March 6, 2019

To: Senator Abrams, Representative Rosario and members of the Secondary Education Subcommittee. Mention HB7148 An Act Concerning the Budget for the State Department of Education:

RE: Testimony for March 6, 2019, 4:00 PM for the Secondary Education Subcommittee

The testimonials below are directly related to the City’s Juvenile Review Board (JRB) that is managed by DYS.

- A client came to DYS through the JRB process because of a Larceny 6 offense (stealing). This client would have been referred to the courts, however in October 2018 the city launched its JRB (a first for the City). This client was diverted from the court system to the local JRB. The review board developed an action plan for the youth that required the following:
  1. An apology letter to the victim
  2. Volunteering with the DYS Girls As Leaders program (GAL’s)
  3. Mentoring – Identifying a positive role model in the community for support

This client continues to do well with completing the action plan items with oversight from the JRB Case Manager. The client has goals to finish high school and has been accepted at a state college 4 – year institution.

- A client came to DYS through the JRB process because the offender pulled the fire alarm during school hours. This client was diverted from the court system to the local JRB. The review board developed an action plan for the youth that required the following:
  1. An apology letter to school administration and also Fire Department
  2. Tour of the local fire station led by the Deputy Fire Marshal to learn about the dangers of false alarms

This client completed the action plan items with oversight from the JRB Case Manager. On the tour of the firehouse the client offered apologies to the fire station personnel and was fitted with fire gear as a gesture of kindness and understanding.