



JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

September 24, 2025 JCPC Full Board Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Angela Nunn, Jonathan Wilson, Alex Hurdle, Beverly (B. J.) Council, Dr. L. A. Cuttler

Members On-line: Kevin McIver, Abigail Holloway, Laylon Williams, Renee Hill, John Morris, Ramya Krishna, LiBria Stephens, Dr. Melissa Watson, John Morris, DeWarren Langley, Seth Kandl, Commissioner Stephen Valentine

Programs On-line: Raquel Dominguez (Youth Mediation), Cynia Black (Parenting of Adolescents), Krystal Harris (Project BUILD), Yasmine Boone (PROUD Program), Quille Coath (PROUD Program), Gwendolyn Johnson (Teen Court & Restitution Program), Tiffany Swoope (GRACED Inc.)

Guests On-line: Dr. Theresa McGowan, Principal, Lakeview School, Cory Rawlinson (Project Build), Madison Hill (Parenting of Adolescents), Jordan Mason-Jones (Youth Mediation)

Staff Present: Walter 'Eddie' Crews, Roshanna Humphrey, Janice Williams

Excused Absences: Sgt. Larry Watkins, Nicole Grant

I. **Welcome & Introductions**

Chair McIver called the meeting to order at 4:16pm (due to technical difficulties), welcomed everyone and asked all in-house attendees to introduce themselves. Roll call was conducted for on-line attendees.

Quorum was established.

❖ Chair McIver introduced guest speaker, Dr. Theresa McGowan, Principal, Lakeview School who presented the "Lakeview Presentation to the JCPC Board" PPT as follows:

- **Mission:** To provide a safe, supportive, structured learning environment where students can grow academically, socially, and emotionally.
- **Vision:** To empower every student to reach their full potential and become productive, resilient citizens.
- Lakeview is an alternative structured educational school for students in grades 6-12.
- There are approximately 57 students currently on the Lakeview roster and can serve up to 200 students who are on short- and long-term suspensions from their base schools.
- Projects Proud and Build have been the essential JCPC partners with Lakeview for quite some time and have been extremely instrumental in the progress of these students.

➤ After presenting, Dr. McGowan then opened the floor for questions:

? What are the offenses that students are committing that land them at Lakeview?

Answer: Fighting is probably the leading offense along with possession of controlled substances and assault of officials. Since discovering that social media plays a huge role in this adverse behavior, Lakeview students are not allowed to have their cell phones in their possession during school hours.

? As a Substance Abuse Counselor, Dr. Cuttler asked if she could offer her services to Lakeview students to which Dr. McGowan replied that a meeting can be scheduled with herself and her administrative team for further collaboration.

? What is the teacher-student ratio?

Answer: This number varies during the school year; there are approximately three (3) to four (4) students per teacher, however, in February there will probably be ~15 students per teacher.

? What are the background qualifications of Lakeview teachers?

Answer: While some teachers bring experience with them in handling challenging students, there are ongoing, extensive trainings by way of Personal Development Plans where teachers become further equipped/trained in interacting with students that display challenging behavior.

? How are the students doing with academic proficiency and how are they being prepared for the workforce upon graduation?

Answer: In the past, students have done well in Math and English Language Arts (ELA). There are components in place to work with each individual student to improve in these areas. Lakeview has partnered with NCWorks to help students find an internship and/or gain job skills to elevate them to the next level after graduation. Dr. McGowan invited the JCPC members to a meeting/fair Lakeview is having in conjunction with NCWorks for their post-graduate students, upcoming graduating and college bound students on October 22nd (**flyer to be emailed to members**).

? What was the vision for Lakeview at its onset?

Answer: The former, late principal, Mr. Elton O'Neal, envisioned addressing the social and emotional needs of students. Also, battling gang activity by partnering with other programs.

Chair McIver, as well as other JCPC members thanked Dr. McGowan for the outstanding work that she is doing and for her presentation. (**Note: "The Lakeview Presentation to the JCPC Board" PPT was emailed to all board members**).

II. Chair Update:

i. Executive Committee approval of the JCPC Letter of Support Template

The template letter was presented to the board. It was explained that the support letter template was devised so that all appointed members of the board would have the opportunity to give their input regarding the support of DPS's Alternative to Suspension Program. Input should be based on individual members' experiences within the realm of their respective involvement in the community.

III. August 2025 Minutes Approval:

Mr. Langley made a recommendation to have the names of those who voted for and against a motion listed in the minutes. The recommendation was noted by Chair McIver.

Hearing no corrections, Mr. Langley made a motion to approve the August 27, 2025 minutes which was seconded by Ms. Nunn and unanimously approved by the full board.

IV. Program Monthly Update questions/concerns:

? Of the five (5) referrals from the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to the Conflict Resolution Center (CRC), why was there only one (1) contact made. Mrs. Dominguez responded by stating that over the summer, there were problems contacting parents, however, calls are currently being made to establish contact.

? PROUD Program: How many students are violating school policy and are students still entering schools with controlled substances? Mr. Coath responded by stating that by the second week of school, students were bringing in vapes and marijuana. The program has received seven (7) to eight (8) referrals thus far.

V. Confirmation of Sub Committee members:

► Funding Committee Members confirmed:

- ✓ Kevin McIver, Chair
- ✓ Jonathan Wilson, Treasurer
- ✓ Angela Nunn, Parliamentarian
- ✓ Walter 'Eddie' Crews, Area Consultant
- ✓ DeWarren Langley
- ✓ Renee Hill

- ✓ Seth Kandler
- ✓ Alex Hurdle
- ✓ John Morris
- ✓ Ramya Krishna
- Risk & Needs Assessment Committee Members confirmed:
 - ✓ Kevin McIver, Chair
 - ✓ Angela Nunn, Parliamentarian
 - ✓ LiBria Stephens, Secretary
 - ✓ Nicole Grant, Chief Court Counselor
 - ✓ Walter 'Eddie' Crews, Area Consultant
 - ✓ Monica Burnette
 - ✓ BJ Council
 - ✓ Ramya Krishna
 - ✓ DeWarren Langley

- ? Dr. Watson raised the question of who determines the 'ask' regarding the letter of support considering the request was not made by DPS representatives. If the organization did not request a letter, on whose behalf is the request coming from?
- It was stated that when the letter of support is derived from an initiative of JCPC, the language in the letter would express the letter is coming from the JCPC Chair. If the request comes from an organization, then the language would be such that it is coming from the director of the requesting organization.
 - Dr. Watson went on record stating that as a representative of the Superintendent of Durham Schools, it should be made clear that this request did not originate from DPS but instead with JCPC exclusively based information that was shared. Dr. Watson went on to state that as a member of the JCPC, it is her contention that organizations should make the request followed by an appropriate JCPC response.
 - Chair McIver went on record stating the language in this letter will denote that this support is the initiative of the JCPC and as Chair he will sign off on the letter on behalf of the JCPC.

VI. Consultant Update: *Walter 'Eddie' Crews, Central Area Consultant*

Mr. Crews stated that since the Risk & Needs Assessment Committee members have been established, he will work on sending communication and putting data together in October to present to the full JCPC in November or December.

VII. Court Counsel Update: *Nicole Grant, Chief Court Counselor*

The Court Counselor quarterly report was sent to the full JCPC Board; an update was not given at this time due to the absence of Chief Court Counselor.

VIII. DPS Update: *Dr. Melissa Watson, Director of Student Alternatives and Supports*

Dr. Watson expressed great appreciation regarding the growing partnership with JCPC and stated monthly guests will be invited to speak to the different components of DPS. Respectfully, Dr. Watson stated that if there are no specific asks/requests in future DPS presentations, individual conversations take place regarding any official JCPC support. Dr. Watson thanked Mr. Rawlinson, Project Build and Mrs. Dominguez, CRC, for doing an excellent job in speaking to high school principals in a recent meeting. The PROUD Program will be speaking to high school principals and district administrators regarding bullying prevention on October 1st. Next month's JCPC DPS presentation will address communication with DPS in regard to parental concerns by a representative from the Office of Public Affairs.

IX. Other Business/Announcements:

- Mr. Langley announced:
 1. Duke Community Affairs will have an open house on September 25th – this is an opportunity to learn about Duke’s collaborative community projects (*email to follow*)
 2. There will be an Empowerment Unleashed Workshop with Durham County Library and NCWorks on Monday, September 29th from 11am – 1:30pm (*email to follow*)
 3. DPS will have their College Fair September 30th (*email to follow*)
 4. There is a virtual open-house with the University of NC Monday October 6th, Tuesday October 7th, Monday October 13th, and Tuesday October 14th (*email to follow*)
 5. The Young Men of Excellence Program has 5 available openings – referrals will be appreciated
- BJ Council announced that the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People had a meeting with a DPS representative to discuss the Alternative to Suspension Program on September 24th to support the program
- Layton Williams announced:
 1. National Night Out takes place on October 7th
 2. The Sheriff’s Office and other first responders are sponsoring a ‘Trunk or Treat’ event on November 1st from 10am – 1pm at Northgate in Sears parking lot

X. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by BJ Council; seconded by Mr. Langley; Chair McIver adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:45pm.