

Education Success and Truancy Prevention Workgroup Recommendations

1. Adopt 8 Education Goals for Pennsylvania's Youth in Out-of-Home Care (*Blue Print for Change*, Legal Center for Foster Care and Education).

Education Goals for Youth in Out-of-Home Care

1. Youth are entitled to remain in their same school when feasible.
 2. Youth are guaranteed seamless transitions between schools and school districts when school moves occur.
 3. Young children enter school ready to learn.
 4. Youth have the opportunity and support to fully participate in all aspects of the school experience.
 5. Youth have supports to prevent school dropout, truancy, and disciplinary actions.
 6. Youth are involved and engaged in all aspects of their education and educational planning and are empowered to be advocates for their education needs and pursuits.
 7. Youth have an adult who is invested in his or her education during and after his or her time in out-of-home care.
 8. Youth have supports to enter into, and complete, postsecondary education.
2. Champion Pennsylvania's Action Plan through the Pennsylvania State Roundtables' Education Success and Truancy Prevention Workgroup to strengthen education success for children and youth in foster care.
 3. Provide practical tools, including reference guides and benchcards, for judges and judicial officers that enhance their ability to address education issues.
 4. Adopt court performance measures for children in foster care regarding educational well-being.
 5. Collaborate with national leaders to develop a data action plan (including model policies, MOU's) for collecting and sharing education data between the court, child welfare and education.
 6. Approval of the amendment revisions (Attachment 1) to truancy laws governing school attendance and identified best practices.
 7. Support Workgroup's efforts to continue to partner with the Pennsylvania Department of Education and other stakeholders on enhancements to the Pennsylvania Toolkit for School Attendance and Truancy Reduction.
 8. Support Workgroup's efforts to examine the issue of truancy in Pennsylvania cyber schools and provide further recommendations to the Pennsylvania State Roundtable in 2013.