standards Committee - Superintendent Pogue
 - a. October OIG Audit – See attachment for audit and the corrective action plans.
- Dr. Leone indicated that he was surprised that it took the audit to figure out that the school and the facilities did not align. Communication should be occurring in a timely manner in order to fix it. Superintendent Pogue indicated that the issue with misalignment did not seem to impact the students’ arrival time for school. They were on time. It has been corrected. Dr. Leone also asked why the assessment was delayed so much. What took so long? Superintendent indicated that she is new to the procurement process and that we are subject to a

variety of procurement procedures that are different than if we were a regular school district. Superintendent indicated that there has been training, and will continue to be training to ensure we are using reports from the testing appropriately. It will also be aligned with PowerSchool. Dr. Leone indicated that if there are further delays then Chair Reusing and / or the Board should be alerted, so that attention or intervention can be given.

- Mr. Maroney indicated that he is pleasantly surprised by the level of data and the results from the Audit given that it was during the transition period between JSES and JSEP.
- Mr. Maroney also wanted to bring attention of acting Secretary Schiraldi the need to allow youth to do off site activities and service learning. Students need to go out into the community to learn needed skills. Assessment should occur in order to determine if students can go off grounds to work or to volunteer. Dr. Gammage has been involved in the past at Silver Oak with such initiatives. Custodial and Security issues should not always be the reason to hamper such activities.
- Dr. Schiraldi agreed with Mr. Maroney's insights, and indicated that youth are only with us for 5 or 6 months, so we need to help them integrate into the community. He was pleased to hear the announcement of paid service learning for students with diplomas. He is open to it and knows that we will need to work with local schools.
 - b. There are 2 policies that need to be amended and sent back out for the subcommittee to approve. Policies include - -Materials Selection and Library Media Policies

VIII. Spotlight on Schools

*Lesson Studies - Mariam Spalding and Mary Gates - tabled until the March 2023 JSEP Board Meeting

IX. Board Members' Remarks - None

X. Adjournment – Dr. Leone motioned, and Ms. Merriweather seconded - Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Upcoming Meetings

2023:

- o 3/1/23 - https://youtu.be/xjlbDCg_irl
- o 4/5/23 - <https://youtu.be/TOASK93FO5s>
- o 5/3/23 - <https://youtu.be/2UvvrTBTgaw>
- o 6/7/23 - <https://youtu.be/C6C0iP53DA8>
- o 7/5/23 - <https://youtu.be/MMLDLUVKAEA>
- o 8/2/23 - <https://youtu.be/D-5f9qy2G2Y>
- o 9/6/23 - <https://youtu.be/D9rBBF3eQ6o>
- o 10/4/23 - <https://youtu.be/eZC04MxlGFU>
- o 11/1/23 - <https://youtu.be/AVFZTK-plLc>
- o 12/6/23 - https://youtu.be/o_GtvD3bRQ

Staff Contact:

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