

Iowa Education Collaborative

The Iowa Education Collaborative was divided into three (3) workgroups with each workgroup having tri-chairs representing the Department of Human Services, Department of Education, and Juvenile Court Services.

The workgroups are coordinated by the Education Collaborative Leadership team.

- The Goal of the Education Collaborative Leadership Team is to coordinate state level efforts, which lead to systems level change in regards to educational stability for students who are under the responsibility for care and placement of the Department of Human Services and Juvenile Court Services.

The Workgroups are the following:

- 1) Data Advisory: Data sharing, analysis, and reporting
- 2) Student Behaviors and Interventions (Expulsions/Suspensions)
- 3) Academy Performance (Successful Completion)

As Executive Director of the Coalition for Family & Children's Services in Iowa, Kristie Oliver serves on the **Student Behaviors and Interventions (Expulsions/Suspensions) Workgroup**.

- **Tri-Chairs:** Thomas Mayes with Department of Education, Ruth Frush, Chief JCO in the 1st District and Tracey Parker with Iowa Department of Human Services.
- The **goal** of the Student Behaviors and Interventions (Expulsions/Suspensions) Workgroup is to support the Leadership Team, by reviewing all pertinent data and other information. This information will be used to offer strategies and interventions to help decrease expulsions and suspensions of students who are under the responsibility for care and placement of the Department of Human Services and Juvenile Court Services.
- The Student Behaviors and Interventions (Expulsions/Suspensions) workgroup specifically will be working on the following initiatives:
 - Maintain school stability whenever feasible (eliminate unnecessary school moves);
 - Ensure immediate and appropriate enrollment when school changes do occur;
 - Encourage school attendance;
 - Decrease need for office referrals and suspension/expulsions;
 - Increase positive school behaviors (and decrease criminal behavior);
 - Support a sense of "normalcy" for students, and;
 - Provide youth meaningful participation in school planning and experiences.

Recommendations: The final product will be recommendations around short and long term activities, including: any state legislative actions needed; changes to internal agency/agencies policies and practices; development of training tools and resources; other external partners' support needed for success, and; a proposed data plan to track progress.

- The recommendations will be made to the State Directors and the [Children's Justice State Council](#).