

Disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline

Listening session: March 8, 2016

*Hosted by Boston Public Schools, Boston Youth Service Network,
and Boston Opportunity Youth Collaborative*

Recurring themes

- Achievement gap, disproportionate discipline, and lack of opportunities for students of color
- Need to engage students and parents; need to include youth voice in the process
- Restorative justice as an alternative to exclusions and punitive discipline practices
- Need for more after-school/out of school programming and resources; particularly for younger students (middle school and early high school)
- Importance of alternative education and vocational education
- Importance of trauma-informed methods and social-emotional supports
- Need for any budget cuts to be thoughtful and informed
- Stop pushing students out – importance of a welcoming school culture
- Standardized code of conduct, building off of Chapter 222
- Importance of involving police and school resource officers in suspension reform