



Making connections. Informing solutions.

May 4th, 2026
3:00 PM –4:30PM
Zoom

TCB School Based Workgroup May Meeting Agenda

- 1. TCB Monthly Administrative Updates**
 - a. Workgroup Updates
 - b. TCB Monthly Meeting Updates
 - c. Legislative Updates
- 2. Breakout Rooms - Subgroups**
 - a. School Billing**
 - i. Overview of Legislation
 - ii. Scope of Work
 - b. Special Education**
 - i. Review of Protocol
 - ii. Key Informant Interviews
 - iii. Focus Group Plan
 - iv. Survey Plan



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School-Based Workgroup

May 4th , 2026

Administrative Updates

TCB Monthly Meetings

TCB Meetings are hybrid and held monthly in the Legislative Office Building (LOB) and on Zoom. All meetings are recorded and streamed on the TYJI YouTube Channel and through the Connecticut News Network (CTN)

Meeting Materials are posted on the [TCB's Connecticut General Assembly \(CGA\)](#) website before the Monthly meeting

April TCB Meeting:

The April TCB Meeting, held on April 15th, consisted of an overview of the state agencies' roles/authority for individuals with Intellectual Disorder/Developmental Disorder/Autism Spectrum Disorder, and co-occurring behavioral health concerns.

May TCB Meeting: The next TCB meeting will be held on **May 13th, from 2:00-4:00 PM**, via Zoom.

The May TCB will be focused on suicide and substance abuse prevention, with presentations from the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS). The meeting will also consist of updates from UnitedWay and Daydream Communications on the Urgent Crisis Centers (UCCs) and Crisis Continuum Marketing and Communications initiative, and a legislative update from the TCB Tri-chairs.

Workgroup Upcoming Meeting Dates

Workgroup:	Meeting Date:	Focus Areas/Action Steps
System Infrastructure – Systems Of Care Subgroup	June 16th , 2026 3:00 – 4:30 PM (ZOOM)	The Systems of Care subgroup within the April meeting reviewed and gave feedback on a draft policy paper created by one of its co-chairs. At the next meeting, members of the subgroup will present their findings on Connecticut's current structure and have a discussion with the subgroup.
Prevention	May 28 th , 2026 3:00 – 4:30 PM (ZOOM)	The Prevention workgroup will have a presentation from Jill Farrell from the Innovations Institute, at the UConn School of Social Work on the data findings from the Children's Behavioral Health Provider Survey. The workgroup plans to utilize the findings of the report to inform the three subgroups of the workgroup.
Services	May 27 th , 2026 2:00 – 3:30 PM (ZOOM)	The Services workgroup will have a presentation from Jill Farrell from the Innovations Institute, at the UConn School of Social Work on the data findings from the Children's Behavioral Health Provider Survey. The results will be presented to the larger TCB this summer.

***The next School-Based Workgroup meeting is on
June 1st, 3:00 – 4:30 PM***

School Based Network Resources Folder

My files > TCB School Based Materials

Name	Modified	Modified By	File size	Sharing
April Meeting Materials	April 30	Bohmbach, Emily	7 items	Shared
July Meeting Materials	July 03	Bohmbach, Emily	3 items	Shared
June Meeting Materials	May 28	Bohmbach, Emily	3 items	Shared
May Meeting Materials	April 30	Bohmbach, Emily	4 items	Shared
Meeting Recordings	May 06	Bohmbach, Emily	1 item	Shared
Membership List (living document)	April 30	Bohmbach, Emily	1 item	Shared
Network Resources & Resources Shared in	June 11	Bohmbach, Emily	1 item	Shared
TCB 2025-2028 Strategic Plan	April 30	Bohmbach, Emily	1 item	Shared

Have a resource to share next month?

Contact Any of Us:

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Elizabeth elizabeth.connors@yale.edu

Legislative Updates

Legislative Updates

The TCB Bill, HB 5447 passed in the House this past Friday, May 1st. TYJI will provide an update once session concludes this Wednesday.

Workgroup Studies – Break Out Rooms for Today

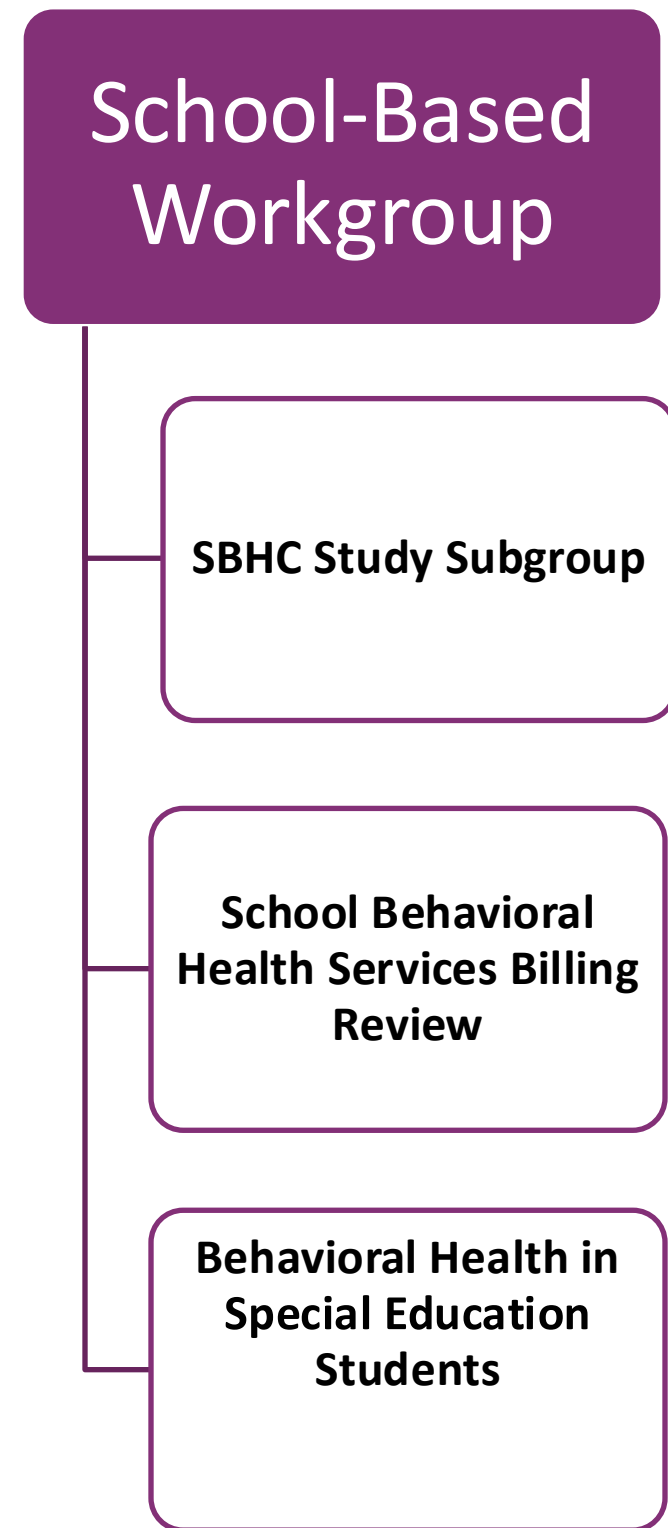
School Based Workgroup Studies

The TCB School-Based Workgroup has/will establish three subgroups to lead the studies outlined in both the TCB Legislative Recommendations and the legislation enacted during the 2025 session. These subgroups will begin having working meetings during the current School Based Workgroup Meetings. Following administrative updates, the workgroup will break out into breakout rooms to work on the three legislated reports.

Subgroups:

- School Behavioral Health Services Billing Review
- Behavioral Health in Special Education Students
- School Based Health Center (SBHC) Study

If you know of anyone interested in joining a subgroup, please use the email templates within the onedrive: [School Based Membership Email Templates](#)



Breakout Rooms

1. School Billing
2. Special Education

Please pick which breakout room you would like to join. We will not re-convene as a larger workgroup once the breakout session ends.

School Billing

School Behavioral Health Medicaid Billing

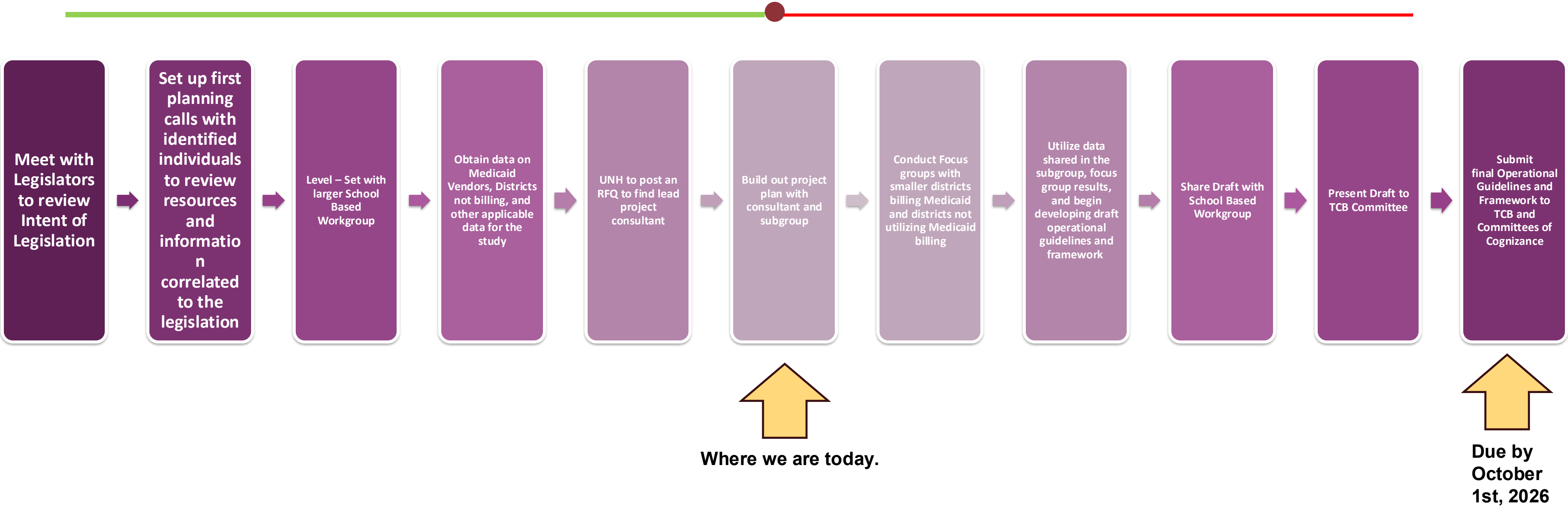
DRAFT Intent of the Workgroup/ Background Information: The TCB School Based Billing Review Subgroup will lead the efforts of the School Behavioral Health Services Billing Review that was passed in 2025 legislative session. This would require the TCB to collaborate with CSDE and DSS to develop a framework and operational guidelines to streamline municipal Medicaid billing for Medicaid-eligible school-based behavioral health services. The subgroup will work in collaboration with CSDE, DSS, and other identified individuals needed to complete the review. This subgroup will sunset upon completion of its goals.

Membership: [School Based Studies- Membership List](#)

Study:	Researcher/Agency Involved:	Scope of Report:
School Behavioral Health Billing	Department of Social Services (DSS), CT State Department of Education (CSDE), Solix	Requires the Transforming Children’s Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee to develop a framework and operational guidelines to streamline municipal Medicaid billing for Medicaid-eligible school-based behavioral health services The bill requires the Transforming Children’s Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee, in collaboration with the education and social services departments and by September 1, 2026, to develop a framework and operational guidelines to streamline municipal Medicaid billing for Medicaid-eligible school-based behavioral health services. The committee must report, by October 1, 2026, on the framework and guidelines it develops to the Appropriations, Education, and Human Services committees.

School Billing Timeline

Progress:



Special Education Subgroup – May Meeting

Agenda

- Review the tasks of this group
- Review Project Plan
- Progress Update
- Key Informant Interviews
- Focus Group
- Survey Plan
- Next Steps

Special Education Subgroup – Legislation

- Submit a report by Jan. 1, 2027, regarding "**behavioral health issues impacting students in the state receiving special education**"
 - **Behavioral intervention methods used**- utilizing evidence-based interventions - requiring staff at such private providers to be trained in such evidence-based interventions
 - Best practices for the **monitoring and random audits** by the Department of Education **of the use of physical restraint and seclusion.**

House Bill No. 5001 - Public Act No. 25-67

AN ACT CONCERNING THE QUALITY AND DELIVERY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES IN CONNECTICUT.

- “Sec. 14. Not later than January 1, 2027, the Transforming Children's Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and children.
- Such report shall consist of the committee's examination of and recommendations for **behavioral health issues impacting students in the state receiving special education** that includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - (A) *The **behavioral intervention methods** utilized by private providers of special education services and the feasibility and impact of **requiring such private providers to utilize evidence-based interventions** that are proactive and highly individualized, such as the Assessment of Lagging Skills and Unsolved Problems, including, but not limited to, **the feasibility and impact of requiring staff at such private providers to be trained in such evidence-based interventions** with an emphasis on problem-solving as the primary goal; and*

House Bill No. 5001 - Public Act No. 25-67

AN ACT CONCERNING THE QUALITY AND DELIVERY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES IN CONNECTICUT.

- *(B) Best practices for the monitoring and random audits by the Department of Education of the use of physical restraint and seclusion pursuant to section 10-236b for students receiving special education, including, but not limited to, best practices for*
- **(i) ensuring the accuracy and consistency of the annual compilation of incidents of physical restraint and seclusions reported to the department pursuant to subsection (l) of said section,**
- **(ii) intervention by the department in schools and special education programs that report a high incidence of physical restraint and seclusion,**
- **(iii) enforcement of the laws relating to physical restraint and seclusion, such as through site visits of seclusion spaces and review of incident reports and parental notifications,**
- **(iv) mandatory training of staff and administrators to reduce reliance on physical restraint and seclusion, and**
- **(v) development of uniform rules or regulations applicable to physical restraint and seclusion of any student.”**

Special Education Subgroup – Project Plan – Phase 1

- Develop Communications Plan - Done
- Evidence-based practices literature review
- Grey literature review
- Methodology and design of data collection tools and procedures
- Recruitment for interviews, focus groups, and surveys
- Conduct interviews
- Conduct focus groups
- Survey implementation
- Data requests

Special Education Subgroup – Progress Update

Task	Timeline	Status	Deliverable
Communications Plan	Early April	Completed	Comm. plan
Evidence based literature review	March - May	Making great progress and on track	Bibliography and literature brief
Grey literature review	March - May	Making great progress and on track	Bibliography and literature brief
Methodology and Design data collection tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview tool • Focus group tool • Survey 	March - May	Protocol - completed Interview tool – draft near completion Focus group tool – being drafted Survey - not started	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation protocol - interview questions - focus group plan - survey
Active recruitment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key informant • Focus group • Survey recipients 	April - May	Some key informants identified Focus groups – categories identified Survey groups identified	Progress updates

Literature Review

- Evidence-based practices literature review: making great progress
- Some topics being researched include:
 - Collaborative proactive solutions
 - Positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS)
 - Functional behavior assessment (FBA)
 - Behavior intervention and support plans (BISP)
 - Multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS)
 - Time in general education settings
 - Trauma-informed and relationship-based practices
 - Restorative justice
 - Deliverable – annotated bibliography and literature brief

Literature Review

- Grey literature review – Making great progress
- Some topics on restraint and seclusion:
 - R/S laws (across states), including monitoring and enforcement
 - Federal and State R/S policy guidance
 - R/S practices
 - R/S monitoring and auditing practices
 - Legislation
 - Litigation
 - Commentary on the practice and impact of R/S
- Deliverable – annotated bibliography and literature brief

Data collection tools - Interviews

- Develop interview Questions
 - Draft of questions to be sent for input
- Review list of groups for interviews
 - Developers and/or trainers of evidence-based interventions
 - Educators, professionals, and/or policymakers from other states
 - CT professionals (behaviorists and educators) overseeing or using behavior interventions
 - R/S auditors from other states
- Identify and recruit interviewees – with input from subgroup
 - Schedule interviews
 - Conduct interviews

Data collection tools – Focus Groups

- Possible Focus groups
 - Private special education providers (educators and behaviorists) , including transition providers
 - CSDE staff overseeing/auditing restraint and seclusion
 - Local special education professional development providers
 - LEA administrators and/or Special Education Directors
 - Special education advocates
- Focus group script/tool
 - To explore - student population, setting, current training on behavior intervention practices, PPT planning, current setting-specific seclusion and restraint procedures, current incident reporting, resource and technical assistance needs, recommendations

Data collection tools - Surveys

- Design survey – may include:
 - Educational setting, role, staff attitudes, training resources, EBIs utilized, current restraint and seclusion practices, resources needed to prevent/reduce seclusion and restrain, quality improvement recommendations, and feasibility of training.
- Survey to follow interviews and focus groups. Identify recipients – may include:
 - Administrators at LEAs, Special Education Directors, LEA staff
 - Private provider administrators and staff
 - Behavior specialists, teachers, professionals (BCBA technicians, behavioral consultants), and para-professionals at LEAs and private providers
- Distribute survey – will seek assistance from subgroup
 - Collect and analyze results

Data Collection – Data Requests

- Working to develop lists of data requests
- Requests to be made to
 - CSDE
 - Private providers
 - School districts
 - Other states

Special Education Subgroup – Progress Update

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Special Education Subgroup – Next Steps

Task	Timeline	Status	Deliverable
Conduct interviews	May to Sept.	Not Started	Interview tools and updates
Conduct focus groups	May to Sept.	Not Started	Updates
Survey implementation	May to Sept.	Not Started	Survey and updates
Data requests	May to August	Drafting list of data requests	Updates