

Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court Initiative

At the Chief Justice of California's urging, in December 2013, the California Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care hosted 33 county multidisciplinary teams including judicial officers, educators, juvenile justice, child welfare, parents, youth, and others at a summit intended to tackle the tough problem of keeping kids in school and out of court caused by chronic absenteeism, exclusionary school discipline policies, and other issues that can negatively impact students' educational outcomes, including leading to higher dropout rates, lower graduation rates, and more contact with the juvenile justice or criminal justice systems.



The success of that summit led the Chief Justice to initiate the Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court (KKIS) Initiative in May 2014. She appointed Judge Stacy Boulware Eurie (Sacramento County) as Chair of the initiative and Judge Donna Groman (Los Angeles County) as Vice Chair. She also appointed a multi-talented steering committee to work with the chair and vice chair to guide the initiative as it continued work with county teams to help build effective court-based and other effective programs in their own communities.

The initiative is now in its final year with a current focus on working with rural California counties on the specific difficulties they have to grapple with as they work to improve educational outcomes, including poverty, transportation, access to the internet, access to tax dollars to support education, and much higher chronic absenteeism and suspension rates.

The KKIS Initiative will be hosting a multi-county convening, Transforming Pipelines to Prison into Stairways to Success in Rural Northern California, in Sacramento on February 27-28, 2020.

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A1. Youth Courts: Creating Positive Alternatives to the Traditional Juvenile Justice System

A2. Juvenile Justice Jeopardy: Engaging Youth in Critical Thinking About School Policies and Interactions with Adults

A3. It Takes A Community! Research & Action in Washington State

B1. Attendance Matters: Research-based Models to Address Chronic Absenteeism

B2. Transforming Trauma's Effects on the Developing Brain: How Educators, Judges & Other Professionals Can Help to Foster Resilience and Promote School Success

B3. Truancy Court and Model School Attendance Review Board Programs for School Attendance Improvement

C1. Interventions to End the School to Prison Pipeline

C2. Community Collaboration to Support Educational Success: A Successful Model from Santa Cruz

C3. Implicit Bias in Decision Making

D1. Judging the Teen Brain: What Judges Need to Know About Adolescent Brain Development

D2. Introduction to Restorative Justice (RJ) and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Models of Intervention

D3. California School Discipline Innovators Panel

Wednesday, December 4th Plenary
