HB 1607-Juvenile Services Education
County Pilot Program-Workgroup Meeting

July 29, 2019
Maryland State Department of Education
8th Floor-Conference Room 2

Meeting Minutes

Work Group Members in Attendance: Dr. Sylvia Lawson, Ms. Michelle Finlayson, Ms. Tracy Foster, Mr. James Johnston, Dr. Marvin Krohn, Ms. Kimberly Pogue, Ms. Melanie Shapiro, Ms. Amanda White, The Honorable Senator Craig Zucker

MSDE Staff in Attendance: Mr. Crystal Brice-Fleming, Ms. Deborah Grinnage-Pulley, Mr. Shane McCormick, Dr. Marilyn Myers, Mr. Elliot Schoen

Members of the Public in Attendance: Ms. Jennifer Botts, Ms. Samantha Brooks, Ms. Nicole Collier, Mr. Nick Moroney, Mr. George Pesta, Mr. Andrew Tress

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m.

Welcome & Introductions

Dr. Sylvia Lawson welcomed the work group members and invited guests and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves. A quorum of the members was established. The work group members reviewed the minutes from the June 25, 2019, meeting. A motion to approve the June 25, 2019, meeting minutes as presented was made by Senator Zucker and seconded by Ms. White. The motion carried.

Presentation: Post-Secondary Options

Dr. Lawson introduced Ms. Crystal Brice-Fleming, Field Director for Instruction and Student Support, Juvenile Services Education System (JSES), to present on post-secondary options. Ms. Brice-Fleming provided a handout detailing post-secondary options within the State of Maryland as well as other states throughout the nation. Ms. Brice-Fleming discussed the post-secondary options within the State of Maryland, including partnerships with Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, and Frederick Community Colleges. Ms. Brice-Fleming discussed the multiple certification options currently offered to JSES students for completion. Ms. Brice-Fleming discussed the availability of post-secondary options found in other states, highlighting that some states provide significantly less post-secondary options than those found in the State of Maryland.
Dr. Lawson shared with the work group that examples from other states were presented to the members so that the work group can collectively decide what states it would like to focus on under the structure of the legislation. Ms. Shapiro asked how the states referenced in the handout were selected. Ms. Brice-Fleming stated that JSES staff has an email list of contacts throughout the nation, and the states highlighted were the first to respond. Ms. Foster asked if the rate of recidivism was known, Ms. Brice-Fleming stated the rate was not known at the present time.

**Presentation: Juvenile Justice Calendar Research**

Dr. Lawson introduced Dr. Marilyn Myers, Field Director for Data Analysis and Accountability, JSES, to present on the academic school-year calendar. Dr. Myers reiterated the statement from Ms. Brice-Fleming that the information provided was based on the states that responded to the inquiry from JSES staff. Dr. Myers shared that the number of school days in the year varies across the nation, ranging from less than 200 days to up to 250 days. Dr. Myers highlighted the number of hours required for daily instruction, as well as the hiring classification, the number of days worked, leave, and summer breaks among JSES teachers across several states.

Ms. Shapiro asked for clarification on the number of days’ students are allowed to attend, and whether there was a distinction between those in detention and those not in detention. Dr. Myers stated that information is not known at the present time. Dr. Lawson distributed a handout to the members of a map of the nation that highlights the operating authority of JSES programs in the states. Dr. Lawson encouraged the members to write down specific questions that can be brought to the attention of the MSDE Office of Research.

The charge of HB 1607 was reiterated to compare various management models to identify the model that would be best applied in the State of Maryland. Once the states are identified the work group will focus upon the funding model to identify how JSES programs within those states are funded.

**Subcommittee Breakouts**

The work group recessed at 9:56 a.m. to breakout into subcommittees. The full work group would reconvene at 11:10 a.m.

**Draft Letter Discussion**

The work group reconvened at 11:09 a.m.

Dr. Lawson shared with the members that another request for an extension to submit the final recommendations of the work group has been submitted to the Governor, Speaker of the House of Delegates, and Senate State President. Discussion of the tight timeline of the work group and that the concerns of the members were reflected in the letter. Dr. Lawson stated her hope that an extension will be granted, and that she will notify the work group members of the response.
The tasks and responsibilities of the subcommittees would be sent out to the members again. If members have specific research questions please submit questions in writing to Mr. Shane McCormick, Executive Assistant to Dr. Lawson. Questions will be submitted to the MSDE Office of Research.

**Subcommittee Reports Discussion**

If an extension is not granted to extend the final report, the work group would continue on its existing timeline. The current timeline was reviewed and provided in the meeting materials. Dr. Lawson asked for two subcommittees to present during the August meeting. The Research Subcommittee volunteered to present during the August meeting. The Transition Subcommittee requested to present during the September meeting.

**Work Group Committee Updates**

The Research Subcommittee was interested in looking into the States of Washington, Oregon, Kentucky, Virginia, Louisiana, Texas, and Florida. Mr. Johnston shared that the Operations Subcommittee was interested in looking at states that have local management of facilities. Dr. Krohn shared it is important the work group look at the states that are comparative in both size and demographics to the juvenile system in Maryland. Senator Zucker reminded the members that the funding to implement the pilot will take up to two years to actually take effect. Ms. Shapiro shared that the Research Subcommittee discussed the recommendations of the Kirwan Commission and the impacts it could have.

Dr. Lawson asked the members the members to vote prior to the next meeting on the states they would like the work group to research, and the states with the most votes would be the selected states. Senator Zucker recommended placing an emphasis on the states that operate under a local management model because that is one of the focuses of the legislation. Ms. Foster asked if the work group would also consider the District of Columbia as a state to research that operates under a local management model.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. James Johnston and seconded by Dr. Marvin Krohn. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.