



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Commission on Juvenile Justice

Marc Elrich
County Executive

James C. Bridgers, Jr. Ph.D., MBA
Director

Commission on Juvenile Justice Meeting

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

Virtual Meeting

CITIZEN MEMBERS PRESENT: Kimberly Alfriend, Bonnie Beavers, Carol Cichowski, Tracey Friedlander, Gerda Gallop-Green, Melissa Goemann, Ashyia Johnson, Scott Joftus, Elizabeth Pentecost, Michael Pinard, Jonathan Scriven, Tom Smith, Tony Summers, Heather Sweren, Shuaa Tajammul, and Erin Whaley.

AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT: Joanna Bonner, Francha Davis, Shakirra Haynes, Elizabeth Emen, Susan Farag, Brett Lonker, Steve Neff, Jordan Satinsky, Nathaniel Tipton, and Carlotta Woodward

ABSENT MEMBERS: Andrew Messick, Joshua Pestaner, and Kevin Redden,

PRESENT EMERITUS MEMBERS: Carole L. Brown.

ABSENT EMERITUS MEMBERS: Chris Fogleman.

GUESTS: Amanda Broadnax, Kim Foster, Wanda Frink, Angela Jones, Karla, Deepataanu Kumar, and Denise Manlagnit.

SPEAKERS: Marcus G. Jones, Chief, Office of the Security and Compliance Officer Montgomery County, MD Public Schools and Shauna-Kay Jorandby, Director, Student Engagement and Behavioral Health

STAFF LIAISON PRESENT: Diane Lininger

- I. **Welcome** – The meeting was opened by Carlotta Woodward and Melissa Goemann, Co-Chairs of the Montgomery County Commission on Juvenile Justice (CJJ).
- II. Introduction to new DJS representative, Shakirra Haynes
- III. Marcus G. Jones, Chief, Office of the Security and Compliance Officer Montgomery County, MD Public Schools - to speak about the CEO program.
 - In 2022, major change to the CEO program – CEO 2.0
 - Organizations involved in the program are Montgomery County Police Department, Rockville City Police Department, Gaithersburg Police Department, National Park Police, State's Attorney's Office, Sheriff's Department
 - CEO to each school cluster (High School, as well as feeder Middle School and Elementary School)
 - Designated station at each H.S.
 - Unarmed and not sworn police officers.
 - Police departments investigate sex crimes, felony thefts, and gang cases.
 - SROs get training and handle deaths, robberies, firearms, and hate crimes.
 - Principals ask for them where they are needed.

Local Behavioral Health Authority • Behavioral Health and Crisis Services

- MCPS has over 200 schools
- There will be new funding for vape detectors, and new cameras for security.
- Dr. Taylor and Marcus Jones will do an assessment of the CEO program.
- Off campus crimes such as firearms, robberies, crimes of violence are reported to the schools.
- Schools have a special number to call the police, which means they can collect data.
- Marijuana (personal use amounts and paraphernalia) at school incidents is handled by the school, the police come just to seize the items.
- Challenges are turnover and that everyone involved needs to know what is in the MOA.
- They are not looking to make changes to the program for now.
- They still have concerns about guns in schools, especially ghost guns.
- Off campus offenses can have adverse consequences at school
- Police have agreed to not arrest kids at school but can-do surveillance at schools.
- They work with SON (Street Outreach Network) – below from SON website.
 - o Street Outreach, Gang Intervention, and trauma informed activities in the communities and schools. Resolve or manage gang related conflicts related to recently arrived youth in the community and schools. Recreational/Leisure activities in partnership with community partners that include Like skills, music production, video production, boxing, photography, camping, sports activities, art, circles, field trips, movie nights, gender specific intervention groups in middle schools. High schools, and community centers. Provide referrals to newcomer’s families to obtain resources and other community services.
 - o SON serves: At-promise youth, high school aged youth, prevention programs for youth.

Erin Whaley – Question topics for M. Jones

1. Community collaborations
 - a. At Kennedy H.S., there were problems with fentanyl and ODs, the PTA had concerns re: safety, so they started a group to work on the issues that includes former president of the PTA and parents. Marcus Jones also spoke about root causes, preventative measures, and an “all hands-on deck” approach.
2. Intent to use national best practices.
 - a. He has planned visits around the DC area, examples Fairfax County, Prince George’s County, and Stafford County. Also, new IDs for kids that they must wear on a lanyard. He also spoke to the need for a crisis alert system because there is a need for better communication (example – lockdowns)
3. Root causes → de-escalation, conflict resolution
 - a. He said training is the key to all success with de-escalation, mediation, and conflict resolution, relatedly mental health crisis.

IV. Shauna-Kay Jorandby, Director, Student Engagement and Behavioral Health- to speak on Restorative Approaches (Presentation slides sent out)

- 211 schools each got a \$6000 stipend.
- There is a restorative approaches¹ coach at each school
- She referenced house bill 725 and CCEIS (Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services), which work on reducing disproportionate discipline.

¹ The phrase “restorative approaches” is preferred over restorative justice.

- It can take up to 10 years to get to the highest level of maturity of restorative approaches practice.
- District challenges include 3000 suspensions last year, yet Montgomery County has the lowest suspension rate in Maryland.
- In terms of reintegration for kids' post-suspension/removal, the key timeframe is the first 7 days.
- The greatest challenges are shifting priorities, staffing and budget (the initial stipends of \$6000 have been reduced to \$2400), mindset + buy-in
- Maryland requires teachers to learn restorative approaches.
- RAND research was originally planned for 2018 through 2021 but then COVID.
- There are only 8 full-time employees.

V. Discussion on the CERB report- Draft document was shared prior to the meeting and during the discussion. No edits were made. Diane will forward CERB report to the County Executive's office.

VI. Minutes from September 17, 2024, meeting – Motion to pass, was seconded and all were in favor.

VII. New business

- a. Coordination with the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council – draft report of findings from subcommittee emailed to all the members.
- b. Meeting with Health and Human Services Committee of the County Council - Chairs' Carlotta and Melissa are going to present CJJ priorities on October 16.
- c. Children's Center Ad-hoc Committee – Committee has not met.
- d. Legislative Committee - Carol stated that the committee will be working on questions for November legislative speakers.
- e. Subcommittee One – Erin stated that committee members were going to attend a joint meeting with the Child, Adolescent and Young Adult Services Subcommittee of the Montgomery County Mental Health Advisory Committee in November. Both are working on Truancy issues in Montgomery County.
- f. Subcommittee two – Chair is Shakirra Haynes and Co-Chair is Tony Summers. We need members to attend meetings. Diane has sent out a poll but only a few have replied.

VIII. Motion to Adjourn