Maryland Commission on the School to Prison Pipeline and Restorative Practices
September 25, 2017
1:00 – 4:00 pm
Krongard Room
University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

MINUTES

Commission Members Present:
Barbara Grochal, Chair
Barbara Robinson, Maryland State Senator
Walter Sallee, Maryland State Department of Education designee
Sam Abed, Secretary, Maryland Department of Juvenile Services
Michael Bunitsky, Maryland Association of Boards of Education designee
Robin McNair, Maryland State Education Association designee
Marla Posey-Moss, Maryland PTA designee
Gail Sunderland, Executive Director, Maryland Equity Project
Wendy Shaia, Positive Schools Center designee
Rhonda Richetta, Principal (Baltimore City Public Schools)
Kimberly Humphrey, American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland designee
Melanie Shapiro, Maryland Public Defender designee
Shamarla McCoy, Advocates for Children and Youth designee
Lorig Charkoudian, Executive Director, Community Mediation Maryland
Matt Zernhelt, Executive Director, Community Conferencing Center
Phillip Leaf, Executive Director, Youth Leadership and Advocacy Network, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Craig Minor, Youth Leadership and Advocacy Network youth representative
Tiffany Nace, Teacher (Worcester County Public Schools)
Deborah Eisenberg, Faculty Director, Center for Dispute Resolution, University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law

Additional Attendees:
Marty McGowan, Legislative Aide, Office of Delegate Alonzo T. Washington
Ed Clark, Director of the Maryland Center for School Safety
Jennifer Williams, Youth Program Director, Mid Shore Community Mediation Center
Beth Doory, Program Coordinator, Advocates for Children and Youth
Sara Kaplan, Department of Juvenile and Family Services
Andrew Hill, Education and Justice Legal Theory and Practice, University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law
Dena Robinson, MLAW Legal Fellow
Danny Adamson, Mediation Clinic, University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law
Kaela Boyden, Student, University of Maryland, College Park
Kendra Ogunshina, Co-chair of Education Committee for Circle of Restorative Initiatives for Maryland
Barbara Sherrod, Restorative Practices Specialist, Community Conferencing Center
CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Grochal called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees. She indicated her intent to involve the wonderful group of members and attendees and their rich experiences and knowledge in their work together.

INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Grochal then asked the members to introduce themselves and share one goal for the Commission.

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REPORT

Walter Sallee, Director of Student Services and Strategic Planning, Maryland State Department of Education and Commission member, provided a PowerPoint briefing. Specifically, he presented an overview of student discipline in Maryland, an update on school arrest data, the Maryland guidelines for a state code of discipline, and the local codes of discipline. Mr. Sallee reported he did not have accurate and consistent school arrest data from the local education agencies (LEA’s) as there were data collection issues. A number of LEA’s must revise their reported data so outside arrests are not counted in school-based arrests and referrals to law enforcement. MSDE is now directing school superintendents to review and revise data if needed. He plans to report this refined data in the future, possibly at the next Commission meeting in November.

A number of Commission members and attendees asked questions of Mr. Sallee around the statewide data which he answered.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Grochal shared a slide with several suggestions for future meetings, which included tapping internal expertise of Commission members as well as national experts. She then opened the floor for comments about the Commission’s next steps.

She then asked members to complete an input form as a means of gathering specifics regarding what information they are seeking, suggestions for presenters, and interest in participating in the Planning Sub-Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Grochal adjourned the meeting at 4:00 pm.
(Note: Meetings are recorded and can be found online on the Center for Dispute Resolution’s Commission webpage.)