




STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** June 22, 2011  
**TO:** Wansley Walters, Secretary  
**FROM:**  Mary Roe Eubanks, Inspector General  
**SUBJECT:** Internal Audit's Follow-up to OPPAGA Report No.10-55 - *Juvenile Justice Students Face Barriers to High School Graduation and Job Training.*

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In October 2010, the Office of Program Policy Analysis & Government Accountability (OPPGA) released Report Number 10-55, *Juvenile Justice Students Face Barriers to High School Graduation and Job Training*. The report identified areas requiring additional attention for the Florida Legislature, the Florida Department of Education (DOE) and the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (Department). The report recommended that the Department and DOE report to the Legislature on the effectiveness of their efforts in increase GED attainment and job training services for juvenile justice students.

Management's response dated October 5, 2010 stated that the data required for the report was not available within the Department's existing Management Information System. Additionally, the fiscal constraints made it difficult for the Department to support OPPAGA's recommendation. Management's position has not changed and we have determined that no further follow-up is necessary. A copy of Management's response is attached for your review.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael Yu, Audit Director, at 921-5698.

ME/my/mt

Attachment

Cc: Robert L. Woody, Deputy Secretary  
Christy K. Daly, Chief of Staff  
Laura Moneyham, Assistant Secretary, Residential Services  
Kathy Dubose, Coordinator, Joint Legislative Auditing Committee

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2737 Centerview Drive • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3100 • (850) 488-1850

Charlie Crist, Governor

Frank Peterman, Jr., Secretary

*The mission of the Department of Juvenile Justice is to increase public safety by reducing juvenile delinquency through effective prevention, intervention, and treatment services that strengthen families and turn around the lives of troubled youth.*



**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE**

Charlie Crist, Governor

Frank Peterman, Jr., Secretary

October 5, 2010

Gary R. VanLandingham, Director  
Office of Program Policy Analysis & Government Accountability  
111 West Madison St., Room 312, Claude Pepper Building  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1475

Dear Director VanLandingham,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the OPPAGA's draft report entitled "*Juvenile Justice Students Face Barriers to High School Graduation and Job Training*." The report identifies areas requiring additional attention for the Florida Legislature, the Florida Department of Education, and the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice. The following are the Department's response to the recommendations contained in the draft report:

**Recommendation:** *The Legislature may wish to amend s. 985.622, F.S., to clarify that the multiagency plan must include curriculum, goals, and outcome measures for youth in non-residential facilities; require that the plan include specific goals and strategies for identifying and eliminating barriers to increasing occupation specific job training and GED preparation opportunities particularly for older, higher risk students; broaden required stakeholder involvement in plan development to specify participation of representatives from the business community, industry trade groups, district vocational-technical schools, state and school district postsecondary career education, and juvenile justice program providers with vocational programs.*

**Department Response:** We concur with this recommendation.

**Recommendation:** *The Department of Education should provide information to school districts and juvenile justice programs regarding available Florida Education Finance Program funding for GED preparation courses and recent administrative rule changes that allow increased curricular flexibility for juvenile justice students.*

**Department Response:** We concur with this recommendation.

**Recommendation:** *The Department of Juvenile Justice and Department of Education report to the Legislature on the effectiveness of their efforts in increase GED attainment and job training services for juvenile justice students. Specifically, the agencies should report information on whether these students are employed, in school, in the military, or have re-entered the criminal justice system.*

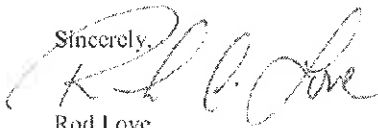
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<http://www.djj.state.fl.us>

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**Department Response:** The Department recognizes the importance of reporting this information to the legislature. However, the data required for this report is currently not available within the Department's existing Management Information System. With the current fiscal constraints, it is difficult for the Department to support this recommendation.

The Department is committed to effective partnerships in meeting the educational needs of the students in the juvenile justice system. The ongoing interest and support of the Florida legislature in working to improve educational performance and reduce recidivism of these students continue to be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Rod Love  
Deputy Secretary

RL/jw

cc: Frank Peterman, Jr., Secretary  
Christy Daly, Interim Chief of Staff  
Terri Eggers, Director of Education  
Ms. Mary Eubanks, Inspector General  
Ms. Kim Mills, Director Auditing, Executive Office of the Governor  
Dr. Eric J. Smith, Commissioner of Education