



Kane County Juvenile Justice Council March Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2020 at 12:00 PM

**Kane County State's Attorney's Office – Conference Room
37W777 IL Route 38, Suite 300
Saint Charles, IL 60175**

***Voting Members:** State's Attorney (chair), Chief Judge's Office, Juvenile Delinquency Court Judge, Public Defender, County Board, Sheriff's Department, Court Services, Regional Office of Education, Kane County Chiefs of Police, Juvenile Officer's Association, Kane County Bar Association*

Members present: Kaitlin Kerstetter, Mike Doyen, Kristen Lohrstorfer, Eric Majewski, Josh Axelsen, Pat Gengler, Judge Parga (left at 12:40 PM)

Members late: Rachele Conant (12:20 PM)

Members absent: Lisa Aust, Susan Starrett

Call to order: 12:06 PM

1. Introductions
2. Approval of minutes from January

Result: APPROVED as distributed

***No meeting in February due to lack of quorum**

3. JJC Chairman's report
 - **Introduction to Kaitlin Kerstetter, Assistant State's Attorney & State's Attorney McMahon's new designee to the JJC**
 - **Budget Update – \$16, 981 spent year-to-date, mostly on personnel**
4. Old Business
 - De-Escalation Workshop
 - **Update provided: exploring opportunity to collaborate with Children's Mental Health grant and their initiatives to engage parents.**
 - **Had previously received feedback that it would be more effective to involve parents in the planning process.**
 - **Remain in the preliminary stages of planning; updated proposal shared with Board**
 - **Additional discussion:**
 - **Based on efforts from School Discipline Roundtable – focus on the younger children**
 - **Parents struggling with their own mental health issues**
 - **Parents do not feel empowered to manage behavior at home, lack of information for parents on to regulate emotions within the home**
 - Youth focus groups
 - **VOTE: Does the Board approve the list of questions to be used to guide discussion with planned youth focus groups?**
 - **Update provided: questions drafted to help guide discussion, will likely be follow up questions as well**
 - **Draft of questions provided to Board for review**



Result:	APPROVED
Mover:	Josh Axelsen
Secunder:	Pat Gengler
Ayes:	Kerstetter, Lohrstorfer, Axelsen, Doyen, Majewski, Gengler, Parga

DISCUSSION:

- **Do we send questionnaire prior to the group to help increase participation?**
- **Discussed concerns of students with 5 essentials surveys issues – some students were concerned about being honest**
 - o **May need a disclaimer of some sort to let youth know they are not self-incriminating, this is confidential space**
 - o **Youth were open at Mental Health forum that was hosted by Children’s Mental Health grant**
- **Facilitate discussion in smaller group settings**
- **Possibility of removing names from the discussion**
- **What is the point of the focus groups?**
 - o **Gather information from youth about their perspective of the juvenile justice system, help inform any future collaboration with youth related to JJC initiatives or improvements for the juvenile justice system**
- **What districts would this be done in? Would certain ones be prioritized over others?**
 - o **Have not connected with the districts just yet, waiting for guidance from the Board about the questions**
- **Are we looking for candidates for a Youth Advisory Board?**
 - o **Possibly, this is likely the first of many steps**
- **School Discipline Roundtable Discussion**
- **Update provided: hosted on March 4, 2020 in collaboration with the ROE.**
 - o **6 of the 9 school districts present, community providers, Court Services representatives, ROE representatives, & Judge Parga**
 - o **Became an opportunity to understand the priorities from each perspective**
 - o **Community partners shared about SASS & CCBYS resources available to the community**
 - o **Discussion resulted in adjusted perspectives based on more understanding and plans to increase efficiency in communication between the schools and justice system**
- **Other observations shared:**
 - o **Struck by the ages of students, schools reported seeing issues in younger students**
 - o **Helpful to hear other perspectives**
 - o **Seemed to be forming relationships, learning about alternative schools**
 - o **Developing a “go-to” list for school district contacts**
- **Could be done again in FY 2021**
- **Law Enforcement Training**
- **Continue to be in the preliminary stages of planning**
- **Exciting to have Chiefs of Police representative to help provide input for this endeavor**
- **Discussed concerns about asking officers to attend more training when they are already attending so much training**
 - o **Do we partner with CIT training instead?**



- **Reminder: Data was being used to make the training more targeted, both with department & topic**
- Restorative Practices
 - Training of Trainers
 - An MOU has been drafted; shared with the Board of Directors**
 - **Done in response to past issues with facilitators offering training regularly – there has been a lot of turnover in these positions as well**
 - **Barrier of paying for license on annual basis – some facilitators have let this lapse**
 - **Districts would likely pick up trainer fee**
 - **Amend MOU to include expectation for maintaining license**
 - **Need to continue the conversation to see how it can be streamlined**
- FY 2021 Grant Priorities
 - Julia will be working on this – send any ideas**
- Juvenile Justice Jeopardy
 - ***VOTE: Does the Board approve providing up to \$5000 to supplement the cost of Juvenile Justice Jeopardy?***
 - Vote that was previously tabled to get clarification – responses to questions from the Board provided**

Result:	REJECTED
Mover:	Mike Doyen
Seconder:	Rachele Conant
Ayes:	Kerstetter, Lohrstorfer, Axelsen, Doyen, Majewski, Gengler, Parga, Conant

DISCUSSION:

- **Have they started implementing? Not yet**
 - **Reviewed potential concerns based on the initial draft of jeopardy questions and how they may adversely impact relationships between youth and law enforcement, concerns about information being shared with youth**
 - 2020 Outstanding Student & Youth Service Professional Awards
 - **Many of the schools are may be switching to e-learning at least through Spring Break**
 - **Need to withdraw opportunity for this year**
5. New Business
- JOA Scholarships
 - **Kristen explained request to sponsor JOA conference attendees – June 17th through June 19th in East Peoria**
 - **\$150 per person**
 - **Issues with last year – did not announce soon enough, people had already paid and it was difficult to get a refund**
 - **Had 8 officers attend last year in total**
 - **Could do funding for up to a certain amount**
 - **Need to know if funds are available – budget shared with Board**
 - **Julia to send email vote to request funding for up to 10 officers to attend**



- Coordinating efforts with Health Department
 - Julia provided update – have been working with the Health Dept/Children’s Mental Health to more effectively align initiatives**
 - **There is an overlap in some of the priority areas**
 - **Outline provided to Board to show potential for duplication of efforts**
- FY 2020 Budget Revision
 - ***VOTE: Does the Board approve moving \$5500 from the personnel line item and \$1200 from the fringe benefits line item to Training & Education?***
 - Budget revision needed due to Julia being out on maternity leave**
 - **Funding has been estimated based on Julia being out for approximately 12 weeks**

Result:	APPROVED
Mover:	Josh Axelsen
Secunder:	Pat Gengler
Ayes:	Kerstetter, Lohrstorfer, Axelsen, Doyen, Majewski, Gengler, Conant

DISCUSSION - NONE

- 6. Other Updates/Upcoming Events – **None**
- 7. Adjournment – **1:05 PM**
- 8. Next Board of Directors Meeting: ~~March 13, 2020 at 12 PM, State’s Attorney’s Office Conference Room~~
Next JJC Quarterly Meeting: April 9, 2020 at 11:30 AM, Kane County Sheriff’s Department Training Room
Next Board of Directors Meeting: May 14th at 12 PM, State’s Attorney’s Office Conference Room