Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline

Dealing with Challenging Behavior Workgroup

Minutes – August 24, 2018

The Dealing with Challenging Behavior Working Group convened at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Members in attendance: Cassidy Juneau (chair), Michael Ortego, Tia Edwards, Brad Prudhomme, Tamara Cupit, Gina Womack

Dr. Juneau was selected to serve as chair.

The group discussed indicators of implementation.

* Ms. Edwards mentioned that the causes of behavior should be looked at before considering the harshest types of behaviors.
* The group discussed the importance of schools having resources to provide all necessary needs of students before and after suspensions or other behavior incidents. The group also discussed coordination with outside services.
* The group also discussed having a counselor required for every alternative site and school site. We discussed the role of a school counselor. We talked about the importance of parent communication.
* There was also mentioned of CPI being used in regards to restraint, but this was not a common practice based on the experiences of those in the group.
* There was also a question of how districts are implementing policies regarding challenging behavior, seclusion/restraint, etc. and is it being reported/documented?

The group determined the following additional information is needed:

* What financial resources and training are available for schools and school districts?
* How can funding be redirected to support PBIS and other plans to support students before, during, and after major behaviors?
* How can access to school counselors be increased in order to provide actual counseling addressing individual student needs?
* What are parish-by-parish requirements for the personnel who provide outside counseling services?
* More info on community schools – schools that utilize outside resources to help meet needs of students in the community.
* Can different departments coordinate services?