



Juvenile Services Education Program (JSEP)

JSEP Monthly Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 7, 2022 9:00am – 11:00am

<https://youtu.be/NObWksXT0zY>

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

MINUTES

Members and Guests in Attendance:

Sec. James Fielder	Mr. Leonard Webb
Superintendent Mohammed Choudhury	Kimberly Pogue
Mrs. Sharon Merriweather	Melanie Graves
Dr. Monica Goldson	Nick Moroney
Mr. Richard Stevenson III	Joni Snyder
Dr. Tracey L. Durant	Michelle Falloon-Hosley

I. Welcome and Roll Call – *Vice-Chair Stevenson*

- Vice-Chair Stevenson welcomed everyone. Melanie Graves called role and noted that there is a quorum.

II. Approval of Minutes

- Motion by Dr. James Fielder, seconded by Dr. Tracey Durant November minutes are approved.

III. Public Comment: *If you wish to log in to comment, please email Monique Cheatham (Monique.Cheatham@maryland.gov) or Andrew Tress (andrew.tress@maryland.gov) by **2pm on Tuesday, December 6, 2022** with your full name, email address, and phone number. **Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker.***

- N/A

IV. Superintendent Report - *Mrs. Kimberly Pogue*

- Full report attached.
- *Dr. Sandusky* asked if the dual enrollment college program Superintendent Pogue mentioned in her report is the only dual enrollment course statewide Superintendent Pogue responded yes, however; Dr. Miller met with Fredrick Community College on 12/6/2022 regarding expand the program to add additional dual enrollment courses. Dr. Sandusky requested that updates and progress in this area be provided to the board.
- Nick Maroney congratulated Superintendent Pogue on all of the movement and progress during December, especially around the hiring of a Library Media Coordinator. He noted that lack of access to books has been an issue. He also indicated that timely student access to accuplacer and GED testing has been a concern. Mr. Maroney then stated that the lack of DJS staff in general has had an impact on JSEP. Superintendent Pogue indicated that JSEP will be interviewing this Friday to fill the GED Administrator position. Currently we have a GED Administrator that travels the entire state, which is causing the delays in testing. Once the position is filled

we can eliminate some of those delays. We are participating in the career events to support HR to fill positions. We understand the importance of being fully staff to provide support to our students. Staff availability - we are trying to be creative with issues with movement and continue to be in communication with Secretary Norman to brainstorm ways to bring students to school.

- Mr. Maroney asked what the expectation for the new Library Coordinator will be. Superintendent Pogue indicated that the new hire is a national board certified librarian with lots of ideas and experience with books and digital formats. Knowing we do not have a librarian for each school she is currently visiting each facility to see what's in place. One major goal is for her to execute her creativity to ensure that students have books to include in digital formats for leisure reading. She will be looking at new ways to provide books in E-format.
- *Dr. Leone* – Indicated that he is pleased to hear the progress that is being made particularly around hiring a librarian. He indicated that there is a national network of librarians within juvenile justice. Dr. Leone will follow up to provide the contact for someone in that network. He has a contact that he will share that will be useful for our librarian to network with.
- Dr. Leone followed up on the post-secondary partnerships raised by Dr. Sandusky. He asked about the connection with Garrett College. Superintendent Pogue reported that Backbone Mountain Youth Center is still partnering with Garrett College and has 4 students currently enrolled. The program is thriving, and offers several post-secondary activities for our students.

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

- Full report attached.
- *Secretary Fielder* indicated that he participates in a COVID call on Tuesday mornings that provides CDC updated guidelines for COVID precaution that include correctional settings. He wondered if DJS had access to recent information? Ms. Graves reported that Dr. Maehr, DJS lead medical doctor, has access to the updates and sends that information in email form..
- Mr. Marone expressed concerns surrounding COVID vaccination rates amongst staff at the Youth Centers. He indicated that only 48% of staff at the two Youth Centers are vaccinated. His concern is that youth are placed into quarantine, are not able to leave, and are still exposed to unvaccinated staff who can bring COVID into the facility. Ms. Graves indicated that she will follow up with Dr. Maehr regarding the Department's response to staff vaccinations.

VI. Unfinished Business

- JSEP Board Goals for Public Comment: See the attached Executive Director's Report for details

VII. Subcommittee Reports

a. Legislative Subcommittee - Dr. Sadusky

- Dr. Sandusky has attempted to reach a delegate's offices several times without response. He did speak with someone in the Speaker's office yesterday, who will make sure to make contact with that delegate. He indicated that he is not worried. We may need to wait until the legislature is back in session. Dr. Sandusky is not worried, and is confident that we will be able to get a sponsor.

b. Standard's Subcommittee - Nothing to Report

VIII. Spotlight on Schools

- GED Outcomes and Garrett College Program at Backbone Mountain Youth Centers - Mrs. Joni Snyder - See attached presentation
- Dr. Sodusky rescinded stating that he thinks it is tremendous and encouraged Ms. Snyder keep up the good work. He indicated that there are ways to get around the accuplacer, and that there are non-credit certification programs that are of interest to our students. He indicated that we should take a look at how to get around the accuplacer. Mrs. Snyder indicated that the the grant has stipulations that during the set semester there has to be credit baring classes, and that non-credit baring courses have to be offered outside the normal semester. Mrs. Snyder agress that having certifications like HVAC programs is something she would like to offer and has suggested.
- Dr. Leone asked if Mrs. Snyder has considered the use of Second Chance Pell Grant for our students. Mrs. Snyder indicated that she is not familiar with that opportunity, but would like information if Dr. Leone could provide it. Dr. Leone will follow up.

- Character Analysis - Ms. Michelle Falloon-Hosley - See attached presentation
- Dr. Leone added a thanks to Ms. Falloon-Hosley. He indicated that it is great and important to promote reading and literacy in our facilities, and when students get excited about it, it is even better.
- Mr. Webb indicated that the presentation was great and recognized the importance of developing the soft skill of collaboration with our students.

IX. Board Remarks

- Dr. Leone indicated that is was an engaging meeting, and that it was wonderful to hear about some of the activities going on in our schools. He thanked Superintendent Pogue and Executive Director Graves.
- Vice-Chair Stevenson also thanked the presenters for today and agreed that it is great to hear about initiatives in our schools.

X. Adjournment

- Dr. Sandusky motioned to adjourn and it was seconded by Ms. Merriweather. Meeting adjourned.

Upcoming Meetings

2023:

- 1/4/23 - <https://youtu.be/HlzMxhqyAtA>
- 2/1/23 - <https://youtu.be/ZioMhFF8swE>
- 3/1/23 - https://youtu.be/xjlbDCg_irl
- 4/5/23 - <https://youtu.be/TOASK93FO5s>
- 5/3/23 - <https://youtu.be/2UvxrTBTgaw>
- 6/7/23 - <https://youtu.be/C6C0iP53DA8>
- 7/5/23 - <https://youtu.be/MMLDLUVKAEA>
- 8/2/23 - <https://youtu.be/D-5f9qy2G2Y>
- 9/6/23 - <https://youtu.be/D9rBBF3eQ6o>
- 10/4/23 - <https://youtu.be/eZC04MxlGFU>
- 11/1/23 - <https://youtu.be/AVFZTK-plLc>
- 12/6/23 - https://youtu.be/o_GtvD3bRQ

Staff Contact:

Melanie Graves

Executive Director of JSEP Services

melanie.graves@maryland.gov