



**A MODEL FOR NEXT STEPS: CONVENING A  
SCHOOL-JUSTICE TASK FORCE AND CREATING A  
ROADMAP**

**Kathleen R. DeCataldo, Esq.  
March 7, 2014**



**Keeping Kids  
In School and Out of Court**

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**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

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**New York City  
School-Justice Partnership Task Force  
May 2013**



## NEW YORK CITY SCHOOL-JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP TASK FORCE

Hon. Judith S. Kaye, Chair

### MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

**Dinu Ahmed**, Community Organizer, New Settlement Apartments Parent Action Committee

**Zakiyah Ansari**, Advocacy Director, Alliance for Quality Education

**Herb Barbot**, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Youth and Community Development

**Charles Barrios, MSW**, Deputy Commissioner, Family Support Services, Administration for Children's Services

**Leo Casey**, Former Vice President, Academic High Schools, United Federation of Teachers

**Kathleen DeCataldo, Esq.**, Executive Director, New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children

**Hon. Monica Drinane**, Supervising Judge, Bronx County Family Court

**Hon. Lee Elkins**, New York City Family Court Judge, retired, Kings County Family Court

**Chad Ferguson**, Chief Academic Officer, District 79, New York City Department of Education

**Maria Fernandez**, Youth Program Director, Sistahs and Brothas United

**Rachel Garver, M.S.Ed.**, Doctoral Candidate, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development, New York University

**Stephanie Gendell, Esq.**, Associate Executive Director, Policy and Government Relations, Citizens' Committee for Children of New York

**Nancy Ginsburg, Esq.**, Director, Adolescent Intervention and Diversion Team, The Legal Aid Society, Criminal Practice

**Damon Hewitt, Esq.**, Director, Education Project, NAACP Legal Defense Fund

**Hon. Charles J. Hynes**, District Attorney, Kings County District Attorney's Office

**David Kazansky**, Director of School Safety, United Federation of Teachers

**Elayna Konstan**, Chief Executive Officer, Office of Safety and Youth Development, New York City Department of Education

**Jaime Koppel, MPA**, Director, Youth and Education Justice, Children's Defense Fund

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**Deborah Lashley, Esq.**, Executive Assistant District Attorney, Kings County District Attorney's Office

**Joshua Laub**, Director of Youth Development, District 88, New York City Department of Education

**Sue Lehmann**, Board Member, New Visions for Public Schools

**Tim Lisante, Ph.D.**, Superintendent, District 79, Alternative Schools and Programs, New York City Department of Education

**Ernest Logan, M.S.Ed.**, President, Council of School Supervisors and Administrators

**Suzanne Lynn, Esq.**, Deputy Commissioner, Community Development Department of Youth & Community Development

**Kavitha Mediratta**, Programme Executive, Children and Youth Programme, The Atlantic Philanthropies

**Julia Mendoza**, Doctoral Candidate, American Studies, New York University

**Eloise Messineo, Ph.D.**, Executive Director, Executive Leadership Institute, Council of School Supervisors & Administrators

**Bettina Muenster**, Research Assistant to President Jeremy Travis, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

**Michael Mulgrew**, President, United Federation of Teachers

**Pedro Noguera, Ph.D.**, Executive Director, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development, New York University

**David Osher, Ph.D.**, Vice President, American Institutes for Research

**Hon. Eduardo Padró**, Supreme Court Justice, Supreme Court, Criminal Term, 1st. J.D. New York County

**Vanessa Rodriguez**, Former Chief Executive Officer, District 79, New York City Department of Education

**Ralph Sabatino, Esq.**, Court Attorney, Kings County Family Court

**Lynn Sanchez**, Parent Organizer, New Settlement Apartments Parent Action Committee

**Sarah Sandelius, Esq.**, Executive Director, Policy and Student Advocacy, District 79, Alternative Schools and Programs, NYC DOE

**Nitin Savur, Esq.**, Assistant District Attorney, Co-Deputy Chief of the Trial Division, New York County District Attorney's Office

**Liz Sullivan**, Director, Human Right to Education Program, National Economic and Social Rights Initiative (NESRI)

**Kim Sweet, Esq.**, Executive Director, Advocates for Children of New York

**Chris Tan, Esq.**, Education Programs, Close to Home Initiative, Administration for Children's Services

**Jeremy Travis, Esq.**, President, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

**Hon. Cyrus Vance**, District Attorney, New York County District Attorney's Office

**Rosemary Ventura**, JD Resource Coordinator, Bronx County Family Court

**TASK FORCE STAFF**

**Molly Armstrong**, Project Director, NYC School-Justice Task Force; Partner, Public Catalyst

**Chiyel Hayles**, Research and Policy Associate, Public Catalyst

**Toni Lang, Ph.D.**, Deputy Director, New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children

**Sarah Part**, Development and Communications Associate, Advocates for Children of New York

**Gabrielle Kreisler Sheely**, Consultant, Public Catalyst

The New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children, working with Advocates for Children of New York, sponsored the New York City School-Justice Partnership Task Force with support from Skadden, Arps and a grant from The Atlantic Philanthropies.

## BOTTOM LINE - SCHOOL AND JUSTICE OUTCOMES INTERTWINED

### Youth with Discretionary Suspensions at Increased Risk of Contact with Justice System

#### Risk of Justice System Contact



VS.



**Not Suspended**

**Discretionary Suspended**

Source: Fabelo, T., M. D. Thompson, M. Plotkin, D. Carmichael, M.P. Marchbanks and E.A. Booth. 2011. *Breaking Schools' Rules: A Statewide Study of How School Discipline Relates to Students' Success and Juvenile Justice Involvement*. New York: Council of State Governments Justice Center.  
<http://knowledgecenter.csg.org/kc/content/breaking-schools-rules-statewide-study>.

**BOTTOM LINE -  
SCHOOL AND JUSTICE OUTCOMES INTERTWINED**

**Youth with First Arrests at  
Increased Risk of Dropping Out**

**Risk of Dropping Out**



**No Arrest**

**VS.**



**Youth with First Arrest**

Source: Sweeten, Gary. 2006. "Who Will Graduate Disruption of High School Education by Arrest and Court Involvement." *Justice Quarterly*, 23(4): 462-480.

**BOTTOM LINE -  
SCHOOL AND JUSTICE OUTCOMES INTERTWINED**

**Youth with First Arrest and Court Appearance at  
Greater Risk of Dropping Out**

**Risk of Dropping Out**



**No Arrest**

**VS.**



**First Arrest and Court Appearance**

Source: Sweeten, Gary. 2006. "Who Will Graduate Disruption of High School Education by Arrest and Court Involvement." *Justice Quarterly*, 23(4): 462-480.

## BOTTOM LINE - SCHOOL AND JUSTICE OUTCOMES INTERTWINED

### Youth with Juvenile Court Involvement at Greater Risk of Future Adult Criminal Records

#### Risk of Adult Criminal Records



Source: Gatti, U., R. Trembley and F. Vitaro. 2009. "Latrogenic effect of juvenile justice." *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*. 50(8): 990-998.

## NYC COUNCIL STUDENT SAFETY ACT

- Biannual report by the NYC DOE on Suspensions
  - Reported by:
    - school
    - discipline code infraction
    - age
    - race/ethnicity
    - gender
    - grade
    - special education status
    - English language proficiency

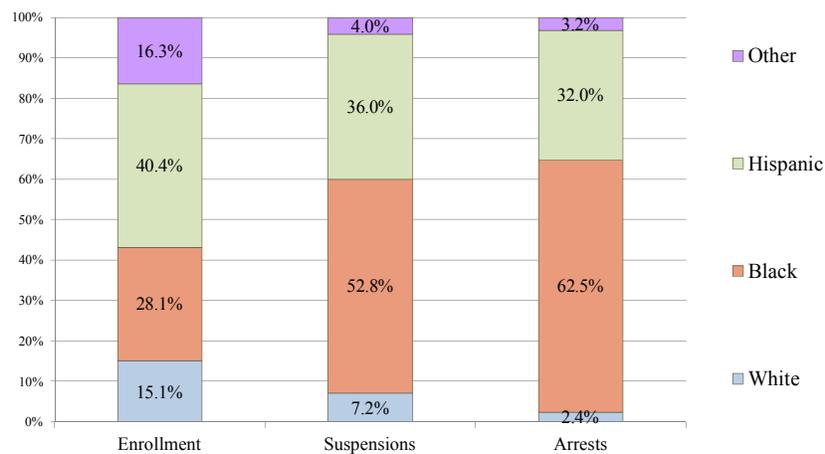
<http://www.nyclu.org/schooltoprison/ssa> accessed 11.13.13

## NYC COUNCIL STUDENT SAFETY ACT

- Quarterly reporting by the NYPD on arrests and summonses (tickets) issued by officers in the NYPD's School Safety Division.
  - Broken down by:
    - penal code
    - patrol borough
    - gender
    - race/ethnicity
    - age

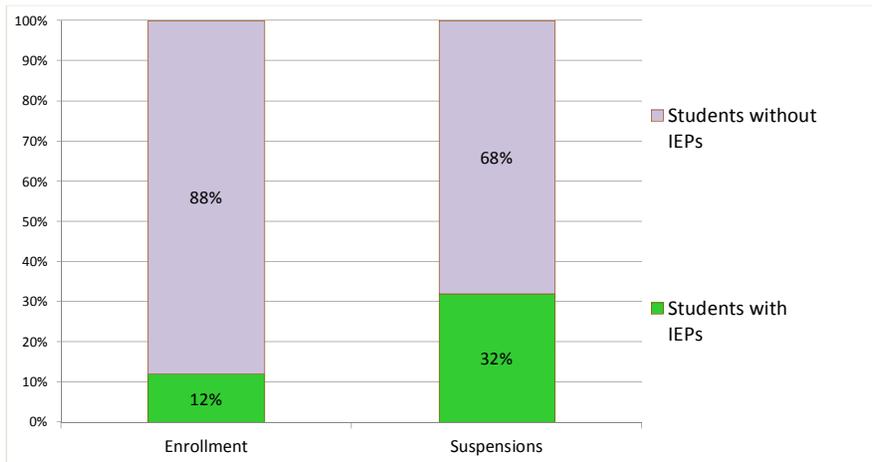
<http://www.nyclu.org/schooltoprison/ssa> accessed 11.13.13

## ENROLLMENT, SUSPENSIONS AND ARRESTS BY RACE/ETHNICITY: NYC SCHOOLS, SY2012



Source: Enrollment: New York City Department of Education, J-Form; Suspensions: New York City Department of Education, Student Safety Act data; Arrests: NYPD, Student Safety Act data.

## ENROLLMENT AND SUSPENSIONS BY IEP STATUS: NYC SCHOOLS, SY2012



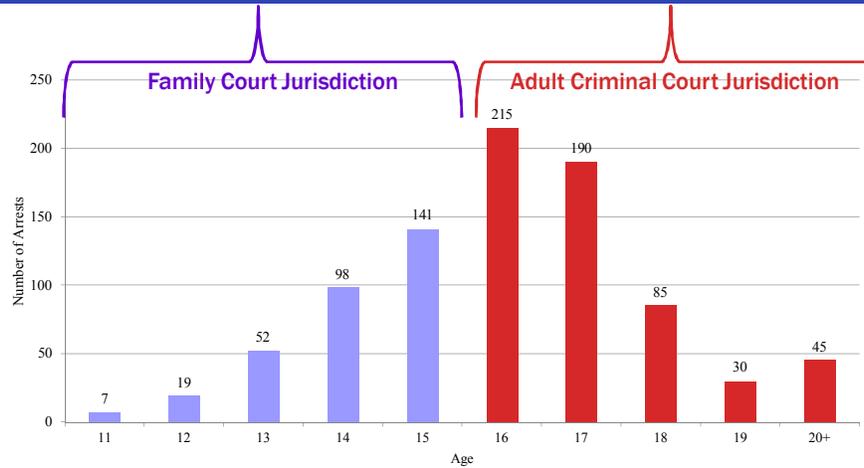
Source: NYC Department of Education, School Safety Act data.

## DISPROPORTIONALITY

- **Black students compared to White Students**
  - 4x more likely to be suspended
  - 14x more likely to be arrested
- **Hispanic students compared to White Students**
  - 2x more likely to be suspended
  - 5x more likely to be arrested
- **Students receiving special education services compared to students not receiving services**
  - 4x more likely to be suspended

Source: NYS Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children. 2012. Relative Risk Analysis of SY2012 School Safety Act data.

## SCHOOL-BASED ARRESTS BY AGE: NYC SCHOOLS, 7/1/11-6/30/12 (N=882 arrests)

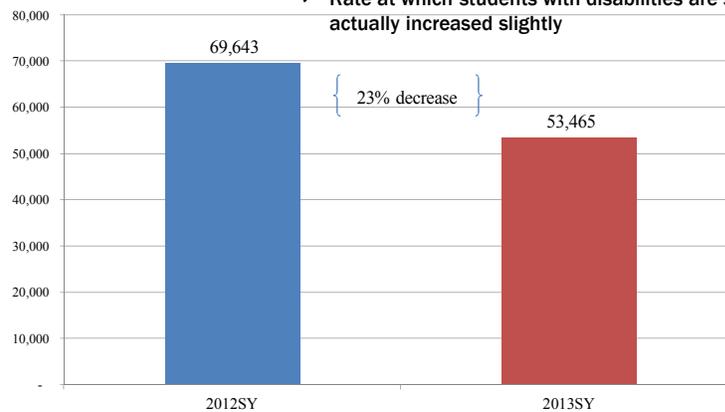


Source: NYPD, School Safety Act data.

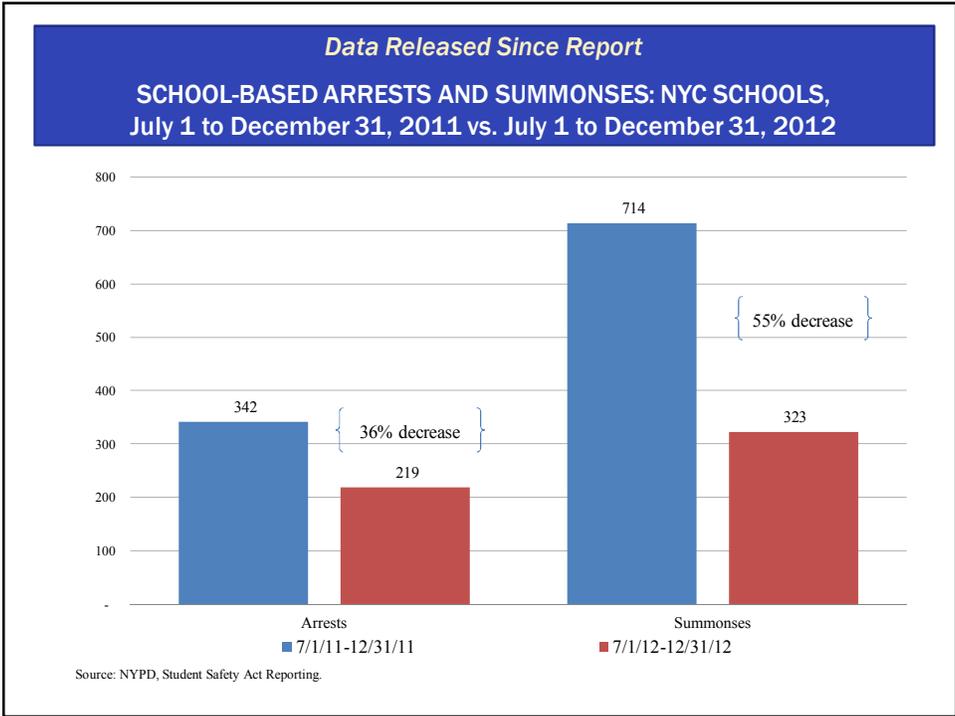
### Data Released Since Report

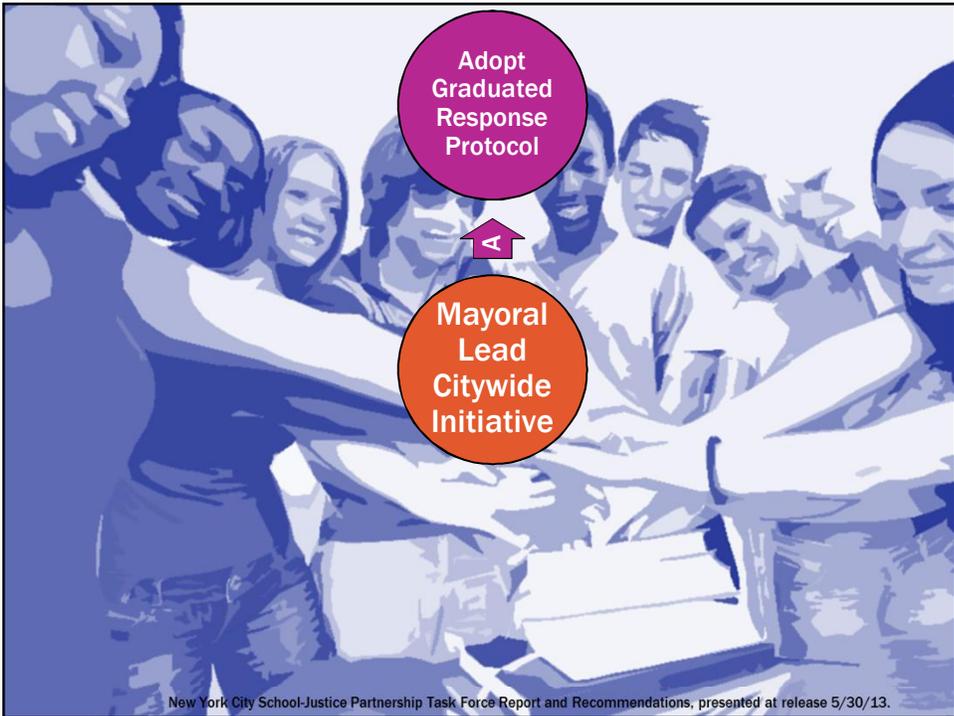
## SUSPENSIONS: NYC SCHOOLS, SY2012 VS. SY2013

- ✓ Students of color continue to be disproportionately suspended from school at the same rates as in the past
- ✓ Rate at which students with disabilities are suspended actually increased slightly

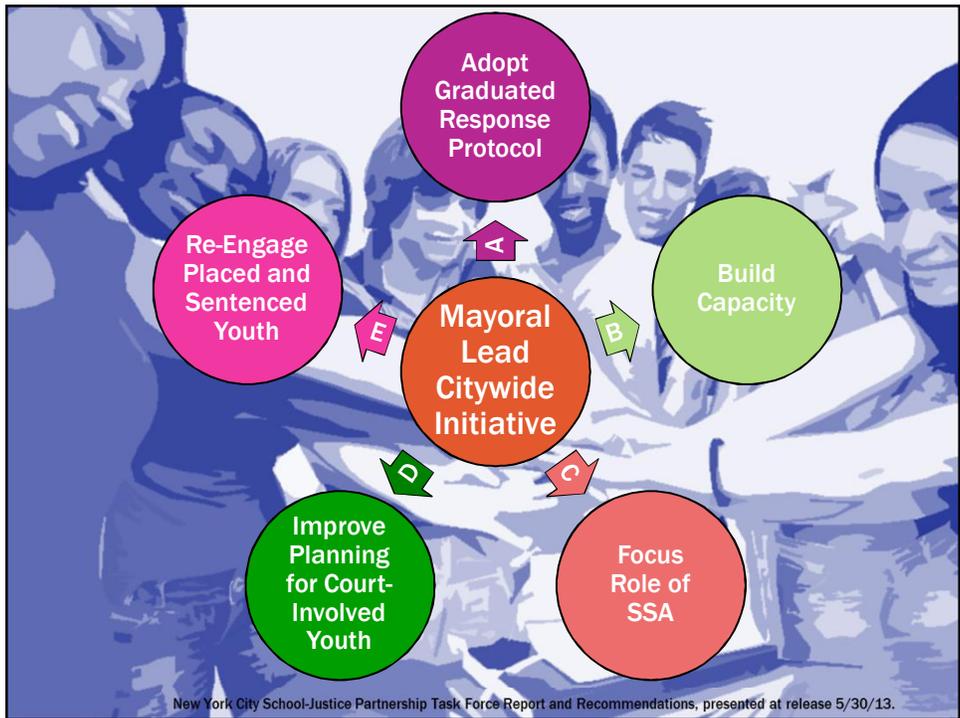


Source: NYC DOE, Student Safety Act Reporting









<p><b>LONG ISLAND REGIONAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT</b></p>	<p><b>NEXT STEPS</b></p>
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<p><b>NEW YORK STATE JUVENILE JUSTICE STRATEGIC PLANNING ACTION COMMITTEE</b></p>	<p><b>Regional Youth Justice Teams</b></p>
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## REGIONAL YOUTH JUSTICE TEAMS – COUNTY BREAKDOWN

### ○ County Breakdown by Region:

- **Capital Region:** Albany, Columbia, Delaware, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren, Washington
- **North Country:** Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, St. Lawrence, Jefferson, Lewis
- **Central New York:** Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, Oswego, Tompkins, Tioga
- **Finger Lakes:** Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Yates, Genesee, Orleans, Wyoming
- **Western New York:** Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara
- **Mid-Hudson:** Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Westchester, Sullivan, Ulster
- **New York City:** Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens, Richmond
- **Long Island:** Nassau, Suffolk
- **Mohawk Valley:** Herkimer, Oneida, Fulton, Montgomery, Otsego, Schoharie

## REGIONAL YOUTH JUSTICE TEAMS – LEAD ENTITIES

- **Capital Region:** The Schenectady County Department of Probation
- **North Country:** The Children’s Home of Jefferson County
- **Central New York:** The Onondaga County Probation Department
- **Finger Lakes:** The Monroe County Probation Department
- **Western New York:** The Erie County Probation Department
- **Mid-Hudson:** The Westchester County Department of Probation
- **New York City:** The New York City Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee
- **Long Island:** The Suffolk County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

## LI REGIONAL YOUTH JUSTICE TEAMS – LEAD ENTITY CONTACT

- The Suffolk County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
- **Dr. Errol Toulon, Jr.**  
Assistant Deputy County Executive for Public Safety
- **Dr. Robert Marmo**  
Chief Planner
- **Liaison—Lorraine Hogan DCJS**

## LI REGIONAL YOUTH JUSTICE TEAMS – SUBCOMMITTEES

- **SCHOOL**
  - Weiss, Charles
  - McKeon, Claire
- **FAMILY**
  - Plackis, John
- **FUNDING/RESOURCES**
  - Marmo, Robert
- **DATA/POLICY**
  - Fowle, John

## CAPITAL REGION YOUTH JUSTICE TEAM SCHOOL / JUVENILE JUSTICE TASK FORCE

Milestones	Planned Dates	Actual Dates	Comments
Kick off meeting	1/31/2014	1/31/2014	
School Justice Summit as Context	1/31/2014	1/31/2014	School Justice Summit materials were shared & the rationale of the summit was discussed
Case Study	1/31/2014	1/31/2014	The group reviewed a case study of one student who ended up involved in the CJ system, as a way of helping make the work very real and concrete to us.
Deciding our Goals / Outcomes	1/31/2014	1/31/2014	The task force discussed and decided on five goals for our work (listed below)
Mapping our Work	1/31/2014	1/31/2014	The group also began mapping out what kind of timeline these goals will need in order to fit in with the greater project
2nd Meeting	2/10/2014	2/10/2014	
Goal Area Work	2/10/2014	2/10/2014	Members selected a goal area of preference and worked on developing the "problem statement" for that area, as well as what additional information / resources might be needed to achieve the goal.
Work Group Reporting	2/10/2014	2/10/2014	Groups reported out to each other and solicited feedback on their work
Meeting Schedule / Date & Location	2/10/2014	2/10/2014	Dates and times of the meetings were adjusted to avoid conflicts with the Board of Regents

## CAPITAL REGION YOUTH JUSTICE TEAM SCHOOL / JUVENILE JUSTICE TASK FORCE

- **Established goals:**
  - **Develop a Universal Suspension Policy.**
  - **Develop a Model Code of Conduct**
  - **Develop model practices for prevention.**
  - **Develop recommendations for information sharing for planning and transitioning students who are involved in the Criminal Justice System**
  - **Develop a set of best practices for supporting families and parents of children who are involved or at risk of becoming involved in the Criminal Justice System.**

**QUICK NEW YORK STATE FACTS....**

134,772 UNIQUE PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS received an OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION for one full day or longer during the 2009-10 school in New York State.<sup>1</sup>

- That's 5 PERCENT OF ALL STUDENTS in pre-K to grade 12.
  - That's 749 STUDENTS SUSPENDED EVERY DAY, on average.
- NUMBER of New York students affected by OTHER EXCLUSIONARY PRACTICES during the school year is ESSENTIALLY UNKNOWN.
- That's including IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS or MULTIPLE SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, SCHOOL-RELATED ARRESTS OR SUMMONSES, or subsequent family or criminal COURT APPEARANCES.

DISCUSSION POINTS TO FORGE  
A NEW YORK STATE  
SCHOOL-JUSTICE ACTION PLAN  
NEW YORK STATE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT ON SCHOOL-JUSTICE PARTNERSHIPS:  
KEEPING KIDS IN SCHOOL AND OUT OF COURT  
April 11-12, 2013

**QUICK FACTS....**

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS are linked to FALLING BEHIND in school, FAILING a grade, DROPPING OUT of school, committing a CRIME and becoming INCARCERATED as an adult. Multiple suspensions exacerbate the effects.<sup>2</sup>

- STUDENTS SUSPENDED 3 or more times by 10<sup>th</sup> grade are 5 times more likely to DROP OUT compared to peers with fewer or no suspensions.<sup>3</sup>
  - YOUTH WITH A FIRST ARREST are almost 2 times more likely to DROP OUT compared to peers with same circumstances but no arrest.<sup>4</sup>
  - YOUTH WITH A COURT APPEARANCE following their first arrest are nearly 4 times more likely to DROP OUT.<sup>5</sup>
- YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 16-24 YRS) WHO DROP OUT of school are 3 times more likely to be INCARCERATED compared to peers who do not drop out.<sup>6</sup>

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