



Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

Proposed 2018 Recommendations
For Discussion and Adoption

January 18, 2018

I. OVERVIEW: 2018 JJPOC RECOMMENDATIONS

<p>DIVERSION RECOMMENDATION 1</p>	<p>1.1. Beginning July 1, 2018, the State Department of Education and the Youth Service Bureau network should implement the Community-Based Diversion System Plan, developed pursuant to PA 16-147, § 18(k), over a two-year period within available appropriations.</p> <p>1.2. In the 2018 legislative session, the legislature and the Governor should adequately fund implementation of the Plan.</p>
<p>DIVERSION RECOMMENDATION 2</p>	<p>2.1. Beginning July 1, 2018, the State Department of Education should implement the School-Based Diversion Framework over a two-year period, within available appropriations.</p> <p>2.2. In the 2018 legislative session, the legislature and the Governor should adequately fund implementation of the Framework.</p>
<p>DIVERSION RECOMMENDATION 3</p>	<p>The JJPOC should develop a justice reinvestment plan to guide the reinvestment of any savings realized from the decreased use of incarcerations and congregate care towards strategic investments in home-, school-, and community-based behavioral health services and supports for children diverted from, or involved with, the juvenile justice system.</p>

<p>INCARCERATION RECOMMENDATION 1</p>	<p>In the 2018 legislative session, the legislature and governor should enact legislation providing that:</p> <p>1.1. Beginning January 1, 2021, no child under the age of 18 shall be housed in the custody of the Department of Correction.</p> <p>1.2. On or before October 1, 2019, the Department of Correction, the Department of Children and Families, the State Department of Education, and the Judicial Branch shall submit to the Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee a plan for implementing Recommendation 1.1. The purpose of the plan shall be to ensure that youth prosecuted as adults are detained and incarcerated in a safe, secure, and developmentally appropriate environment that is consistent with Recommendation 1.1.</p> <p>The plan shall include:</p> <p>(A) Recommendations for any legislation that may be necessary or appropriate to implement Recommendation 1.1.</p> <p>(B) Recommendations for programs, services, and supports that shall be provided to detained or incarcerated youth who are prosecuted as adults.</p>
<p>INCARCERATION RECOMMENDATION 2</p>	<p>The Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee should periodically request, receive, and review information regarding conditions of confinement, including services available, for youth in correctional facilities and other out-of-home placements in the juvenile and criminal justice systems.</p>

<p>RECIDIVISM RECOMMENDATION 1</p>	<p>A. The JJPOC should propose legislation that calls for a process of planning for the development of a consolidated system for educating youth in custody of the justice system. The planning process will include key state agencies – including the State Department of Education, the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch, the Department of Correction; local education agencies in districts that house detention centers; and experts in educating youth in custody. By January of 2019, the process will result in a detailed implementation plan, submitted to relevant legislative committees and to the JJPOC. The plan will include provisions for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designating a single state agency, supported by resources reallocated from the existing fragmented array of service providers, to be responsible for ensuring high-quality educational services and transitional supports for youth in the deep end of the justice system.• Ensuring that a range of quality educational services are delivered to youth in justice system custody, whether directly by a state or local agency or else by a single contracted provider with statewide scope. The range of services provided will include, at a minimum: A traditional high-school diploma program; an accelerated credit recovery program; vocational training programs; and access to post-secondary educational options, whether on-site or through partnership(s) with institutions of higher education.• Developing and deploying a comprehensive quality control system, overseen by the single state agency responsible for educating youth in the justice system, for the education of youth in justice system custody and during transitions between custody and the community. The quality control system should include: Clear standards for education in each context, from detention to secure custody to reentry; benchmarks for achievement in each context; a data collection and reporting system, including publicly-available school profiles with relevant quality metrics; evaluation procedures that include external monitoring and accreditation; and a set of meaningful interventions, tailored for the custodial context, if education falls short of quality benchmarks.• Designating appropriate staffing within the single state agency responsible for educating youth in the justice system to ensure system-wide planning; oversight; quality control; legal compliance; and the allocation of state and federal funds for education of youth in justice system custody.• Engaging one or more curriculum development experts to support learning in custodial settings statewide and to develop a flexible, high-interest, modular curriculum that is aligned with state standards and adapted to the context of educating youth in custody.• Engaging professional development and teacher training specialist or specialists, and creating a statewide professional development
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	<p>community for teachers and other educational staff who work with youth in the deep end of the justice system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engaging regional reentry coordinators to support youth returning to the community from both short-term detention and long-term custody. The coordinators' activities and outcomes will be monitored by the single state agency responsible for educating youth in the justice system. <p>B. The JJPOC should propose legislation requiring that the plan developed pursuant to Recommendation 1 be implemented no later than July 1, 2020.</p> <p>C. Concurrent with implementation, the single state agency responsible for educating youth in the justice system should define, and the consolidated system for educating youth in the deep end of the justice system should adopt, a clear protocol with timelines for educational support of youth transitioning into, and out of, custodial facilities. The protocol should mandate team-based reentry planning and should include clear and ambitious timelines for records transfer at intake and release from custody; timelines for reenrollment; and timelines for credit transfer when return to community-based educational settings.</p> <p>D. The JJPOC should propose legislation that requires school districts to continuously maintain the enrollment of youth who are held in juvenile detention facilities.</p> <p>E. The State Department of Education should incentivize and support the development of a data system that allows real-time sharing of educational records among schools statewide. The system will support smooth transitions by ensuring seamless transfer of information between schools in facilities and schools in the community.</p> <p>F. The JJPOC should propose legislation requiring each school district that sends a significant number of youth into the juvenile justice system to designate a staff person who will serve as liaison between the justice system and the school district to facilitate smooth transitions of youth between custodial facilities and community schools.</p> <p>G. The JJPOC should propose legislation requiring the Connecticut Technical High School system to provide career and technical education programming for youth who are in justice system custody or who are returning to the community from custody. That collaboration should include creating a pathway to enrollment, and reserving capacity to enroll, for qualified and interested youth who are returning to the community from a justice system facility.</p>
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<p>RECIDIVISM RECOMMENDATION 2</p>	<p>The Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee should formally request that relevant state agencies and education providers report annually to the JJPOC on continued compliance with the provisions of PA 16-147 § 13 forbidding the use of out-of-school suspensions in educational settings in custodial facilities. That report should include data on all youth who have been removed or excluded from educational settings as a result of alleged behavior occurring in those educational settings, and should extend to both state-run and contract facilities.</p>
<p>RECIDIVISM RECOMMENDATION 3</p>	<p>The JJPOC should formally request that state agencies that house justice-involved youth under 18 report annually to the JJPOC, or one of its sub-groups, on continued compliance with the provisions of PA 16-147 § 16 requiring the use of de-escalation techniques to reduce re-arrests for youth in custody. That report should include data on all re-arrests and uses of confinements and restraints for youth in custody, in both state-run and contract facilities.</p>
<p>RECIDIVISM RECOMMENDATION 4</p>	<p>The JJPOC should continue to provide input to, and seek updates from, the Office of Policy and Management as it moves towards producing its first report on juvenile recidivism in August of 2018. The JJPOC should formally request reports from OPM and other stakeholders on progress, and should assist OPM in obtaining necessary data and grappling with problems as they arise.</p>
<p>RECIDIVISM RECOMMENDATION 5</p>	<p>The JJPOC should formally request that the Office of Policy and Management continue to update the JJPOC, or one of its Work Groups, on progress under the community supervision grant that the state received from the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.</p>