



**JJPOC Education Committee  
Transition/Reentry Subcommittee  
November 25, 2019  
1:00-2:00pm**

The William C. Graustein Memorial Fund, 2319 Whitney Ave, (2B) Hamden, CT  
**Meeting Summary:**

- Overview of Last Month's Subcommittee Meeting
  - Subcommittee members introduced themselves and reviewed what was discussed at last month's meeting to catch everyone up. There were recommendations made in last month's meeting that require additional detail and thought for actual implementation.
- Discussion of Recommendations
  - Increase access to technology (e.g. internet and email) for USD#1
    - Although there is some technology in in the facilities, the classrooms lack internet access, which makes it difficult for teachers to communicate or access information. Increasing technology can also benefit the educational services in the classroom and help foster some of the technological skills students come in with. There are computer courses and tech courses for vocational ed programs but no internet in the classrooms.
    - It was discussed that Hartford Detention Center has more technological access at their facility with certain webpages preprogrammed and others blocked. It was suggested that USD#1 mirror this to maintain safety and liability but increase benefits.
    - There was also a discussion on electronic IEP access for all school districts. It will be piloted this year and a full roll out for 2022. There was some discussion on financial resources for implementation of this across the state.
  - Use a uniform system of state-wide electronic record transfers for sharing educational records of juveniles.
    - Currently, part of the SDE central database does exist. There is a transfer history but it is not necessarily live, 24 hours. There was discussion on the use of SaaS ID versus a Student ID. It is imperative that all of the programs and systems should be able to communicate with one another.
    - The challenges recognized in this process were the pushback from districts, the various levels of funding and program use, the expectations of expectations of maintenance and quality control, and the barriers of confidentiality and HIPPA. There was also discussion on who would oversee the database, in terms of a district level or state level.
    - PowerSchool is operated independently by district and they have different "packages" with access and tools. About 130/169 districts have PowerSchool. The

- subcommittee would like to seek out what other states are doing with PowerSchool and funding streams, such as Massachusetts.
- The subcommittee will ask SDE for data guidance by an employee who has a system's perspective
  - The school district should be mandate a student's home district to offer diplomas if earned in an out-of home placement.
    - There was discussion on the importance for student to have a chance to get their diploma from the home district because the "State of Connecticut" diploma does not have the same meaning to them. Challenges were recognized, including the varying graduation requirements across the districts, the lack of incentive for home districts to oblige, and the lack of clear state guidelines. It was noted that there should be flexibility and collaboration in this process. For example, Hartford Detention works collaboratively with the districts so that the diploma can come from the district.
  - There should be established state-wide expectations for ensuring credit transfers/partial credit transfers.
    - There was discussion on various credit recovery programs used. Currently USD#1 uses a paper trail and can easily benefit from using an established program. There are also some programs you can download and use without internet.
    - For GED's, DOC currently tries to get creative with community service projects but capstone projects are more challenging for both Detention and USD#1. There was further discussion of SAT's, education level testing, and
  - There was a discussion on the need for accountability of these recommendations. It was suggested that SDE be mandated as the authority and accountability of implementation and quality control.
- Next Steps
    - Meet with Education Committee
    - Draft language for recommendations and minimum expectations
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    - **Next Meeting:** December 10, 2019 @ The William C. Graustein Memorial Fund, 2319 Whitney Ave, Hamden, CT