



July 9, 2024

Dear Colleague:

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) and U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention invite you to join us for an upcoming *Lessons from the Field* webinar on school/justice partnerships. The webinar will take place on July 10, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. EST.

The webinar will discuss the importance of school/justice partnerships and provide examples of especially effective collaborations. Speakers and panelists include:

- Greta Colombi, Principal Researcher, American Institutes for Research
- Bernadine Futrell, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education
- Liz Ryan, Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice
- Ellen Galinsky, Author of *Mind in the Making: The Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs* and *The Breakthrough Years: A New Scientific Framework for Raising Thriving Teens*
- Luvinia Jackson, (Retired) Superintendent, Clayton County Public Schools, Georgia
- Hon. Steven C. Teske, (Retired) Chief Presiding Judge Juvenile & Family Court Designated Superior Court Judge, Clayton Judicial Circuit, Georgia
- Julius (J) Corpening, Chief District Judge, North Carolina
- Dr. Ralph Simpson, Deputy Superintendent of Administrative Services & Strategic Improvement, Clayton County Public Schools, Georgia
- Stephanie Kraybill, Board of Education, New Hanover County Schools, North Carolina

School/justice partnerships emerged in the 1990s as districts saw a dramatic increase in the number of young people who were referred to the courts by school-based law enforcement officers, largely due to zero-tolerance policies.

Panelist Judge Teske helped to develop and implement school/justice partnerships as an alternative approach that would reduce the number of students referred to the courts for classroom behavior issues and to ensure a better understanding about if, and when, a young person should be referred to the courts for school-based behavior.¹ This approach improved school climate, reduced suspension and expulsions and decreased the number of young people referred to the juvenile courts by schools.²

¹ [teske-1.pdf \(virginia.gov\)](#)

² Id.

We encourage you to join us for this important webinar about ways that we can help address exclusionary discipline policies and school-based arrests and court referrals. You can register [here](#). Together, we can find solutions to help create better outcomes for students and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernadine Futrell". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "B" and "F".

Dr. Bernadine Futrell, U.S. Department of Education

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E" and "R".

Elizabeth Ryan, Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice