

Resolution 1718R-009

By Directors Bonds and Harris

WHEREAS, The mission of the Milwaukee Public Schools is to be a diverse district that welcomes all students and prepares them for success in higher education, post-educational opportunities, work, and citizenship; and

WHEREAS, The Milwaukee Public Schools' core beliefs state that students come first, that wherever students are learning is the most important place in the district, and that educators and school staffs have high expectations for all students and provide the foundation for their academic success; and

WHEREAS, Administrative Policy 8.28 states that students have a right to learn and that educators have a right to teach in a safe and orderly environment that fosters mutual respect for all individuals; and

WHEREAS, Administrative Policy 8.28 states that all schools in MPS are expected to provide a multi-tiered system of behavioral interventions and supports to create safe, respectful, welcoming environments that are free from disruption; and

WHEREAS, In September 2016, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors directed the Administration to review Resolution 0809R-043 and report back to the Board in lieu of adopting Resolution 1516R-009 to Recreate the Transition Intervention Experience (TIE) Center; and

WHEREAS, In February 2017, the MPS Administration reported on the review of Resolution 0809R-043 and recommended Board approval of an Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement for implementation of the Juvenile Education Treatment Initiative (JETI) Program to serve ten students at one pilot location; and

WHEREAS, The JETI program was subsequently expanded to serve up to twenty students across two sites; and

WHEREAS, In March 2017, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors adopted Resolution 1617R-005 to explore alternatives or enhancements to MPS disciplinary programs; and

WHEREAS, In July 2017, in alignment with Resolution 1617R-005, the Milwaukee Public Schools Administration issued a final report with a recommendation to leverage existing partnerships and supports for 40 students per semester at one location; and

WHEREAS, the need for additional supports for students who have experienced repeated behavior challenges extend beyond current programs; and

WHEREAS, While the district has made great strides, through adoption of Resolution 1415R-010, in providing services to all expelled students, there appears to be a need for additional alternative responses to negative behavior, including shorter-term responses; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Administration be directed to create a "Success Center" to serve students in grades 4 through 12 who are at risk of or have been given out-of-school suspensions; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That students at the "Success Center" have access to the same supports as a traditional school, including, but not limited to, a principal, regular and special education teachers, school psychologist, school social worker, transition specialist safety aide, paraprofessional, and secretary;

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the new "Success Center" include the following components outlined in Resolution 1516R-009:

- A three-to-five day preventative program designed to serve chronically disruptive youth who may be at risk of becoming suspended in the future;
- A five-to-ten day alternative-to-suspension program designed to serve chronically suspended youth who may be at risk of becoming expelled in the future;
- An alternative-to-expulsions program designed to serve expelled students with the goal of returning them to their home schools;
- Wrap around services that may include, but not be limited to, mentoring, conflict resolution, behavior modification, and mental health supports;
- An individualized transition plan for each student prior to returning to the sending school, including identification of supports available upon return; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the "Success Center" be located at the Daniel Webster Campus with implementation to begin with the 2018-19 school year.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Administration report back to the Board with a plan for implementation no later than the January 2018 Board cycle.

October 26, 2017