

Governor’s Juvenile Justice Commission

Ethnic and Racial Disparities Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 18, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Subcommittee Chair: Commissioner Edjron Pearson

Subcommittee Members Present:	Commissioner Edjron Pearson, Wendy Volz Daniels, Kimberly Jenkins, Aaron Schutz, Commissioner Trevor Strickler, Commissioner Ella Bostwick, Melissa Graham, Commissioner Muskadee Montano, Commissioner Dorinthia Robinson, Commissioner Maurice Newton, Jr, Marc Perry.
Subcommittee Members Not Present:	Commissioner Charles Greer, Commissioner Emily Velazquez, Commissioner Charles Tubbs
Wisconsin DOJ Staff:	Jessica Reindl, Lara Kenny, Sabrina Gentile, Kiley Komro, Matt Allord

Convene

The Ethnic and Racial Disparities (ERD) Subcommittee convened at 10:00 AM.

Chair’s Welcome and Roll Call

Chair Edjron Pearson welcomed members to the meeting. The Subcommittee introduced themselves, including new GJC member Marc Perry. Quorum was present.

DOJ Updates

Grants – Kiley Komro reported that applications for the FY2023 Positive Youth Development Grant Program and the FY2022 Youth Justice System Improvement Grant Program are being reviewed. Awards are anticipated to be made and projects start by April 1, 2026. Additional funding will be available later this year.

Compliance – Matt Allord reported that the dates for the 2026 Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) compliance audit have been set. Federal OJJDP staff will be in Wisconsin from 4/27/26 – 5/1/26. More information will be shared at the upcoming Policy, Legislation, and Compliance Subcommittee meeting. Allord briefly explained what will be audited by OJJDP. This audit will cover previous federal fiscal year 2024 detention data.

The Compliance Monitoring Tool (CMT) to report federal fiscal year 2025 data has not been opened by OJJDP. Once this tool is opened, WI DOJ will submit data and produce a compliance summary report, as has been done in previous years.

Legislative – Sabrina Gentile reported both houses had their last session days. Gentile updated on bills that were most recently introduced.

- AB773/SB 755, treatment of a pregnant or postpartum person in prison or jail, has been introduced. This bill applies to all Department of Corrections detention facilities, Secure Residential Care Centers for Children and Youth (SRCCCY), county juvenile detention centers and jails. The bill limits the use of physical restraints on pregnant and certain postpartum people in custody. The legislation is the current practice in the DOC operated facilities. This bill would put this practice into statute. Limiting the use of restraints is currently one of the 33 requirements in the JJDP. No action/no hearing on the bills.
- AB860/SB847, written resource guides informing inmates and juveniles in custody of their rights and making an appropriation. Adult resource guides are updated annually. This bill provides the same requirements for juveniles in custody, except that DOC is responsible for maintaining the written resource guide relating to juveniles, posting and distributing the resource guide for type 1 juvenile detention facilities, and ensuring that any juvenile detention facility, secured residential care center for children and youth, or juvenile portion of the county jail approved by DOC has a plan to distribute the resource guide. No action/no hearing on the bills.
- AB946/SB926 - Under this bill, the Department of Public Instruction would implement a two-year pilot program during the 2026-27 and 2027-28 school years, providing at least 50,000 high school students access to an electronic, multicomponent behavioral health prevention tool. Bill includes \$1.5 million per year funding. Hearing was held on Feb 3. DPI did not testify. Executive session is Tues, Feb 10 at 9:15. No further action. SB926 had a hearing on March 3. No further action on the bills.
- SB882/AB895 – Eliminate juvenile life sentencing without parole. No action taken.
- AB1075 – Raise the Age, juvenile court jurisdiction. No action taken.

Gentile reported on the 2026 Legislative Session Calendar.

- Assembly last day of session was February 19, 2026.
- Senate last day of session was March 17, 2026.
- A special session may be called if the Governor and the Legislature reach an agreement on a tax package.

Gentile reported the 2026 Election dates.

- February 17 is the Spring Primary.
- April 7 is the Spring General.
- April 15 is the first day candidates can circulate nomination papers for the Fall Election.
- June 1 is the deadline to file nomination papers for the Fall Election.
- August 11 is the Fall Primary.
- November 3 is the Fall General.

Staff - There were no staff updates.

Chair Pearson asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the January 21, 2026, meeting.

Motion to Approve January 21, 2026, ERD Subcommittee Minutes

Motion was made by Aaron Schutz and seconded by Commissioner Trevor Strickler to approve the January 21, 2026, ERD Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Your Move MKE- Hip Hop Healing Hubs and Youth Feedback Presentation

Daniel Estebon Monge

Jess Reindl introduced Daniel Estebon Monge to the Subcommittee. Monge used a PowerPoint to present information regarding the Hubs design, implementation, and outcome. Monge highlighted survey responses from youth describing their changes in perspective towards law enforcement and the youth legal system after participating in the Hubs.

Achieving the Goal of Receiving Feedback from System Impacted Youth on Factors Creating Disparities and Reduction Strategies and Three-Year Plan Stakeholder Survey Discussion

Komro requested Subcommittee member feedback and questions for youth participants in the Youth Voice Commission Outreach Project and stakeholders responding to the stakeholder survey. Question ideas were proposed, interpreted, and recorded for use in future surveys.

R/ED Reference Material Discussion

Reindl referenced the video recording of Eve Ewing discussing her book *Original Sins: The (Mis)education of Black and Native Children and the Construction of American*, which was provided to subcommittee members. Due to time constraints, an open discussion regarding the video was unable to occur. Reindl encouraged all members to review the video for open discussion during the next subcommittee meeting.

Kim Jenkins mentioned she watched the video and found it useful.

2026 Presentation and Outreach

Reindl informed subcommittee members that DOJ staff met with Fox Valley Technical College staff regarding their summer School Resource Officer Conference and the potential to present. DOJ staff was informed the conference agenda was full, but Fox Valley Technical College staff proposed an alternative of DOJ presenting at a pre-conference training the Monday June 8th. Reindl advised DOJ staff is coordinating an agenda for pre-conference attendees including four presentations with topics varying from deflection/diversion, truancy, school safety, and partnerships between school staff and SRO's. Reindl reviewed scheduled presentations DOJ has throughout 2026.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Adjourn

Motion was made by Commissioner Muskadee Montano and seconded by Wendy Volz Daniels to adjourn the meeting.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55.

2026 ERD Subcommittee Meeting Dates: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

- April 15, 2026 (virtual)
- June 17, 2026 (virtual)
- September 16, 2026 (virtual)
- October 21, 2026 (virtual)

2026 GJC Quarterly Meeting Dates: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

- May 12, 2026
- August 18, 2026
- November 10, 2026