

## **Resolution to Establish a Countywide Foster Youth Student Information System (FYSIS) in Los Angeles County**

The following is a resolution proposed by the Information-Sharing Subcommittee of the School Attendance Task Force regarding the creation and establishment of an information-sharing system designed to share information among stakeholder county agencies and school districts related to the education of children who are wards of the delinquency or dependency courts.

The purpose of the system is to ensure compliance with AB 940, WIC 16010, NYTD, Title IV(e), and NCLB requirements. Furthermore, the system would serve to ensure that critical and relevant educational information is communicated between stakeholder county agencies and local school districts to facilitate educational continuity for children in the dependency and delinquency systems.

It is proposed that a system be developed that may contain the following information:<sup>1</sup>

- Demographic information
- Contact information for child welfare workers.
- Current residence and type of placement
- Holder of educational rights
- Grades and GPA
- Attendance
- Discipline record
- Credits/unofficial transcripts
- California English Language Assessment
- State testing scores (e.g., CAHSEE)
- Placement history
- Mental and physical health information
- Assigned attorney
- Assigned social worker
- Alerts
  - √ IEP dates
  - √ Placement changes
  - √ Chronic absenteeism/truancy

It is further proposed that a formal working policy group be initially convened that is comprised of, but not limited to, the following agencies:

- CEO
- CIO
- LACOE

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<sup>1</sup> This is a suggested list of potential areas of inclusion. Various restrictions to certain screens of information would have to be developed depending upon the identity of the end user.

- LAUSD
- ISD
- Superior Court
- Probation
- DCFS
- DMH
- DPSS
- Public Defender
- District Attorney
- Private community-based organizations that serve children in the delinquency and dependency systems
- County Counsel
- Local school districts

The working policy group shall develop user policies that:

- Share the minimum amount of necessary information that protects confidentiality weighed against the “need to know” by a user agency
- Ensure “real time” data-entry policies
- Require periodic collaborative team meetings of the policy and user groups to ensure best practices and find continuing solutions to bars to information-sharing
- Explore and develop legislation, if necessary, to overcome any legal bars to the sharing of educational information

The working policy group shall consider other successful data-sharing systems that are currently operational. The San Diego County Office of Education has developed a web-based system that has been operative for a number of years with success. The system is known as the San Diego County Foster Youth Student Information System. Operating protocols as well as computer software are highly developed and could serve as a working model for a similar system in this county. Riverside County has a similar system.

It is further proposed that a subsequent formal user group be convened and be comprised of those agencies that the initial working policy group identifies for inclusion.

It is further proposed that the system do the following:

- Draw from existing agency database systems so as to minimize manual data entry
- Meet FERPA requirements of confidentiality
- Meet HIPAA requirements of confidentiality
- Meet state requirements of confidentiality