



**ALAMEDA COUNTY**  
**Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, March 8, 2023 | 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM**  
**Juvenile Justice Center**  
**2500 Fairmont Drive, San Leandro, CA, Room C1002**

[Virtual Teleconference Access via ZOOM](#)

**Commissioners Present:**

Palagummi, Vamsey (Chair)                       Anderson, Louise                       Noma, Sally                       Peralta, Gina  
 Metz, Elana (Vice Chair)                       Galvis, George                       Nunley, Patricia

**Youth Commissioner:**  Larios, Xochtil                      **Member Emeritus:**  Nair, Kamal

**Collaborative Partners Present:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Badiey, Naseem, ACPD	<input type="checkbox"/> Ford, Brian, Assist. Chief ACPD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pappas, Carissa, ACPD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barton, Crystal, ACPD	<input type="checkbox"/> Gold, Matthew, DA	<input type="checkbox"/> Rivers, James, ACPD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Burke, Yasmin, ACPD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gershow, Christine, ACBH	<input type="checkbox"/> Ross, Javay, ACPH
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buckner-Preston, Mia, SSA-CWS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gratz-Lazarus, Zach, CAAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tate, Hattie, OUSD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chambers, Adrienne, ACPD	<input type="checkbox"/> Konover, Kimberly, ACBH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vaughan, Monica, ACOE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crawford, Earl, ACOE	<input type="checkbox"/> Long, Ian, ACPD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walton, Robert, ACPD
<input type="checkbox"/> Donovan, Allyson, DA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mance, Al, Public Defender	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wegley, Rebecca, ACPD
<input type="checkbox"/> Dawal, Marcus, Chief ACPD	<input type="checkbox"/> McGuire, Tammy, ACPD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Williams, Shahidah, BOS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emmons, Craig, ACPD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mitchell, Alicia, ACPD	<input type="checkbox"/> Zambrana, Andrea, CAAP

**Recorder:** Shavers, Andrea, ACPD                       Castro, Alysse, AC SOS

**I. Administrative Business**

- 1. Call to Order:** Vice Chair Metz called the meeting to order at **12:05** pm.
- 2. Roll Call:**
- 3. Action to approve February 8, 2023, Minutes**  
Vice Chair Metz invited a motion to adopt the February 2022 minutes as circulated with the agenda.

**MOTION:** Gina Peralta    **Second:** Sally Noma  
**AYES (Voice Vote): All Present**  
**NOES: None**  
**ABSTAIN: None**  
**MOTION PASSED.**

**II. Education**

Alameda County Superintendent of Schools, Alysse Castro

- Ms. Castro began her 4-year term nine weeks ago.
- Her general focus is on Alternative Education (Alternative ED).
  - One should not measure Alternative ED's the same as a traditional school. Essentially, you would be measuring with a crooked ruler.
  - There is an opportunity to do things differently, with a different structure. In the Alternative ED setting, a typical student is placed for a few weeks, a few days or in some cases only one (1) day.

- c. It does not make sense to recreate a school format that mirrors the school the student came from, thereby recreating the lived experience.
  - d. The schools in correction look more like a nurturing elementary school, where you have the young person all day and can respond to the fact you know they are going through a lot.
  - e. Alternative ED is where you meet the student where they are and construct the learning experience around the individual student rather than attempting to fit the student into someone else's egg crate.
3. Staffing and teaching opportunity.
    - a. If you know someone that would like to become a teacher, we are conducting small scale experiments in alternative credentialing.
    - b. To work immediately, you must current possess a bachelor's degree.
    - c. If you do not hold a bachelor's degree and are willing to work through that process, contact Earl Crawford, Monica Vaughn or me, Alysse Castro, directly.
  4. Transition Work
    - a. ACOE has reached out to some of the school districts to have their staff visit the young people in detention. The intention is to have the school interact with the young people prior to release so a connection is established.

#### Alameda County Office of Education, Earl Crawford

1. ACOE has experienced some difficulties with internet use, the appropriate use of the internet with our young people. The focus is on how we create something that is secure that does not allow our young people to violate themselves or others in the community. Acknowledging the issues they have experienced with technology, ACOE is doing their best.
2. ACOE has had discussion with ACPD to purchase pre-packaged opportunities, educational software and internet-like opportunities.

### III. Courts

#### District Attorney, Jacq Wilson

1. Mr. Wilson joined the DA's office seven weeks ago. During this time, he has observed and assessed Alameda County's Judicial System. Although the assessment is incomplete, Mr. Wilson finds that rehabilitation does not occur in Alameda County. In his experience outside of Alameda County, there were many connections and bridges forged prior to the youth release that increased their level of success post-release.

#### Public Defender, Al Mance

2. A new law in 2023 changes existing law WI Code 782, which allows for the sealing of records.
  - a. The law now includes 707 and 707B offenses.
  - b. The law takes into account the history of trauma, the offenses related to that trauma, rehabilitation and completed probation.
  - c. This allows the court at the completion of probation or any time thereafter to go back and strike the conviction.
  - d. Previously, if the record was sealed, the strike remained. Now it can be struck and removed.
3. Now that Secure Track is in Alameda County, it requires a 6-month hearing in the court that was previously brought before the Parole Board. The Public Defender is responsible for filing petitions and advocating for those youth.
4. The number of filings in juvenile court cases across the state are down, however the ones that remain are the most intense and require the greatest care.

### IV. Probation

#### General Updates, Adrienne Chambers

1. Effective March 19, 2023, I will be transitioning into a new role within ACPD to Community Re-entry and Adult Court Services. This will include outreach, program design, development, adult investigations and pre-trial.
2. Ian Long will also transition into a new role within ACPD to Administrative and Financial Services, primarily handling fiscal, information technology and administrative services.
3. Deputy Chief Probation Officer Shauna Conner who previously worked in SB 1004 will transition to Juvenile Facilities.
4. Deputy Chief Probation Officer Dante Cercone formerly deputy chief of policy will transition to Positive Youth Development replacing Chambers in her role with the JJDPC.

#### Demographics, Yasmin Burke

1. Number of youths at JJC – 76 (70 males, 6 females)
2. Number of youth age 14 and/or under – 9
  - a. 4 youth are 14.
  - b. 5 youth are 13.
3. Number of youths on Home Supervision – 38
4. Number of youths on GPS – 25
5. Number of youths on Secure Track – 11
6. **Number of youths in SB 823 including step downs – 22**
7. **Total number in custody – 19**
  - a. 10 youths are in Unit 1
  - b. 9 youths are in Unit 3, 7 of which are DJJ returnees.
  - c. 4 youth are in high school.
8. Number of youths at Camp – 11
  - a. 3 youths are SB 823 step downs.
  - b. 2 youth are employed with Tesla.

#### SB 823 Update, Yasmin Burke

1. 11 youths in SB 823 custody are taking some form of college classes, virtual, self-paced, or in-person.
2. One (1) youth is enrolled in an electrician's course.
3. One (1) youth is employed through the Raising Leaders program and is working in the library. This youth has been conditionally accepted to San Francisco State University and Cal State Eastbay.
4. A group of youth will complete the Raising Leaders workshop on February 15, 2023. Upon completion youth that will be allowed to work will be identified.

#### Programming, Yasmin Burke

1. Programming for Secure Track and Camp Sweeney includes the following.
  - a. Family Spring is an intensive substance misuse program.
  - b. George Smith teaches life mapping and journaling.
  - c. True Academy focuses on anger management and gang intervention.
  - d. ROP provides culturally responsive Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT).
  - e. Restoring Our Communities (ROC) hosts a basketball clinic for Units 1, 3 and 5 every Tuesday evening.
  - f. A cooking program is held at Camp Sweeney each Wednesday from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. Staff assist the youths' preparing meals of their choice.

- g. Center Force will begin a program focusing on fatherhood.
- h. Youth Beat will begin a program focusing on multimedia arts.
- 2. Special activities
  - a. Golfing
  - b. On 2/12/2023 and 2/14/2023 staff and the youth traveled to Sacramento and Vacaville to explore the Laborer's Union and Insulators Union.
  - c. There was a Black History Month event on 2/22/2023. Each youth presented a person in history.
- 3. Family Spring was awarded a contract that will begin in April 2023 to provide anger management to youth at camp and Secure Track.
- 4. All the youth in SB 823 have completed the workshop and are all eligible to work. A work few opportunities are as follows.
  - a. Peer facilitator in the youth's unit
  - b. MC3 education
  - c. Surveying with ROP, a construction program.
- 5. Deputy Sheriff Activity League (DSAL) will come on board to provide physical activities for the youth.
- 6. Several Juvenile Institutional Officers (JIOs) have instituted a basketball program for the youth in custody. The youth compete unit verses unit. The youth must have all their points to participate.
- 7. Staff and Credible Messengers will undergo a training by the program originator. All Credible Messengers must participate in the training.

## V. Medical & Behavioral Health

### Medical Updates February 1 – 28, 2023, Dr. Christine Gerchow

- 1. Medical
  - a. 28 History and physicals.
  - b. 22 Medication Management
  - c. 13 Sick Visits
  - d. 121 Registered Nurse visits
- 2. Dental
  - a. 37 visits
  - b. 17 new intakes

### Guidance Clinic Updates, Dr. Christine Gerchow

- 1. In response to the inquiry about what ACBH is doing for youth in Juvenile Hall (JH) that are experiencing repeated crisis, they are working diligently to hire additional on-call support.
  - a. Guidance Clinic is working closely with ACBH System of Care, e.g., Willow Rock and UCSF Children's Hospital Oakland.
  - b. They are working closely with ACPD to provide education on the following.
    - What it looks like to deescalate a youth?
    - What does it look like to support the youth around another youth that was deescalated?
  - c. There is 50-hours of psychiatry with ACBH available outside of the JJC. This is helpful to do consults, for example with Willow Rock or San Leandro Hospital.
- 2. Behavioral Health numbers for February 1 -28, 2023
  - a. 393 Total Encounters
  - b. 44 Intakes
  - c. 27 Medication Consults/appointments
  - d. 106 referrals for regular intake and urgent intake.

- e. 15 Crises.

## **VI. Social Services**

### **Assessment Center Update, Mia Buckner-Preston**

Background Information: The Assessment Center (AC) provides 72-hour transitional care.

1. The State has provided directives for ongoing operations for the Assessment Center. The Community Care Licensing wants the AC to concentrate on the following.
  - a. Reduce the reliance on the Assessment Center to provide long-term care. The state's goal is to reduce the number of youths experiencing transitional shelter. The AC cannot provide an intake for anyone that has an alternative safe option for their care.
  - b. Eliminate overstay. Any youth that stays at the AC beyond 72-hours is flagged by the state. The AC must provide the State justification why the youth was at the AC, the reason for the overstay, show placement search efforts where the attempt to place the youth was made and the provider's response.
2. 40 intakes in February.
  - a. 65% were females.
  - b. 35% were males.
  - c. 68% were teens between the ages of 13 and 17.
3. 11 youth overstayed in the facility beyond the allotted 72-hours.
4. The average length of stay increased in from 40hours in January to 56 hours in February. The increase in stays is directly related to the lack of available placements. Each month the AC receives a list of STRTPS that are reverting back to group home status.
  - a. This means, if the STRTPs revert it reduces the stay for a placed youth to 2-weeks.
  - b. This option is not always in the child's best interest as this necessitates an additional placement.
5. There was an increase in intake after hours and on weekends in February by 42%.
  - a. 45% of those intakes were African American youths.
  - b. 40% of those intakes were Latino youths.
6. On February 18, 2023, the security contract with Alameda County Sheriff's Department ended. The AC is now under contract with Diligent Security. Service began on February 19, 2023. There are three (3) guards for every three shifts.

## **VII. Alameda County Youth Advisory Council**

### **Youth Advisory Council Update, Nicholas Gonzalez & Mika**

Background Information: The youth Advisory Council (YAC) consists of 11 paid members ages 17 – 25 were impacted by the Juvenile Justice System and who have a passion to create systemic change.

1. In November 2022, YAC met with ACPD to share their four focus areas.
  - a. Education and mental health at JH.
  - b. Education and employment opportunities within Secure Track and SB 823.
  - c. Programming for youth reentering the community.
  - d. Grievance policy
2. YAC's projects
  - a. February 2023 YAC had a community building event.
  - b. YAC meets monthly with ACPD leadership.
  - c. YAC plans to lead focus groups in April of 2023 with youth at JH
  - d. A few council members will speak at the BSCC hearing in March 2023 in Sacramento to advocate for Title 15 changes
  - e. YAC will recruit for new council members in April and May of 2023.

## **VIII. Commission Updates**

None.

## **IX. Public Comment**

None.

**Next Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12, 2023.**

**Location:** Hybrid meeting format.

In-person: Juvenile Justice Center, 2500 Fairmont Drive, San Leandro, CA, Conference Room C1022

Virtual: via Zoom.

**Meeting adjourned at 2:18 pm.**