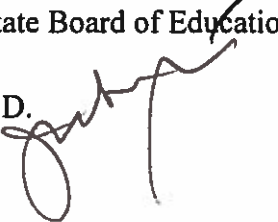




Jack R. Smith, Ph.D.  
Interim State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD • msde.maryland.gov

**TO:** Members of the State Board of Education  
**FROM:** Jack R. Smith, Ph.D.   
**DATE:** February 23, 2016  
**SUBJECT:** Juvenile Services Education System Update

---

**PURPOSE:**

To provide the State Board of Education with an update on the Juvenile Services Education System current focus and future plans to ensure the students enrolled in schools within Department of Juvenile Services' facilities are provided optimal instructional services.

**BACKGROUND/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:**

The Juvenile Services Education System (JSES) was created based upon 2004 legislation which moved the administrative oversight for educational services within Department of Juvenile Services' (DJS) residential facilities to the Maryland State Department of Education. Between 2005 through 2013, fourteen separate schools previously administered by DJS were transferred to MSDE JSES.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The presentation will provide Board members with a general overview of the history of JSES and details the JSES Strategic Plan and associated verification process which will serve to focus and guide JSES' efforts over the next three years.

**ACTION:**

For information and discussion only.

**Juvenile Services  
Education Update  
for the  
Maryland State Department of Education  
February 23, 2016**

---

Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.  
Interim Deputy State Superintendent

# Background: JSE Timeline

(calendar)

2004

- Charles Hickey

2005

- Baltimore City Juvenile Justice
- Lower Eastern Shore Children's Center

2008

- J. DeWeese Carter Center
- Victor Cullen Center

# Background: JSE Timeline

(calendar)

2010

- Western Maryland Children's Center

2011

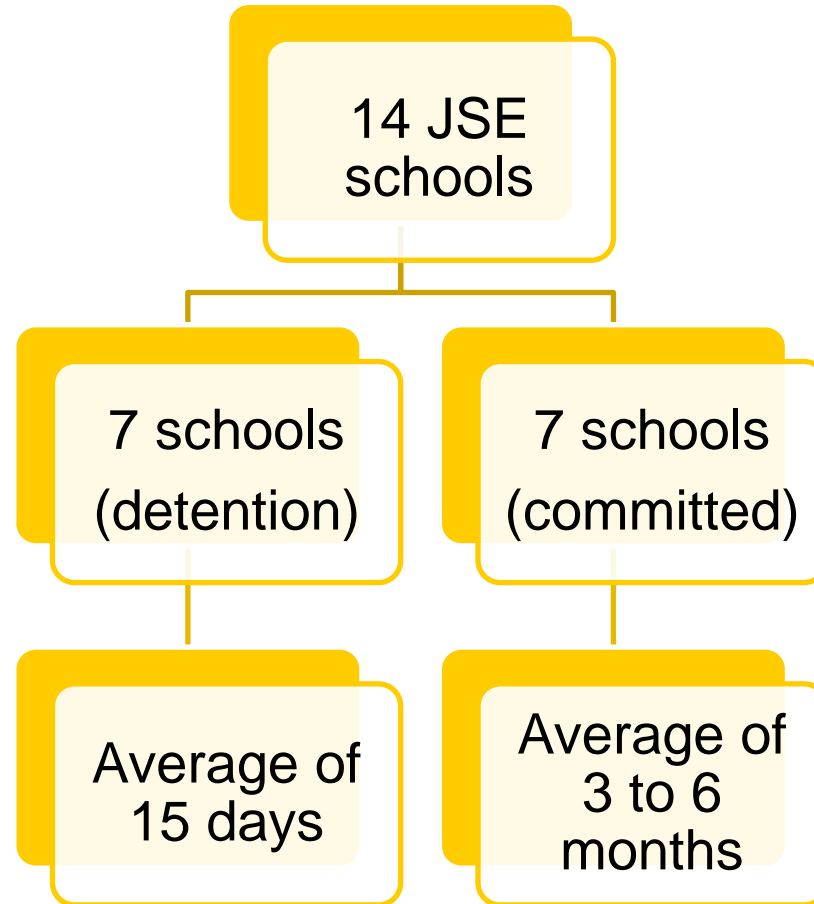
- Cheltenham Youth Facility
- Thomas J.S. Waxter Children's Center
- William Donald Schaefer House

2013

- Alfred D. Noyes Children's Center, Green Ridge Youth Facility
- Meadow Mountain Youth Facility, Savage Mountain Youth Facility
- Backbone Mountain Youth Facility

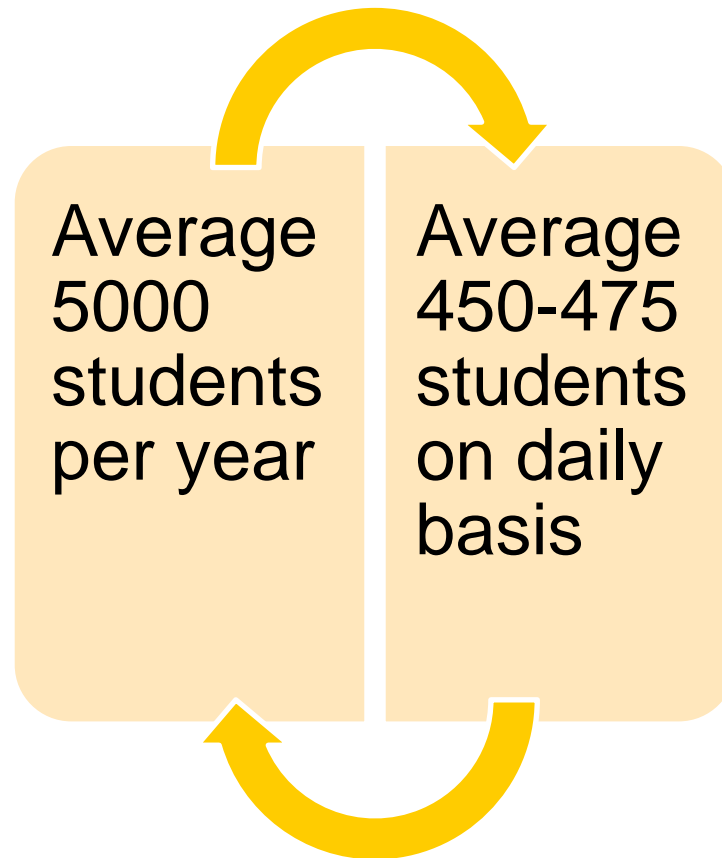
# Background: JSE Schools and Average Enrollment Time

---



# Background: JSE Student Population

---



# Differences between JSE schools and regular schools

## JSE School



- 220 days
- JSE teachers as state employees are free to resign at any time
- No substitute teachers to cover sick/vacation time for state employees
- State employees who resign create a gap in service to children

## Regular Public School



- 180 days
- Teachers bound by contract
- Substitute teachers to cover sick/vacation time for absent teachers
- Teachers who resign are replaced by a long term substitute

# Differences between JSE schools and regular schools

## JSE School



- Students transitioning on daily basis
- High staff turnover
- Student grouping by housing assignments – not based on learning needs
- Statewide school system difficult to monitor

## Regular Public School



- Mostly stable student population
- Staff mostly stable
- Educational grouping of students for instruction across grades and subjects
- Local school system easier to monitor



# Background: Takeover Challenges

---

- ❑ Schools assumed lacked instructional technology, internet access, and updated instructional materials
- ❑ Several schools required renovations and/or leasing of trailer space to adequately provide educational services
- ❑ MSDE worked collaboratively with DJS on takeover challenges

# Budget – Current Appropriation and proposed FY 2017 Appropriation

---

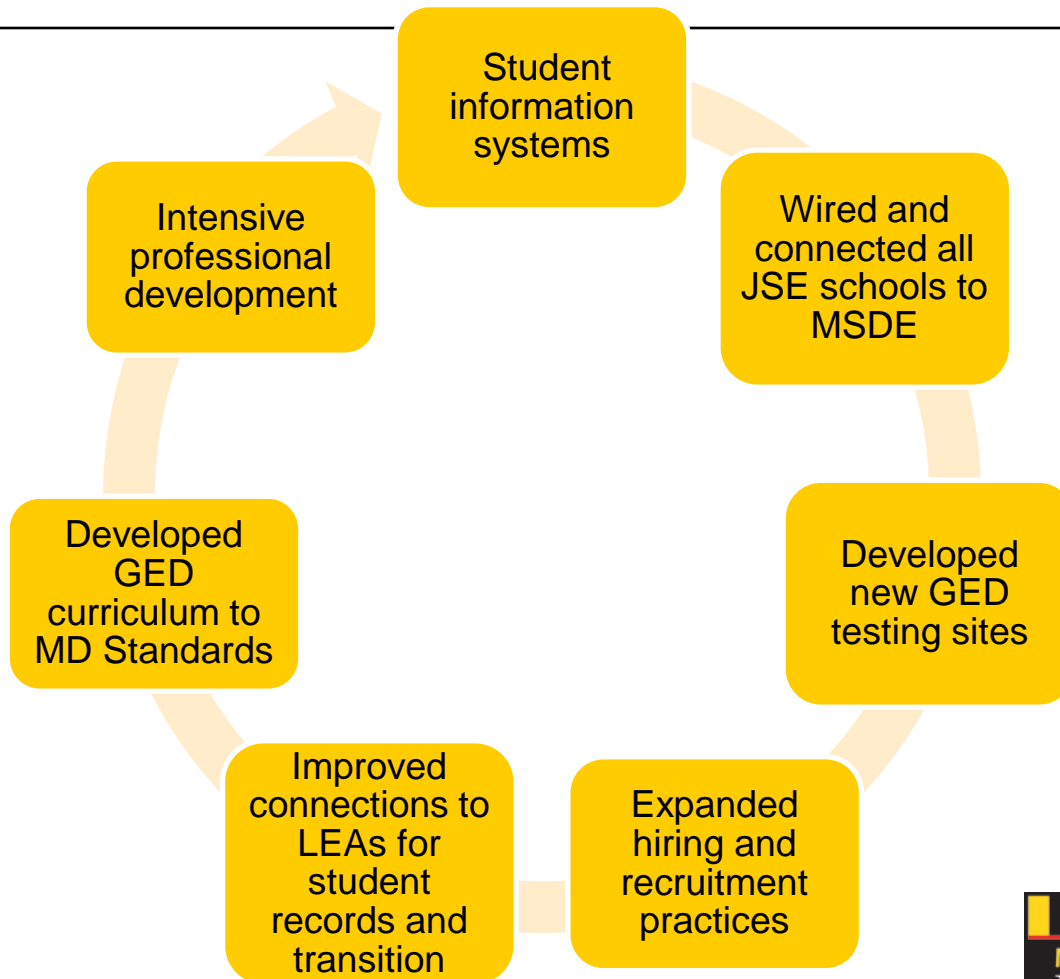
- FY 2016 (current budget):  
\$16.7 million (total funds)
- Proposed FY 2017:  
\$19.7 million (total funds)
- Increase:  
\$3 million

# Budget – Proposed FY 2017 Allowance – Summary of New Funding

---

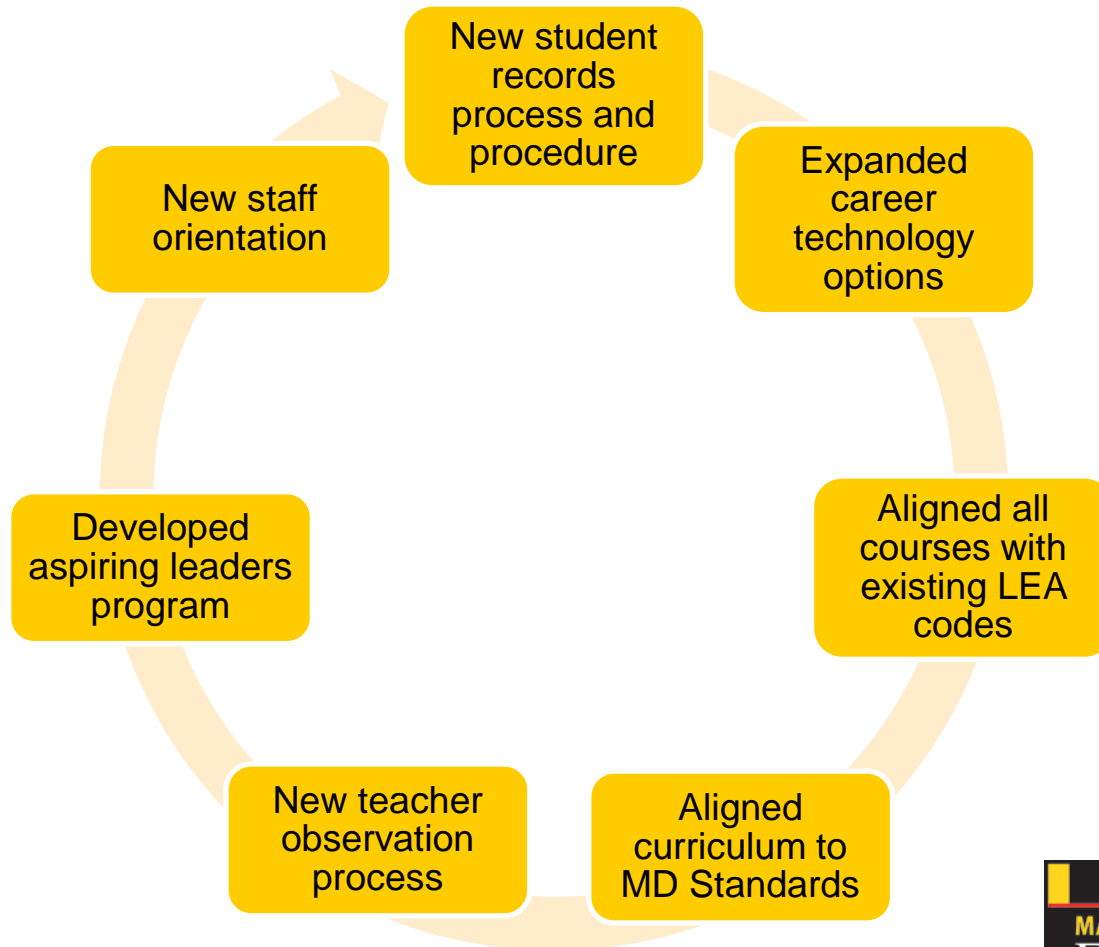
- Hiring of 40 additional staff (20 new PINS and turnover relief):
  - 20 teachers
  - 12 instructional assistants
  - 4 special education teachers
  - 2 counselors
  - 2 central support staff.
- \$100,000 for vendor to provide substitutes

# JSE Improvements



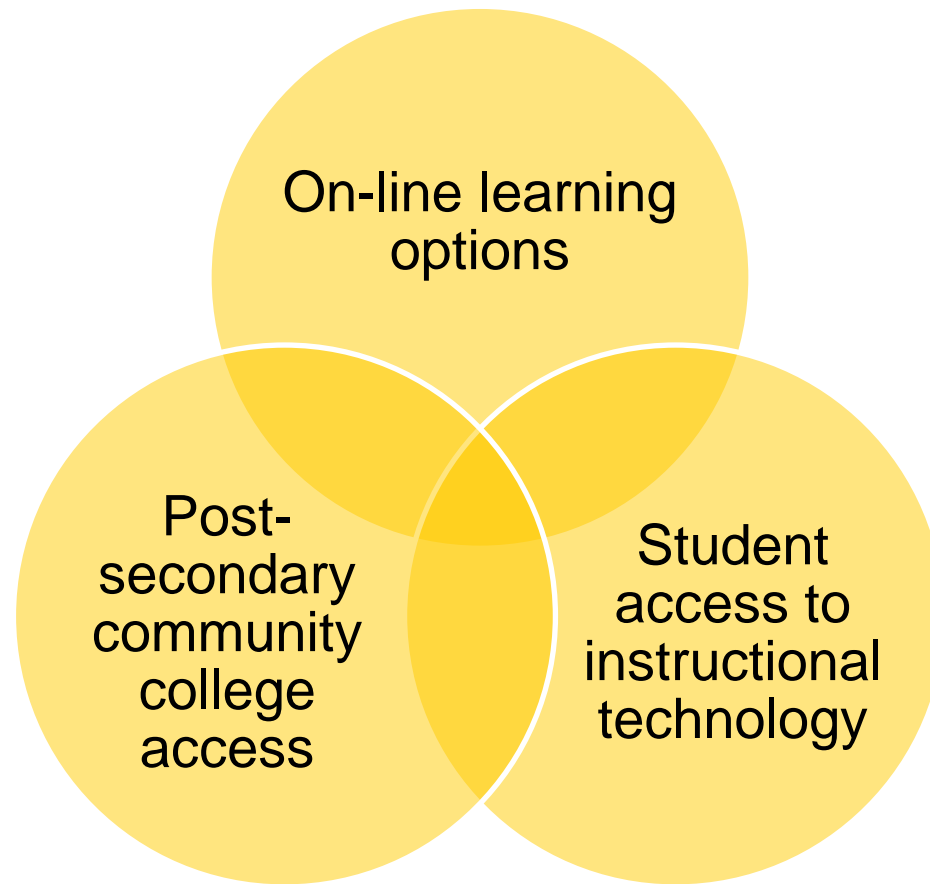
# JSE Improvements

---



# On-going Work – Collaboration with DJS

---



# On-going Work: On-line Learning Options

---

- All JSE schools now have internet access:
  - MSDE approved on-line course for credit recovery and original credit
  - Instructional resources to support units of instruction
  - Professional development through web-ex and other virtual sites
  - Promethean boards in all schools

# On-going Work: Post-secondary options

---

- ❑ JSE students at Youth Camps (Garrett County) have on-line access to community college course
- ❑ Model for other JSE schools
- ❑ Sample MOU for on-line access sent to all 16 community colleges



# On-going Work: Student Access to Instructional Technology

---

- ❑ Desktop computers available in each school for student use
- ❑ Assessments administered
- ❑ Access to GED test in approved testing lab
- ❑ Procure teacher and student laptops for each school

# On-going Challenges

## Special Education

- Intensive special education training

## Teacher vacancies

(28% JSE vacancy rate)

- Expanded recruitment and retention
- Use of key employment recruiting sites

# On-going Challenges

## Professional Development

(transition to on-line learning)

- Intensive PD on use of on-line learning options
- Time for PD during workday is challenging

## Transition back to Local School System

- Work with local school districts

# JSE Strategic Plan

---

- The JSE 3 year strategic plan based on the jointly released recommendations by the US Departments of Education and Justice (2014)
- Creates framework to guide JSE's work for next 3 years and into future
- Led by nationally recognized consultant working directly with JSE central office and 14 schools
- Dr. Leone, MSDE consultant, is the national expert on juvenile services educational settings and past federal monitor

# JSE Strategic Plan

---



# Strategic Plan: Verification Process

---

- Starts January 2016 with baseline evaluation of benchmark and action steps at the initiation of the verification process;
  - Midline evaluation report after first year
  - Final evaluation report after the second year
- Monthly, informal updates will be provided to MSDE, school sites, advocates, and other interested parties
- All reports and updates will address progress on benchmarks and action steps as well as suggestions for continuous improvement

# DJS and MSDE Collaborate to Meet the Diverse Needs of the Youth we Serve

