Work Group Members in Attendance: Dr. Sylvia Lawson (chairperson), Ms. Megan Collins, Ms. Michelle Finlayson, Ms. Tracy Foster, Mr. James Johnston, and Ms. Kimberly Pogue

MSDE Staff in Attendance: Ms. Deborah Grinnage-Pulley, Mr. Shane McCormick, Ms. Deborah Moore, and Mr. Elliot Schoen

The meeting was called to order at 1:39 p.m.; a quorum of members was not present.

**Welcome & Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The members exchanged introductions and professional affiliations. Dr. Sylvia Lawson, chairperson, shared with the members that future meetings will feature a call-in option to allow for members to attend remotely. Dr. Lawson shared with the members that Dr. Marvin Krohn will no longer serve as a member of the workgroup; Dr. Krohn will be replaced by Ms. Sylvia Kuster of the University of the Cumberlands of Kentucky.

The meeting minutes for the November 18, 2019, and January 13, 2020, meetings will be approved at the March meeting.

**Review of Future Meeting Dates**

The members reviewed the materials provided in the meeting packets, including the list of future meeting dates, the charge of the workgroup, and the responsibilities of the workgroup subcommittees. The members reviewed the planned activities for future meetings through the remainder of the 2020 meeting dates.

**Recommendations Based on HB 1607**

The members reviewed the recommendations that the workgroup is responsible for researching and the subcommittees responsible for each recommendation. Meetings would be structured around the recommendations. Each subcommittee would be responsible for presenting on their work group charge.
Ms. Tracy Foster asked if there would be an opportunity to provide an update on the pilot between the Alfred D. Noyes Children’s Center (Noyes) and Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). Ms. Foster agreed to facilitate an update on the pilot during the March meeting at the request of the chairperson.

**Presentation: Academic Year Calendar**

Ms. Kimberly Pogue facilitated a presentation on behalf of the Research Subcommittee on the academic year calendar. The subcommittee is responsible for identifying whether a nine month or twelve month academic year calendar is more appropriate for juvenile facilities within the State of Maryland. Ms. Pogue reviewed academic year calendars, placement and detention policies for the District of Columbia, and the States of Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington.

Dr. Lawson requested information on the Maya Angelou Charter School in the District of Columbia, which had been discussed during previous meetings, including the cost of attendance, if known; Ms. Pogue stated she did not presently have that information. Ms. Foster clarified that the school receives per pupil funding from the District of Columbia; the District of Columbia Office of the Superintendent and the public charter school board governs funding of charter schools in the District of Columbia.

The members broke out into groups to discuss the pros and cons of nine and twelve month calendars. The members summarized the following pros of a nine-month calendar:
- Lead to less teacher burnout;
-Provide more opportunity for teacher professional development;
-Teachers would take less leave;

The members summarized the following cons of a nine month calendar:
- Lower pay;
-Fear of summer learning loss due to fewer instructional days;
-Less time for students to earn credits;
-Less time for built-in breaks;
-Not be enough calendar days to meet the State requirement of 180 days of instruction

The members summarized the following pros of a twelve month calendar:
- Provide additional pay for summer courses;
-Year round calendar with built in breaks would eliminate teachers using annual leave;
-Allow for teachers to work ten months with summer school credit recovery;
-The traditional calendar would align with public schools.

The members summarized the following cons of a twelve month calendar:
- Require different instructional personnel in the summer;
-Could lead to teacher burnout;
-May create challenges for teachers with children to find daycare during summer months;
• May create difficulties for principals to staff if teachers acquire annual leave;
• May create retention issues with teachers and create problems with teacher unions.

Presentation: Access to Postsecondary Options

Ms. Deborah Moore, MSDE Staff, facilitated a presentation on the Juvenile Services Education System (JSES) student access to post-secondary options. JSES provides post-secondary options to students under specific criteria. Post-secondary courses are offered through an online partnership with community colleges across the State; JSES has formal agreements with Frederick Community College, Anne Arundel Community College, and Baltimore City Community College. Ms. Moore shared data on the number of students enrolled and the number of courses taken from semester spring 2017 to fall 2019.

Ms. Moore discussed the collaboration between the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) and Garrett Community College, whereby selected JSES students are admitted for one college semester while in DJS care. Students are able to take classes on campus at Garrett Community College. Ms. Moore reviewed post-secondary options in the States selected by the workgroup for comparison to the State of Maryland. Information was shared for all of the States with the exception of the States of Kentucky and Virginia.

Ms. Moore discussed barriers to post-secondary options for students in JSES facilities. These barriers include internet connectivity issues, student engagement, academic gaps, and lack of funding.

The members broke out into groups to discuss the pros and cons of post-secondary options. The members summarized the following pros of post-secondary options:
• Would allow for more opportunities for partnerships, such as those with community colleges;
• Allow for students to pursue online colleges;
• Allow for the establishment of partnerships in the community to bring in tutors;
• Foster cooperation with community case managers;
• Provide opportunities for outside funding through philanthropic channels.

Review of Next Steps

The information provided in the presentations would be submitted in a written format to be included in the final write-up of the workgroup. Dr. Lawson summarized the content that will be discussed during the next meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.