



Operation Youth Success

Re-entry Task Force

December 1, 2016

3:30pm – 5:00pm

Westside Community Schools ABC Building

Welcome and Introductions:

- Crystal Cardenas – D2 Center - Guest

Announcements-OYS updates:

- Community Based Aid (CBA Funding) - Aps submitted as on 11/21/16
 - Go to OYS Steering Committee 12/15/16 for vote
 - Majority of asks came from the OYS/JDAI working groups.

Pat – Update on ESSA

- ESSA Website - Foster Care/state ward Guidance out from HHS – automatic online notice – Each LAA has a foster care liaison appointed, Michelle Borg will be the state Liaison. December 10th deadline. Best interest determination, transportation – removing barriers. Will replace superintendent letter.
- **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and Nebraska’s “Fostering Connections in Education” Liaison Network (FCLN)**
 - Contact: Michele Borg ([402-310-1348](tel:402-310-1348) or borgworks@gmail.com)
 - In recognition of the unique needs of students involved in the child welfare system, both Federal and State governments have launched efforts to increase school stability and improve education outcomes for children in foster care. In December of 2015, the federal **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)** was passed by Congress, reauthorizing the **Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)**. ESSA requires each *State and Local Education Agency (SEA and LEA)* to designate a Point of Contact (POC) to work collaboratively with State, local and tribal child welfare agencies to ensure the educational stability of children in foster care. In response, the Nebraska Department of Education is expanding **Nebraska’s “Fostering Connections in Education” Liaison Network (FCLN)**, originally established in 2011, to include all school districts as well as the Educational Service Units (ESUs), Special Purpose Schools and Interim-Program Schools. The *“Fostering Connections” Liaison Network* has also identified State and regional liaisons for the child welfare, juvenile/criminal justice, and behavioral health systems.
 - All school districts will be receiving correspondence from Dr. Blomstedt requesting a FCLN Liaison be designated for each district. **Please provide your FCLN Liaison’s contact information to the Nebraska Department of Education as per the instructions in the Commissioner’s letter, no later than Friday, December 9.** To facilitate cross-systems communication, coordination and collaboration, each liaison’s contact information is included in the **FCLN Directory**, disseminated to all liaisons at least annually.
 - [Foster Care Guidance \(07/2016\)](#)

School Welcome letter and contacts list for Douglas County schools re-entry.

- Recommend having a meeting with the designated contact person regarding the process at each school prior to implementation
 - Include school social workers, SSLs,
- Discussed adding social worker for Millard. Is main number better since there are multiple building and youth may not know where they will be attending?
 - Number that works during the summer

- Information for OPS – new phone number/contact (Amy will provide)
- Discussed providing to Defense Counsel to give to clients – once complete & schools have been notified
- How do we get ahead of enrolling/re-enrolling youth who are returning to school following an out-of-home placement
 - Schools have to have a plan because of ESSA
 - Strategies –
 - Facilitating the transfer of required documents – how can schools be proactive in this process and what can facilities do to assist.
 - Easing the burden on youth & filies
 - At such time that a student is placed, that is the time to collect essential documents
 - Parent get copy from last school
 - Get documents to receiving school asap
 - In the meantime, who can hold the documents – probation, NFC – in the event a parent cannot hold
 - Personal Learning Plan – parents/youth get a code (Pat provided this info)
 - <https://www.education.ne.gov/cared/PDFs/PLPBooklet.pdf>
 - These planning sessions are most effective and efficient when you have pertinent materials, information, and resources at your fingertips. Nebraska Career Education has developed many templates and materials that can be printed. However, Personal Learning Plans will ideally be electronic for ease of storage, accessibility to students, parents and school, and ease of yearly modification. NebraskaCareerConnections.org is a complete career information system and also provides all elements of PLP's online within a student's portfolio. NebraskaCareerConnections always has the most current essential career information and is available 24-hours a day to students, parents and educators.
 - <https://www.education.ne.gov/cared/PDFs/PLPBrochure.pdf> What is the PLP?
 - <http://nebraskacareerconnections.org/>
 - This is where you can have a free account, and can upload documents—could be for storage for items we discussed - has parent and student section....

TerraLuna – Developmental Evaluation Activity

Reentry Goal – assist youth and families in reentering school from out-of-school placements

Question - *What type of data (data points) would you need to judge or weigh the health of reentry in the system?*

We will finish looking at Work Plan 3, 4 and 5.

- Updates made on the plan.
- #3 - Barriers to reentry specific to DMC –
 - Barriers related to race, ethnicity, gender, geography
 - Barriers related to culture and language
 - How can the reentry work group begin to eliminate/minimize barriers
 - Must identify the what/where/who
 - Where can the data be found related to barriers
 - Probation?
 - Not every youth re-entering is served by a program
 - Data point – superintendent letter
 - DCYC – data for youth who were in the facility

- Reentry from DCYC
- Reentry of Probationers
- Reentry w/DHHS
- D2 – youth who left voluntarily and decided to return
- D2 – agreement with OPS – enrollment history from OPS
 - Youth who drop out – cold calling names on list, what led to that
 - Can follow-up with school to provide justification. Code
- Exit interview – provide as a resource
- Enrollment codes

Public Comment: none

Next Meeting: January 26th 2017 @ 3:30 – 5:00 pm @ Westside ABC Building

OYS Mission Statement: Across Douglas County, our vision is a **comprehensive, coordinated, and community-wide** approach to **juvenile services** that **eliminates** the need for youth involvement with our justice system while maintaining **public safety**.

For **all youth** who do enter our justice system, our goals are to provide **effective, compassionate and individualized** support that empowers youth and their **families** to **succeed** and to build an environment of **mutual trust and accountability**.

Re-entry Mission Statement:

The mission of OYS Re-Entry is to increase the number of juveniles successfully reintegrated back into schools and the community through coordinated transition support, thereby increasing overall academic success and ultimately reducing recidivism.