

What offenses are included in the partnership?

- Affray, Criminal Trespass, Disorderly Conduct, Disrupting a Public School, Misdemeanor Obstruction, Possession of alcohol or cigarettes, Misdemeanor Marijuana Possession, Simple Assault, Simple Battery, Misdemeanor Terroristic Threats and Misdemeanor Theft
- All felony offenses and offenses against teachers and school staff will continue to be referred to the District Attorney's Office for prosecution.

How is this different from P.B.I.S.?

- P.B.I.S. is a school system-wide framework that uses positive strategies to address student behavior. The School-Justice Partnership is an intervention that serves as an alternative to arrest for students who have committed crimes.

The Macon-Bibb County School-Justice Partnership agreement was signed July 17, 2018, in preparation for the 2018-2019 school year. The Partnership, although written locally to meet Macon-Bibb County's needs, is based on a model launched in Clayton County in 2006 that has since been replicated across the nation.

Partners Include:

- Bibb County School District
- Macon Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office
- Bibb County Juvenile Court
- Bibb County Sheriff's Office
- Macon Judicial Circuit Public Defender's Office
- Macon-Bibb County Solicitor-General's Office
- Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice
- A network of counseling and program providers

Macon-Bibb County School-Justice Partnership



Coordinator: Tajalyn Woodruff

Phone: (478)621-6387

Email: twoodruff@maconbibb.us

[www.macondistrictattorney.org/
schooljusticepartnership](http://www.macondistrictattorney.org/schooljusticepartnership)

What is the School-Justice Partnership?

- The partnership is an agreement amongst school, government and community partners to divert students who have committed certain misdemeanors at school to community programs, addressing the root causes of delinquent behavior and causing students to be less likely to reoffend.
- The Partnership is based on a proven model that has shown to be successful in increasing graduation rates and reducing juvenile crime rates.
- Previously, students who committed less serious offenses were referred through the court to community services. Under the partnership, students don't acquire a criminal record and judicial resources are freed up to focus on more dangerous offenses.
- Only middle and high school students are included in the partnership's provisions.

What types of services are offered in lieu of an arrest or prosecution?

- Counseling, one-day workshops on topics such as anger management, substance abuse intervention and referrals to community programs and services

What happens if a student doesn't follow through with the prescribed service plan?

- The student would then be referred to Juvenile Court as if he/she had been arrested. If the student's failure to comply is due to a parent's actions, the parent could face consequences as well.

What if my child is a victim and I want to press charges?

- A parent can fill out a Form 90 in the Juvenile Court Clerk's Office, but the prosecutor will consider whether the partnership agreement was followed before deciding a course of action.

What if my child has special needs? How does this agreement apply to him/her?

- The partnership agreement requires school resource officers to first evaluate whether an offending student's IEP/504 Plan or other behavioral contract or plan was followed, and whether it should be modified. If the school resource officer believes additional steps are needed, he/she can file a notice of offense with the partnership after meeting with the school's administration.

Will my child have a criminal record?

- Offending students who successfully complete the requirements of partnership programs will not have a criminal record of their offense.
- Students who don't complete the service plans offered in lieu of an arrest could face prosecution.