

Implementing the Early Warning Systems in our Schools: A Partnership with Our Juvenile Court

Mahoning County Juvenile Court

Austintown Local Schools

Boardman Local Schools

Struthers Local Schools



Who are We?

- Judge Theresa Dellick, Mahoning County Juvenile Court Judge
- Linda McNally, Grants Coordinator
- Vince Colaluca, ALSD Superintendent
- Tim Saxton, BLSD Superintendent
- Joseph Nohra, SLSD Superintendent
- Jeremy Batchelor, ALSD Asst. Superintendent
- John LaPlante, ACCESS Director

The Grant

Judge Dellick and Linda McNally

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Mw4d1V6C6oKG37HD772Y_PlJwgIf4DnnWR9ioh8cjH4/edit#slide=id.p3

School District Commitments/Why we participated?

- Colaluca
 - Attendance and Success Stories
- Nohra
 - Behavior and Success Stories
- Saxton
 - Curriculum and Success Stories



The EWS Teams

- Roles
- Stipends
- Meetings
- Early Results

The Data

- John LaPlante, ACCESS
 - Quarterly Extract of SIS Data
 - Unexcused Absences, ISS/OSS, Failures
 - Every Child (5-12th grade) gets a 0-100 score
 - On-Track 90-100
 - Sliding 70-89
 - Off-Track 0-69
 - EWS Teams Meet to Review Scores

EWS Calculation Criteria

16-17 EWS Q1

Configurations

Information

Students













Measures

Aggregation

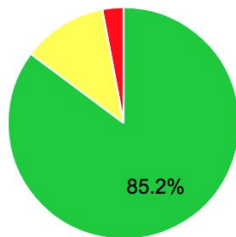
Meta Data

Duplicate

Add Category

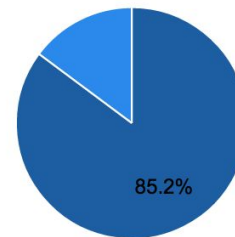
Category	Attendance	35%	35 / 100 Points	Add Measure	
Measure	16-17 EWS Q1 - Attendance - Less Than 4	100%	35 Points		
Measure	16-17 EWS Q1 - Attendance - Between 4 and 9	50%	-18 Points		
Measure	16-17 EWS Q1 - Attendance - Greater than 9	100%	-35 Points		
Category	Behavior	35%	35 / 100 Points	Add Measure	
Measure	16-17 EWS Q1 - Behavior - None	100%	35 Points		
Measure	16-17 EWS Q1 - Behavior - Between 1 and 2	50%	-18 Points		
Measure	16-17 EWS Q1 - Behavior - Greater than 2	100%	-35 Points		
Category	Curriculum	30%	30 / 100 Points	Add Measure	
Measure	16-17 EWS Q1 - Failures - None	100%	30 Points		
Measure	16-17 EWS Q1 - Failures - 1	50%	-15 Points		
Measure	16-17 EWS Q1 - Failures - Greater than 1	100%	-30 Points		

Students Per Performance Band



- On Track
- Sliding
- Off Track

Students At Risk



- Not At Risk
- At Risk

Displaying 1 to 50 of 405



More...

Search

Student ID	Last Name	First Name	Overall Score	Overall Label	Attendance	Behavior	Curriculum
			100	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track
			100	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track
			100	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track
			82	Sliding	Off Track	On Track	On Track
			100	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track
			82	Sliding	On Track	Off Track	On Track
			82	Sliding	Off Track	On Track	On Track
			100	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track
			82	Sliding	Off Track	On Track	On Track
			100	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track

Questions, Comments or Concerns...



OJJDP School Justice Collaboration Grant Award

**A pilot program to
Keep Kids in School and Out of Court**

Grant Participants

Mahoning County Juvenile Court

Austintown Local Schools

Boardman Local Schools

Mahoning County High School

Struthers City Schools

Youngstown City Schools

ACCESS

Technical Assistance Providers

- U.S. Department of Justice
- National Center for Juvenile Justice & National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
- National Association of State Board of Education

- National Center for Child Traumatic Stress Network
- International Association of Chiefs of Police – Juvenile Justice and Child Protection Initiatives

Goal of Pilot Program

To create a program that encourages collaboration between schools, the Court and community partners to ensure that there is a system in place that supports keeping kids in school by providing for the early identification of any obstacles to academic completion,

by providing interventions that are responsive to the student's needs and by doing so, prevent suspension, expulsion, dropout and involvement with the justice system.

Steps we took to accomplish our goals

- 1. Implemented an Early Warning system**
- 2. Supported the schools by dedicating Court resources to bringing evidence programs and training to the schools.**

3. Planned for and are providing Restorative Justice Training to all participating schools

4. Provided SRO and law enforcement training

5. Added a Truancy Family Advocate

6. Worked with Mahoning County Mental Health and Recovery Board to provide funding to hire a School Liaison Behavioral Health Screening staff member to:

7. Worked with other community partners to resolve any issues

8. Created a graduated truancy model

7. Worked with other community partners to resolve any intervention issues

8. Created a graduated truancy response model

**COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN MAHONING COUNTY JUVENILE COURT,
AUSTINTOWN, BOARDMAN, STRUTHERS, YOUNGSTOWN CITY AND MAHONING COUNTY
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS.**

TO IMPLEMENT AN EARLY WARNING SYSTEM IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS, RESTRUCTURE THE REFERRAL PROCESS OF SCHOOL-BASED INCIDENTS AND TO CLARIFY AND STANDARDIZE THE ROLE OF SCHOOL-BASED RESOURCE OFFICERS.

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into as of this ____ day of ____, 2015 by and between:

THERESA DELLICK, JUDGE OF MAHONING COUNTY JUVENILE COURT, whose principal place of business is 300 E. SCOTT STREET YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO 44505,

VINCE COLALUCA, SUPERINTENDENT, AUSTINTOWN SCHOOLS DISTRICT, whose principal place of business is 700 S. RACCOON ROAD AUSTINTOWN, OHIO 44515,

FRANK LAZZERI, SUPERINTENDENT, BOARDMAN SCHOOLS DISTRICT, whose principal place of business is 7410 MARKET STREET BOARDMAN, OHIO 44512,

JOSEPH NOHRA, SUPERINTENDENT OF STRUTHERS CITY SCHOOLS DISTRICT, whose principal place of business is 99 EUCLID AVENUE STRUTHERS, OHIO 44471,

STEVE STOHLA, INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF YOUNGSTOWN CITY SCHOOLS DISTRICT, whose principal place of business is 2727 GIBSON STREET YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO 44502 and

JENNIFER MERRITT, SUPERINTENDENT OF MAHONING COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL whose principal place of business is 940 BRYN MAWR YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO 44505.

WHEREAS, this agreement is entered into between the Juvenile Court of Mahoning County (herein referred to as the Court) and the Austintown, Boardman, Struthers, Youngstown City and Mahoning County High School Districts (herein referred to as the School Districts) for the purpose of establishing a cooperative relationship in response to Mahoning County Juvenile Court's award of a \$600,000 grant by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (herein referred to as the OJJDP) titled: 2014 School-Justice Collaboration Program : Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court and the desire to foster and encourage academic success and completion of school (hereinafter referred to as the Collaborative); and

WHEREAS, this agreement strives to strengthen multidisciplinary collaboration and joint decisions making amongst the court, school districts, mental health service providers, law enforcement and juvenile justice agencies to provide a continuum of prevention and early intervention services to identify and proactively address student mental health and behavioral health issues and reduce inappropriate reliance on referral to the justice system; and

WHEREAS, the Court and School Districts desire to participate in the pilot Collaborative, acknowledging that it is the first of its kind in the county to establish and create a model program that positively impacts academic success and discourages expulsion, dropout and involvement with the justice system and School Districts and to create a system that is supported by data to encourage implementation of the program in all Mahoning County School districts; and

WHEREAS, the Court and the School Districts desire to implement a strategic plan to collaboratively work to foster positive school climates through evidence-based reforms and practices including those that promote positive discipline procedures , avoid unnecessary referrals from schools, reduce law enforcement agencies from formally processing youth, provide awareness of behavioral health concerns and connect children to needed services; and

WHEREAS, the parties acknowledge the desire to do so is supported by studies showing that juvenile justice contact and involvement have detrimental effects on a student; nearly doubles the odds of dropping out of school, quadrupling the odds if coupled with court appearances (Sweeten, 2006) as well as lowering standardized test scores, reducing future employment prospects, and increasing the likelihood of future interaction with the criminal justice systems (Thornberry, et. al., 2004 and Grogger, 1992); and

WHEREAS, the Court and the School Districts agree to create and implement an early warning system in the middle and high schools to help educators and others identify students at risk of dropping out and assign and monitor interventions to keep them on track for graduation; and

WHEREAS, the Court and the School Districts agree to establish standard School Resource Officers (SRO) protocol and practices; and

WHEREAS, the Court and the School Districts will develop a team of professionals using the mixed team mode consisting of representatives from the court, school and behavioral health care systems. Team members will be a program director, behavioral health specialist, school engagement manager and school principal; and

WHEREAS, the Court and the School Districts will collaboratively work to create an early warning system employing a combination of attendance, behavior incidents and course performance (herein referred to as the ABC model), establish threshold levels and intervention strategies as tools to determine at risk status for expulsion, drop out and academic progression to graduation; and

WHEREAS, the Court and School Districts will continue to collaborate with each other to promote a healthy school climate and early warning system to improve school attendance and graduation rates as the parties acknowledge that a zero tolerance approach and the improper use of enforcement on school campus is contrary to the nature of adolescent cognition and disregards the adolescent brain development research. The research using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) found that the frontal lobe of the brain, which filters emotion into logical response, is not fully developed until at least age 21 (Giedd, et. al., 1999) and that adolescents are “biological wired to exhibit risk-taking behaviors, impulse responses, and exercise poor judgment” (Teske, 2011); and

WHEREAS, the parties acknowledge that the juvenile justice system was specifically established for adolescents under neurological construction and with propensities to make poor decisions as evidenced by the juvenile statute’s emphasis on diversion and treatment as opposed to punishment. The parties acknowledge that the commission of delinquent acts does not always require the finding that a student is a delinquent child. The parties further acknowledge that the law requires the Court to make a preliminary determination that a petition be certified in the best interest of the child and the community before it can be filed with the Court. The parties acknowledge that the truancy filings are under the jurisdiction of the Court. The parties acknowledge and agree that decisions affecting the filing of a complaint against a student and or his/her parent/guardian should not be lightly taken and that a cooperative agreement delineating the responsibilities of each party when involved in making a decision to do so would promote the best interest of the student and the community; and

WHEREAS, the parties acknowledge and agree that this Agreement is a cooperative effort to establish guidelines for the handling of truancy and school behavior related acts which are defined as the focused acts. The parties further acknowledge and agree that the guidelines contained herein are intended to establish uniformity in the handling of students who have committed one of the focused acts as defined herein while simultaneously ensuring that each case is individually addressed to promote a response proportional to the various and differing factors affecting each student’s case. The parties acknowledge and agree that the manner in which each case or incident is handled by school resource officers, school administrators, and/or the Juvenile Court is dependent upon the many unique factors to each child that includes, but is not limited to, the child’s background, present circumstances, disciplinary record, academic record,

general demeanor and disposition towards others, mental and behavioral health status and other factors. Therefore, the parties acknowledge that students involved in the same or similar incidents may receive different and varying responses depending upon the involved and relevant factors as well as student's needs;

NOW THEREFORE, it is agreed between the parties hereto that:

1. The Court agrees to contract with the School Districts for the services of an engagement manager at each middle and high school in the amount of \$2,500 per person who will serve on the team and provide and collect all required data to be submitted to the Court.
2. The Court and School Districts will mutually agree upon and implement an early warning system, monitor student threshold levels, respond with engagement and intervention, track progress in the interest of deterring expulsion, dropout and encourage academic completion and success. The teams will collaboratively work to establish an intervention services list that correspond to the students' needs and create a tiered protocol for intervention services.
3. The School Districts and Court intervention team will weekly meet to create an individualized intervention plan for students falling below the acceptable threshold, monitor student progress and make adjustments to the intervention plan as needed.
4. The Court and School Districts plan to utilize court counseling and evidence-based programs, school counselors, and mental health agency services leveraging the collective resources of the parties and maximizing community partners' resources to increase positive outcomes.
5. In an effort to expand intervention programs the Court will train court staff in the evidence-based *Positive Action Curriculum*, designed to improve youth academics, behavior and character to be utilized in schools, families or communities.
6. The Court will allocate grant resources to provide training to designated School Resource Offices in the School Districts to educate and clarify their role and standardize appropriate response protocols and to minimize juvenile justice referrals.
7. The Court will provide informational programs (with CTE units) for teachers and parents to introduce the early warning systems program, intervention services and overall program implementation.
8. The Court will annually provide training to school resource officers on adolescent development.
9. The Court will provide the evidence-based *Making Space for Learning* trauma-informed practice to School Districts' teachers.
10. The grant funding will provide Restorative Justice training to Mahoning County High School staff and teachers. Restorative Justice training will be provided to the School Districts' middle school and high schools employees.
11. The Court and School District partners will quarterly meet to review reports and findings in an effort to adapt and modify the project as needed.
12. The Court will hire a Program Director to oversee the project and coordinate with each school district's engagement manager to streamline the process as well as to provide technical support and program services.
13. The Partners agree to work towards setting measurable goals and objectives, identifying activities, creating an action plan and developing a monitoring progress plan.

14. The Partners agree to make this Collaborative a priority among their responsibilities and will devote the necessary time and resources to planning, implementing and completing the Collaborative.

DURATION AND MODIFICATION

This Agreement shall immediately become effective upon its execution by signature and shall remain in full force and effect until the termination of the Grant. The Agreement may be modified at any time by amendment to the Agreement. The Parties acknowledge and agree to annually meet to provide oversight of the Agreement and make recommendations on any modifications to the Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto, intending to cooperate with one another, have hereunder set their hands on the date set forth below:

Jennifer Whittemore, Superintendent
Mahoning County High School

Frank Lazzeri, Superintendent
Boardman Local School District

Date

Date

Vince Colaluca, Superintendent
Austintown Local School District

Joseph Nohra, Superintendent
Struthers Local School District

Date

Date

Steve Stohla, Interim Superintendent
Youngstown City School District

Theresa Dellick, Judge
Mahoning County Juvenile Court

Date

Date