



Juvenile Services Education Program (JSEP)

JSEP Monthly Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:00am – 11:00am

<https://youtu.be/TOASK93FO5s>

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

MINUTES

Members and Guests in Attendance

Superintendent Mohammed Choudhury
Dr. Tracy Durant
Dr. Monica Goldson
Dr Peter Leone
Mrs. Sharon Merriweather
Secretary Vincent Shirladi
Mr. Richard Stevenson
Mr. Leonard Webb

Chair Grace Reusing
Mrs. Kimberly Pogue
Ms. Melanie Graves
Ms. Hilma Munson
Mr. Nick Moroney

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

- Melanie Graves called the role and noted that there is a quorum.

II. Approval of Minutes

- Motioned by Mr. Webb and seconded by Dr. Durant, March 2023 minutes were approved as submitted with one correction in the spelling of Dr. Tracey Durant's name.

III. Superintendent Report - *Mrs. Kimberly Pogue*

- Full Report Attached
 - Mr. Stevenson indicated that he has spoken to a state representative who would be willing to help with the JSEP bill if needed.
 - Secretary Shiraldi asked for information about the students at Garrett College. Superintendent Pogue indicated that students are taking one or two classes at a time on campus at Garrett. She will have more in-depth information about the offerings at the next board meeting. Secretary Shiraldi also had questions about staff accompanying students and would like to discuss the possibility of students going to class unsupervised.
 - Dr. Leone complimented Superintendent Pogue on the thorough report and acknowledged that it is encouraging to hear all of the work that the JSEP team is doing.
 - Mr. Stevenson indicated that he could provide the information that Superintendent Pogue and Secretary Shiraldi need related to students going to Garrett College.

IV. Executive Director's Report - Ms. Melanie Graves

- Full Report Attached
 - Chair Reusing indicated that she would like to continue to hear reports on packet usage, Covid numbers, and WiFi status. She indicated that it is very encouraging to hear the progress that is being made with the moving away from using packets. She also indicated that the progress made on hiring teacher or attempting to hiring teachers is encouraging.
 - Mr. Maroney indicated that he would like to discuss an issue with Chair Reusing and Superintendent Pogue off line about an issue.
 - Mr. Maroney also indicated that he questions why there is a staffing report for Noyes when Noyes is not open and the girls are in one classroom at Cheltenham. He also questioned staffing report at GCC. There are not students there; however, there are teachers at GCC. What does a vacancy mean at GCC? He believes that Noyes staffing reports should be combined with Cheltenham.
 - Chair Reusing indicated that she agrees that the less virtual teaching the better, and would like more information on vacancies and how much virtual teaching is filling those gaps. She suggested that this discussion continues in the Standards Subcommittee.
 - Mr. Maroney questioned how attendance is being tracked. Are individual students' attendance being tracked. Any removals or any absences should be reported for a youth. With just the raw data, it looks like things are fine, but if we look at individuals it could look differently. Example being when individual students are missing classes. How are hours per student being tracked?
 - Chair Reusing asked Superintendent Pogue if attendance is being taken. Superintendent Pogue indicated that attendance is taken and that when youth are off grounds due to medical or court then that is tracked. Chair Reusing indicated that this will be discussed further in the Standards Subcommittee.
 - Dr. Leone asked Ms. Graves to identify the 4 counties that still have not responded to requests to the MOAs. Ms. Graves reported that Prince Georges's County, Montgomery County, Baltimore County, and Howard County have not returned their MOAs. Three of those school districts were part of the 9 counties that were represented by one county. Dr. Leone expressed his concerns regarding districts that are resistant to allowing our youth back into school, as well as, concerns about 3 of those 4 counties are large counties that send JSEP their students.
 - Dr. Goldson indicated that she recalls signing the MOA for PG county a few weeks ago, and that she will follow up not only with PG, but also the other counties as well.
 - Secretary Shiraldi suggested that if follow up does not yield results then maybe a school board chair-to-school board chair discussion might help.
 - Secretary Shiraldi asked Ms. Graves to provide overall vacancy rates for JSEP and for DJS residential as it would be easier to measure improvement over time.

V. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Legislative Subcommittee - Mrs. Kimberly Pogue and Ms. Hilma Munson
 - Ms. Munson reported that JSEP has continued to work on getting the bill amended. There were some amendments made after the house vote; however, other amendments are needed. We want it to mirror the MSDE leave bill, but what we've gotten back is quite different. It doesn't address the issue of seniority and employees' accrual of leave based on seniority. We are trying to find a senator to sponsor the bill and assist with amendments.
 - Chair Reusing indicated asked how long we have. Ms. Munson indicated that we do not know when the vote will be.
 - Dr. Leone indicated that a representative from Prince George's county has had an interest in JSEP. Chair Reusing asked if Dr. Leone could reach out to Senator Rosapepe. Dr. Leone asked Ms. Munson to draft some information that he could send in the email. Dr. Leone also asked if Hilma could also provide the proper protocol.
 - Dr. Durant stated that the end of the session is on April 10, 2023. She asked is it unrealistic for it to get passed at this point and do we know where the bill is. Ms. Munson reported that it is in the Senate committee. The hearing has already been held.

- b. Standards Committee - Ms. Kimberly Pogue
 - The amended standards were sent out with the JSEP Board materials last week. An amendment in the standards has been made to change student assessments (STARR) be done every 90-days. A board vote needs to be taken to amend the standards.
 - Dr. Leone moved to approve the amendment of the assessment period to 90-days. Dr. Durant seconded the motion. A full roll call vote was conducted. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. New Business

- JSEP January 2023 Audit - Ms. Kimberly Pogue
 - Superintendent Pogue reported that the audit was sent out to the JSEP Board last week. Superintendent Pogue reported that in the section about assessment had not started at the time of the assessment; however, that should no longer be a finding because JSEP schools have started completing assessment. JSEP is working on ensuring that all teachers are certified. It is mostly a paperwork issue and certification process is taking longer than anticipated. The latest audit is occurring now, JSEP is hopeful that we will continue to see improvement overall.
 - Chair Reusing said that the audit takes time and energy, but it is important for transparency. Chair Reusing thanked everyone involved in the audit process.

VII. Board Members' Remarks

- Chair Reusing reported that more participation on the Standard's Subcommittee would be helpful. The Standards Committee meets every 2 weeks.
- Secretary Shiraldi reported that approval was given yesterday for the budget for afterschool and enhanced programming for youth in DJS facilities. DJS will need to figure out how that will work and what it will look like. Secretary is not sure how it will impact the JSEP Board. The initiative will come out of DJS budget, but updates will be provided.
- Secretary Shiraldi reported that the Youth Centers have started to do off-grounds activities. It will continue to be an educational and service focus. Staff reported that they wanted to do off grounds trips with the youth. DJS is still working on what that will look like for Victor Cullen Center because it is a secured facility.
 - Mr. Moroney stated that these developments are great and also noticed that the big open area in the back of Cheltenham are being used. He said thank you on behalf of the youth and staff.
 - Dr. Leone echoed Mr. Moroney's comments. He believes there will be a ripple effect - getting the youth engaged and motivated will give them other things to talk about rather than what we would consider antisocial.

VIII. Adjournment

- Ms. Merriweather motioned, and Dr. Leone seconded the motion - The meeting adjourned

Upcoming Meetings

2023:

- 4/5/23 - <https://youtu.be/TOASK93FO5s>
- 5/3/23 - <https://youtu.be/2UvxrTBTgaw>
- 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-pILc>
- o 12/6/23 - https://youtu.be/o_GtvD3bRQ

Staff Contact:

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