



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Isiah Leggett  
County Executive

Uma Ahluwalia  
Director

COMMISSION ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2014

**CITIZEN MEMBERS PRESENT:** Carole Brown, Linda Currie, Chris Fogleman (Chair), Jennifer Gauthier, Michael Gruenberg, Julian Haffner, Barbara Holtz, Mehul Madia, Julie Malloy, Perry Paylor, Roberta Pieczenik, Carlean Ponder (Vice-Chair), and Wendy Pulliam

**AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT:** Blaine Clarke, Francha Davis, Frank Duncan, Susan Farag, George Simms, Michael Subin, Jenny West-Porter, and Elijah Wheeler.

**ABSENT MEMBERS:** Christopher Jackson, Dana Pisanelli, Risa Mainprize, Mary Siegfried, and Ira Thomas

**STAFF LIAISON PRESENT:** Diane Lininger

**EMERITUS MEMBERS:**

**GUESTS:** Kimberly Pogue, April Kaplan and Karyn Gross

**SPEAKERS:** Katharine Oliver, Assistant State Superintendent for the Division of Career and College Readiness, and Jennifer Griffin, Coordinator for Career Technology Education for JSE

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Commission on Juvenile Justice

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facsimile

## I. Announcements /Preliminary business

A. Introductions and Welcome

B. Chris Fogleman met with the HHS committee of the County Council on October 16<sup>th</sup>. There was a discussion from the different boards and commissions about what their current priorities are.

C. Chris Fogleman went to the Quarterly meeting with Uma Ahluwalia, Director DHHS on September 29, 2014. They came up with a theme of prevention for the Council Committee on HHS which summarized what the different goals were of the different commissions and boards. This theme of prevention will be brought to the attention of the County Council. Chris presented the priorities of the JJC commission last week to the Council. Leventhal, Council member, tasked with heading up the HHS committee, is interested in attending the different Commission meetings including the JJC.

D. Our annual meeting with the Juvenile Judges will be on April 28 at the EOB – This will replace our April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

E. There was a September visit to the Alfred D. Noyes Center. Julie Malloy reported that this facility serves about 57 juveniles. It was a good opportunity to see how the facility functioned and to explore the issue of the trailers.

F. The annual Commission Retreat is in February. Diane passed around a paper to pick which date in February works best for members.

## II. Old Business

A. September 2014 minutes were approved.

B. Annual Report was approved for publication with some minor edits.

## III. New Business

**Speaker:** Katharine Oliver, Assistant State Superintendent for the Division of Career and College Readiness, and Jennifer Griffin, Coordinator for Career Technology Education for Juvenile Services Education, Kimberly Pogue, Alfred D. Noyes principal. Career and Technical Education is the new term for vocational education. The first task was to align what classes were being offered in JSE vs. what the student could take when they returned to the public school system. One set of classes offered through the JSE is the Business Administrative Services Path which replaces what used to be called computer literacy. That program is offered at BCJJC, Carter, Cheltenham, Hickey, Noyes, Schaeffer, and Waxter. The Construction Trades Profession pathway offers carpentry, construction and electrical training. This is offered at Backbone, Cullen and Green Ridge. It leads to a recognized certification. Another offering is

Career Research and Development (CRD) which replaces Life Skills. All schools offer CRD and leads to a Financial Literacy Certification. The courses are called Career Research and Development I and Career Research and Development II and Career Research and Development Internship. The internship provides an opportunity to work in a profession and give them an idea of what that career might be like.

The CTE certifications offered include the National Center for Construction education and Research – Core Construction Certification. They also offer the OSHA 10 which is the orientation and safety program for the construction industry. They offer the IC3 and MOS internet and computer core. Through the National Restaurant Association, a Food Handler Certification called ServSafe is offered. Some juvenile facilities don't hold kids long enough to complete the 16 hour certification so they offer the 8 hour ServSafe course. They try to formalize when these classes are offered so if a student starts a class at a detention facility, they can continue it at a juvenile treatment center. They also offer C-Tech Certification such as the Network Cabling Specialist or Voice Communication Professional. At Noyes, they teach a 10 hour Green System Technology class because that reflects the short time juveniles are typically there. The other residential facilities offer the longer certification programs. They are piloting a Medical Billing and Coding certification at Carter and Waxter. Ms. Griffin said these programs are in transition as they evaluate which programs work best for the kids and the nature of the facility. There was a question about why the kids are not completing their GED in the longer term facilities. Ms. Oliver from MSDE explained that MSDE has been taking over the schooling at the facilities over the past year and that the GED has become a more rigorous program since changes were made in January of 2014. If the student is a few credits shy of graduating, the goal will be to help the student earn those credits. If they have few credits, then the student will be counseled about the GED program. The GED is a rigorous set of four exams. The core content classes have integrated the GED curriculum. At Hickey there is a GED testing center. There is transportation to Hickey for students at other facilities. Hopefully there will be a testing center at Green Ridge soon. The goal is for all the juveniles to leave with some value added type of education and/or certification. The schools will be held accountable for students' academic progress and completion of GED and certification programs. At Noyes, 9 students took the GED and 5 passed the past year. Students get a Maryland State High School diploma by exam through the GED. There was a question as to whether the certifications juveniles start in the detention facility can be completed in the public school system. Some of the same programs of study are offered in all of the public school systems as the juvenile detention facilities. The MSDE tries to guide DJS case workers as to where students leaving detention facilities should be placed in school to continue their certifications. MSDE cannot mandate school systems to offer all of the certifications.

An important opportunity came up for the MCPS representative to point out that some of the MCPS schools do offer some of the certifications and that it would be helpful to be informed before the transition meetings as to what the student's grades are and what programs they have been working on. The hope is to provide to the DJS case manager the information prior to the transition meeting so MCPS can evaluate the student's transcript. Ms. Oliver agreed they should exchange contact information in order to create a better collaborative system between MSDE and MCPS. DJS pointed out that all juveniles must participate in some kind of education in the detention facility whether it be in the GED or the traditional school setting. Ms. Poe, from Noyes, said that in order to know where the student is academically, they request school records. Then Noyes prepares the school record if the juvenile is going to another juvenile

facility. A question was raised as to how one measures the success of the education programs. MSDE does not look at recidivism but they look at academic success in terms of increases in reading and math grade levels. They use the Basic Achievement Skill Inventory (BASI) to measure achievement. Noyes has data for the 2013 year for the BASI assessment. They are also tracking the number of students earning their GED. MSDE also holds schools accountable for attendance. There are three new metrics which will be analyzed for accountability: number of credits earned, number of industry certifications earned, and the number of tests passed within the GED. A question was raised about whether there will be an effort to help juveniles find jobs. Ms. Oliver said they are holding job fairs within the detention facilities. They are also linking students to one stop shop places where students can work with job placement counselors.

**IV. Committee Reports:**

**A. Government and Community Relations:** The committee broke into two groups. One group is looking to create a standard operating procedure since two major areas of interest are legislation and budget. These calendars are predetermined so the Committee should plan their activities accordingly. The other group is looking at evaluating Miranda rights in terms of how they impact juveniles and their ability to understand their rights. Should the Miranda rights' language be changed for juveniles? The group will look at articles and cases as well as exploring current practice now in the local police precincts. George Simms reported that he will be participating in a panel on "Knowing your Rights- Miranda and Other Rights." He will report out and bring handouts at the next meeting.

**B. Care, Custody and Placement** –The group prepared the questions for today's speakers. The committee's focus is on vocational programs and the group is planning a field trip to the Thomas Edison Center. The goal is to learn from the Thomas Edison Center what can be applied to other Montgomery County Schools and juvenile facilities.

**V. The Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.**