

## **TRUANCY JUSTICE INTERVENTION COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR 5-23-08**

Present Rick Kubat, Kim Culp, Rachel Warne, John Oddo, Brad Alexander, Vernon Daniels, Don Davis, Hank Robinson, Ann Marcuzzo

### **A. ILPP AND TRUANTS IN THE YOUTH CENTER**

1. Institute for Law and Policy Planning (ILPP) – discussion of Truancy cases resulting in detention.

- General consensus that there should be a viable alternative to detention if the youth is only detained for truancy reasons

- ILPP study may not recognize that Truancy may have caused initial court appearance, but detention often occurs for because the youth is in violation of a court order.

- Need for intervention programs for truancy cases

- Capstone has a truancy program, but full implementation of all aspects of the program requires additional funding

- The Youth Center was going to provide data regarding charges of truants in detention

### **B. CURRENT TRUANCY ABATEMENT PROGRAM AT NORTH HIGH**

- **OPD** recently received a grant from the Nebraska Crime Commission for a truancy program for this Fall. Request by the group to be updated by the Omaha Police Department's (OPD) truancy abatement program, how does the program work? Has it been successful? How is OPD measuring success?

- John Oddo with OPD was going to see if we could have Michelle Cech who is the Truant Officer for the North High program present at the next meeting to give the committee an overview and to discuss the new grant

### **C. STUDENT ADVISORY REVIEW BOARDS (SARBS)**

- Discussion of California SARB model and its potential benefits

- general consensus of preferring a formal SARB model rather than allowing truancy cases to end up in the justice system

### **D. Questions for County Attorney**

1. What information is being transferred from the schools to the County Attorney's Office?

2. If a former truant is back in school why is the case still being filed County Attorney's Office?

3. Why are some cases not referred to the Juvenile Assessment Center?

4. What is the policy or procedures on filings?