HISTORY OF SCHOOL POLICING & THE SCHOOL TO PRISON PIPELINE MOVEMENT

PART 1

1930s – 1960s

1939

INDIANAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS HIRE A "SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR"

This official serves in that role for more than a decade, becoming the "Supervisor of Special Watchmen" in 1952. In 1970, the agency becomes the Indianapolis Public School Police.[1]

1948

LOS ANGELES FORMS THE FIRST SECURITY UNIT

under the Los Angeles Police Department, to patrol schools for "property protection" in increasingly integrated neighborhoods.[2] The Los Angeles School Police Department is currently the largest independent school police force in the county.[3]

1953

THE FIRST SROS ARE PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED TO SCHOOLS IN MICHIGAN

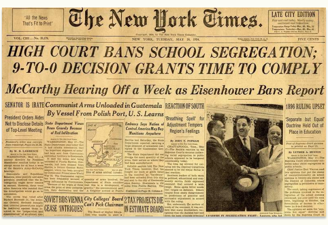
For the first time, law enforcement officers, now commonly known as School Resource Officers (SROs), are permanently assigned to schools in Flint, Michigan. The program intends to improve community relations between the city's youth and the local police department.[4]

The program receives favorable media attention and expands throughout the 1960s to other school districts, including Los Angeles and Cincinnati, Ohio.[5]

1954

SUPREME COURT FINDS SEGREGATION UNCONSTITUTIONAL

In Brown v. Board of Education, the Supreme Court finds school segregation unconstitutional, mandating the desegregation of public schools across the country.[6] Many school districts, especially in the South, refused to integrate, forcing federal military intervention.[7]



"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times.

LATE CITY EDITION

VOL. CIII...No. 35,178. NEW YORK, TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1954. FIVE CENTS

HIGH COURT BANS SCHOOL SEGREGATION; 9-TO-0 DECISION GRANTS TIME TO COMPLY

McCarthy Hearing Off a Week as Eisenhower Bars Report

SENATOR IS IRATE

President Orders Aides Not to Disclose Details of Top-Level Meeting

Communist Arms Unloaded in Guatemala By Vessel From Polish Port, U. S. Learns

State Department Views News Gravely Because of Red Infiltration

Embassy Says Nation of Central America May Buy Munitions Anywhere

REACTION OF SOUTH

'Breathing Spell' for Adjustment Tempers Region's Feelings

1896 RULING UPSET

'Separate but Equal' Doctrine Held Out of Place in Education

SOVIET BIDS VIENNA CEASE 'INTRIGUES'

City Colleges' Board Can't Pick Chairman

2 TAX PROJECTS DIE IN ESTIMATE BOARD

HIGH COURT BANS SEGREGA

1957

NEW YORK CITY PROPOSES PLACING ONE POLICE OFFICER IN EVERY SCHOOL

The New York Police Department (NYPD) implicitly references Black and Latinx students while warning of "dangerous delinquents" and "undesirables" in public schools who are capable of corroding school morale. A New York City Council Committee subsequently proposes placing one police officer in every school.[8]

1965

THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ACT PASSES

establishing a direct role for the federal government in local police operations, court systems, and state prisons.[12] The act also creates a grant-making agency within the Department of Justice that purchases and distributes military grade weapons to local police departments.

THE MOYNIHAN REPORT IS RELEASED

Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Assistant Secretary of Labor, under President Lyndon B. Johnson, releases "The Negro Family: The Case for National Action," known widely as the "Moynihan Report".[9] The report perpetuates racist stereotypes about loose Black family structures.[10] Conservatives use the report to push racist policies and narratives.[11]

1966

MAJOR CITIES ASSIGN POLICE TO SCHOOLS

The Tucson Police Department assigns police to six junior high school campuses.[13] The Chicago Police Department begins the "Officer Friendly" program, deploying 20 specially recruited and trained officers to 773 elementary schools to teach good citizenship and hand out "Junior Citizen" certificates.[14]

The Dade County Education Commission (Miami, Fla.) authorizes the creation of a Security Services Department (SSD) under a Director of Security.[15] The SSD is responsible for the "protection of life and property" that the school district owns or leases.[16]

In 1973, the SSD establishes the first night patrol in response to school break-ins, employing 19 officers.[17] That year, the school district begins stationing these officers in selected schools during regular schools hours.[18]

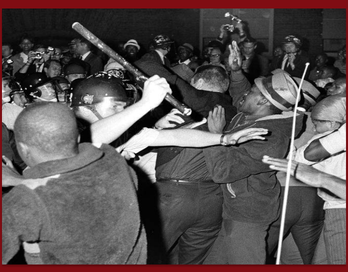
1967

BALTIMORE CREATES SECURITY FORCE FOR ITS SCHOOLS

The City of Baltimore requests 25 police officers to patrol its schools, creating its own security division.[19] Shortly after establishing the school security force, the Maryland State Legislature passes a law making it illegal to disturb school activities.[20]

LONG HOT SUMMER

Over 150 Black uprisings and rebellions erupt in American cities. The uprisings are a response to pervasive racism, police violence, massive unemployment, and inhumane housing conditions.[21] The National Guard is called to disrupt the uprisings and occupy the streets of major Black urban centers.[22]



CHECK INS

The Washington, D.C. Police Department starts regular random "check-ins" at 136 elementary schools.[26]

NOVEMBER 1967

PHILADELPHIA STUDENTS WALK OUT

3,500 Philadelphia students walk out of school and march to the Board of Education, demanding Black history courses, the right to wear African dress, more Black teachers and administrators, and the renaming of predominately Black schools after Black leaders.[23] Students are confronted by two busloads of police.[24] Hundreds of students are beaten, 22 people are seriously injured and 57 are arrested.[25]

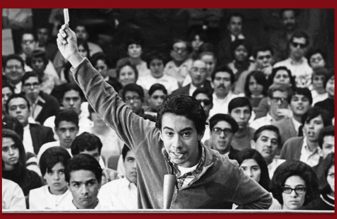
1968

SAFE STREETS ACT

Through the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act offers grants to jurisdictions to implement programming that encourages youth to have "respect for law and order."[27] This leads to a surge of youth crime prevention programs in the 1960s, increasing criminalization and establishing school gang databases.[28]

LA BLOWOUTS

Approximately 15,000 Chicano high school students walk out of class from March 1 to March 8, demanding an equal, quality, and culturally relevant education.[29] Armed police officers block doors and confront students.[30] Two student beatings are reported during the March 6 walkout at Roosevelt High School.[31] After the walkouts, 13 organizers are arrested on felony conspiracy charges for "disturbing the peace."[32]



1969

NYC CREATES THE OFFICE OF SCHOOL SAFETY

New York City creates the Office of School Safety with over 200 school security guards in public schools.[33]

1970s – 1980s

1970

"PREVENTATIVE PATROLS" BEGIN IN SOUTH SIDE CHICAGO SCHOOLS

The Chicago Police Department begins "preventative patrols" in South Side schools, patrolling surrounding neighborhoods and sending plainclothes officers into schools.[34]

1971

WAR ON DRUGS

President Richard Nixon officially declares the "War on Drugs," dramatically increasing the size and presence of federal drug control agencies and enacting measures such as mandatory sentencing and no-knock warrants.[41]

BLACK STUDENTS IN BOSTON STAGE A CITYWIDE PROTEST

Over 50% of Black students stage a citywide strike of Boston Public Schools to protest endemic racism, system-wide segregation, and poor educational conditions.[35] The boycott begins after administrators at English High School suspend five Black students on charges of damaging school property.[36] Within hours, 200 Black students occupy the auditorium and walk out.[37]

Days later, 550 students walk out of Brighton High School.[38] On February 4, the Black Student Federation, a citywide Black student union, calls for a system-wide boycott of Boston Public Schools, demanding Black community control, culturally relevant curriculum, more Black educators, and recognition of Black Student Unions.[39]

The Black Student Federation also pushes back against increasing student criminalization and calls for the removal of police from schools.[40]

1972

DISTRICTS IN 40 STATES ADOPT SOME FORM OF POLICING IN SCHOOLS

Urban school districts in 40 states have some form of policing within their schools.[42]

1973

A NATIONAL COMMISSION RECOMMENDS POSTING A FULL TIME OFFICER IN EVERY SCHOOL

The National Advisory Commission on Criminal Justice Standards recommends posting a full-time officer to every junior and senior high school in districts with over 400 employees.[43]

1974

THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ACT

increases cooperation between school districts and law-enforcement.[44] The act allows these agencies to monitor and label youth as young as nine years old as “pre-delinquents.”[45] Local agencies broadly define the “pre-delinquent” label, criminalizing Black and Latinx students for typical schoolyard behaviors.[46]

1975

1%

1% of U.S. schools report having police stationed on campus.[47]

1980

WAR ON DRUGS REVAMPED

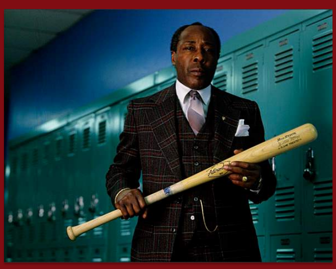
President Ronald Reagan revamps the War on Drugs, funneling $1.7 billion to police departments.[48] The War on Drugs mandates minimum sentencing, even for low-level drug violations, resulting in drastic racial disparities at every level of the criminal legal system.[49] The number of people incarcerated in the U.S. for nonviolent drug offenses increases from 50,000 in 1980 to over 400,000 by 1997.[50]

Since the first declaration by Richard Nixon in 1971, the U.S. spends $1 trillion on the War on Drugs.[51]

The "Broken Windows" philosophy for addressing crime is introduced, arguing that policing low-level offenses will maintain order and prevent more serious crimes in Black and Brown communities.[52]

JOE CLARK

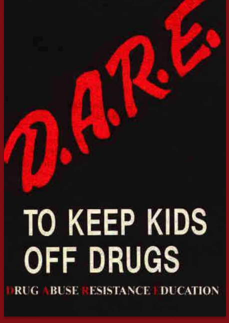
Joe Clark becomes principal of Eastside High School in Paterson, N.J.[53] On a single day during his first week at the school, he expels 300 students for fighting, vandalism, drug possession, profanity, or abusing teachers.[54] Two years later, New Jersey declares the school a model for others in the state.[55] In 1986, Mr. Clark is named one of the nation’s 10 “Principals of Leadership” by the Department of Education and is the inspiration for the film “Lean on Me.”[56]



1983

D.A.R.E

The Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles Unified School District start the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program.[57] The program pairs students with local police officers in an “effort to reduce drug use, gang membership and violence.”[58] The DARE program gives police access to classrooms across the country, with 75% of U.S. schools participating in the program.[59]



1985

NEW JERSEY V. T.L.O

A New Jersey high school assistant principal accuses a student of violating school rules by smoking in the bathroom and searches her purse for cigarettes.[60] The vice principal discovers marijuana and other items that they believe implicate the student in dealing marijuana.[61] The student attempts to get the evidence suppressed, arguing that merely possessing cigarettes is not a violation of school rules and did not justify the search.[62]

The Supreme Court decides that the search did not violate the Constitution and establishes more lenient standards for school searches.[63]

1988

ZERO TOLERANCE

In a speech to the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Attorney General Edwin Meese says the nation needs, "zero-tolerance of drugs in any place, any time."[64] The term is adapted to refer to school discipline policies related to drugs.[65]

1990s

1990

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

The National Defense Authorization Act authorizes the transfer of excess Department of Defense property to federal and state agencies for use in counter-drug activities, creating the Federal 1033 Program.[66] Congress later passes the National Defense Authorization Act of 1997, allowing all law enforcement agencies to acquire property for “bona fide law enforcement purposes.”[67]

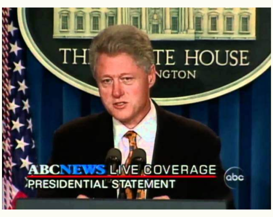
1991

NASRO

The National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) is founded.[68] NASRO develops the “triad” concept, characterizing school police as teachers, informal counselors and law enforcement officers.[69]

1994

1994 CRIME BILL

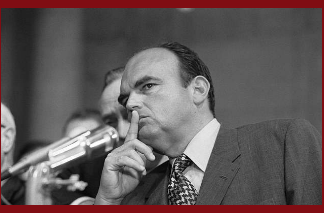


Congress passes the Gun Free Schools Act, requiring school districts that accept federal funds to adopt zero-tolerance policies and minimum one-year expulsions for gun possession.[70] States broaden their definition of a weapon and add drugs and alcohol to the list of zero-tolerance infractions.[71] The Clinton Administration claims that the level of gun violence in school is increasing.

In reality, violent crimes at schools against students 12-18 years old are steadily declining nationwide.[72]

DRUG FREE
GUN FREE
SCHOOL ZONE
VIOLATORS WILL FACE SEVERE
FEDERAL STATE AND LOCAL
CRIMINAL PENALTIES

The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act is the largest U.S. crime bill ever.[73] The bill creates 100,000 new police officers; funnels $9.7 billion to build and operate prisons; creates 60 new death penalty offenses; creates Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grants;[74] reduces access to higher education in prisons;[75] and funds $150 million for punishment of “youthful offenders,” including boot-camps for youth.[76]



During an interview for Harper Magazine, President Nixon’s Domestic Policy Chief, John Ehrlichman, reveals that Nixon’s War on Drugs intentionally targeted two enemies of his re-election campaign: “the antiwar left and Black people.”[77] Ehrlichman was quoted as saying: “We knew we couldn’t make it illegal to be either against the war or Black, but by getting the public to associate the hippies with marijuana and Blacks with heroin, and then criminalizing both heavily, we could disrupt those communities. We could arrest their leaders, raid their homes, break up their meetings, and vilify them night after night on the evening news. Did we know we were lying about the drugs? Of course, we did.”[78]

1996

“SUPER PREDATORS”

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF NEW YORK

First Lady Hilary Clinton uses the term “superpredator” during a New Hampshire speech to garner up support for President Bill Clinton’s 1994 crime bill:[79]

“We’re making some progress... Much of it is related to the initiative called ‘community policing.’ Because we have finally gotten more police officers on the street. That was one of the goals that the president had when he pushed the crime bill that was passed in 1994... But we also have to have an organized effort against gangs... Just as in a previous generation we had an organized effort against the mob. We need to take these people on.

They are often connected to big drug cartels; they are not just gangs of kids anymore. They are often the kinds of kids that are called superpredators—no conscience, no empathy. We can talk about why they ended up that way, but first, we have to bring them to heel."[80]

1997

22%

22% of U.S. schools report having police stationed on campus.[81]

1998

NEW YORK CREATES THE LARGEST SCHOOL POLICE FORCE

The New York City Board of Education votes to transfer school safety from educators to the New York Police Department (NYPD).[82] The School Safety Division of the NYPD is the largest school police force under a local law enforcement agency, with over 5,200 school police officers.[83]

AMENDMENT TO THE OMNIBUS CRIME CONTROL AND SAFE STREETS ACT"

An amendment to the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act passes, permitting grants for partnerships between school districts and law enforcement, and specifically emphasizing school resources officers.[84] The amendment defines "school resource officer" as a career law enforcement officer with sworn authority from the employing police department.[85]

The bill also states that the roles of school police include training students in conflict resolution, restorative justice, and crime awareness.[86]

1999

COLUMBINE SCHOOL SHOOTING

Two high school seniors murder 12 students and a teacher, and injure 24 additional students.[87] High school security cameras in the cafeteria record the massacre,[88] sparking fear and the belief that police officers in schools is necessary to ensure the safety of staff and students.[89] The Department of Education responds with a push for zero-tolerance policies across the country.[90] 54% of U.S. students report police are stationed at their schools.[91]

The Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program creates the 'COPS in Schools' (CIS) grant, awarding more than $750 million in grants to more than 3,000 law-enforcement agencies, resulting in more than 6,500 newly hired school police officers.[92] Local police departments largely oversee the recruitment and training of these officers.[93]

1990s-2000s

SCHOOLS NOT JAILS NETWORK

VOTE NO PROP 21 !!!
NO

The culmination of radical Black and Latinx youth organizing in California births the Youth Force Coalition, waging a massive campaign against Proposition 21. Hundreds of thousands of young people organize across the state to demand an end to the attack on youth of color, denounce the rapid expansion of jails and prisons, and fight declining per pupil spending in education.

Although Proposition 21 passes, thousands of students organize direct actions, walkouts, strikes, and mass political education through hip hop and other forms of cultural expression. Together, they form the Schools Not Jails Network.

2000s

2000

PROPOSITION 301

Arizona voters pass Proposition 301, a sales tax for education, which increases funding for school security across the state.[94]

NATIONAL SUMMIT ON ZERO TOLERANCE

Advancement Project, Civil Rights Project – Harvard University, and the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition convene for a National Summit on Zero Tolerance. Following the summit, Advancement Project and Civil Rights Project – Harvard University release, "Opportunities Suspended: The Devastating Consequences of Zero Tolerance and School Discipline."

OPPORTUNITIES SUSPENDED:

THE DEVASTATING CONSEQUENCES OF
ZERO TOLERANCE AND SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

Report from A National Summit on Zero Tolerance
June 15-16, 2000, Washington, D.C.

ADVANCEMENT PROJECT

THE CIVIL RIGHTS PROJECT
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

2001

PROPOSITION 21

California passes Proposition 21, increasing discretionary authority for routine police surveillance, random searches and arrests of young people.[95] Proposition 21 also allows prosecutors to directly prosecute youth, 14 years of age or older, as adults if they are accused of certain offenses.[96]

It also increases the use of wiretaps against gang members, loosens legal definitions for gang "association," and requires gang members to register with police following convictions of gang-related offenses.[97]

2002

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

The No Child Left Behind Act is signed into law, calling on states to identify "persistently dangerous schools" and allowing students attending those to transfer elsewhere.[98] Each state sets its own definition for "persistently dangerous schools," encouraging the use of zero-tolerance policies.[99]

No Child Left Behind
No Child Left Behind

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE RIOT

Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth respond to a violent confrontation with police at Thurgood Marshall Academic High School in San Francisco. Over 60 baton-wielding police officers come into the school, hitting and traumatizing students. San Francisco Police Captain, Michael Puccinelli, states that police had to respond "in full force" to a minor fistfight between two students.

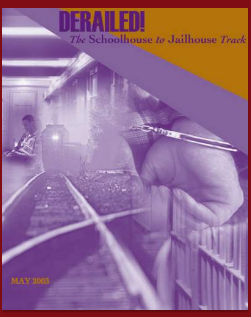
2003

14,337

The number of school police officers in schools grows from 9,400 in 1997 to 14,337 in 2003[100]

DERAILED! THE SCHOOLHOUSE TO JAILHOUSE TRACK

Advancement Project releases, "Derailed! The Schoolhouse to Jailhouse Track." The report examines the use of law enforcement agencies and the juvenile legal system as a double jeopardy mechanism for students, documenting the derailing of students from an academic track in school to a future in the juvenile legal system.



DERAILED!
The Schoolhouse to Jailhouse Track

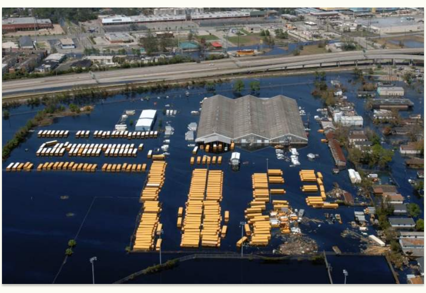
MAY 2003

2004

67%

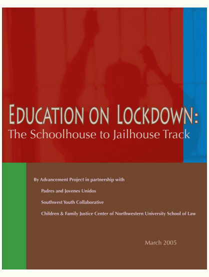
67% of teachers in majority Black and Latinx middle and high schools report armed police officers stationed in their schools.[101]

2005



HURRICANE KATRINA

Hurricane Katrina devastates New Orleans, especially Black communities in the Lower Ninth Ward. The state quickly passes legislation to take over New Orleans' public schools, creating the Recovery School District. Many traditional public schools in Black communities never reopen, and are instead replaced by charter schools.



EDUCATION ON LOCKDOWN:
The Schoolhouse to Jailhouse Track

By Advancement Project in partnership with
Padres and Jovenes Unidos
Southwest Youth Collaborative
Children & Family Justice Center of Northwestern University School of Law

March 2005

EDUCATION ON LOCKDOWN: THE SCHOOLHOUSE TO JAILHOUSE TRACK

Advancement Project, Padres y Jóvenes Unidos, and other partners in the fight to end the

JA'EISHA SCOTT

Ja'eisha Scott, a five-year-old Black girl, is arrested for throwing a temper tantrum after a jellybean counting game at a school in Pinellas County, Florida. The arrest is caught on tape and garners a great deal of national media attention.

school-to-prison pipeline release “Education on Lockdown: The Schoolhouse to Jailhouse Track” The report lays the groundwork for youth-led organizing efforts and provides research confirming that students of color are forced into juvenile and criminal legal system for non-violent acts of misconduct.

The report also demonstrates that the role of law enforcement has significantly changed: Policepolice have become increasingly responsible for mundane school discipline.

2006

THE JENA SIX

Prosecutors charge six Black students attending Jena High School in Louisiana with attempted murder and conspiracy, threatening them with up to 100 years in prison for a schoolyard fight.[102] Prior to the fight, a Black student sat under a tree on campus where typically only white students sat. The following day Black students were greeted by three nooses hanging from that tree.[103]

FREE JENA 6
Liberty & Justice
FREE JENA 6
FREE JENA 6

After months of protest and national outcry from communities of color, one student is sentenced to 18 months in a juvenile facility and the others students are placed on probation and ordered to pay the white student $500 in restitution.[104]

DSC IS CREATED

Dignity in Schools Campaign organizes local grassroots and advocacy organizations to fight for an end to the school-to-prison pipeline.

2007

STUDENT EXPERIENCE SURVEY

Labor Community Strategy Center surveys over 1,000 students about their experiences with zero-tolerance policies, ticketing, and their interactions with police. It becomes very clear that ticketing students for truancy and tardiness are key channels through which high school students are introduced to the criminal legal system.

Students also report troubling experiences with school police officers on campus, including the use of handcuffs, intimidation, citations, and arrests.

2007-2010

PSU

Philadelphia Student Union works with West Philadelphia school leaders to use restorative practices which successfully decrease violent incidents by 70% in three years.

2008

DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISCIPLINE CODE

Padres y Jóvenes Unidos’ youth and community members win a campaign to rewrite the Denver Public Schools Discipline Code and include a tiered form of discipline that expressly limits schools’ use of law enforcement to only the most serious incidents.

EDUCATION -NOT-
End the School to Jail Track in Colorado
Books NOT Bars
STOP THE PUSH-OUT!

ALLIANCE FOR EDUCATIONAL JUSTICE

Nineteen youth organizations from across the country organize to create the national Alliance for Educational Justice (AEJ) to push federal policies that end the criminalization of youth of color and dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline.

2009

FIRST STUDENT LED TRAINING MODEL

Philadelphia Student Union members at Sayre High School win the right to be involved in training their school police officers – the first student-led model to build communication, trust, and political understanding between students and school police in the nation.

This came after a violent lock-down at the school in September of 2008, when more than three dozen armed Philadelphia police officers stormed the building, beating youth and arresting 16 students.

17,000

There are an estimated 17,000 police officers in schools.[105]

2009-2011

SISTAS AND BROTHAS UNITED

Urban Youth Collaborative members, Make the Road New York and Sistas and Brothas United, launch restorative justice programs at Bushwick Educational Campus in Brooklyn, N.Y. and Morris Educational Campus in the South Bronx, N.Y.

2010-2013

SUMMER 2010

FIRST ACTIONCAMP

Advancement Project hosts its first ActionCamp at the Alex Haley Farm in Tennessee, bringing together young people and organizers working to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline across the country. ActionCamp continues to be a training, story sharing, and strategy development space for organizing groups.

DECEMBER 2010

NYC's STUDENT SAFETY ACT

After nearly four years of campaigning led by Urban Youth Collaborative, the Student Safety Act is passed and signed into law by Mayor Michael Bloomberg. The law mandates reporting of suspensions, arrests, and summons by various student demographics.

2010-2016

$143 MILLION

The Department of Justice grants more than $143 million for hiring school police officers.[106]

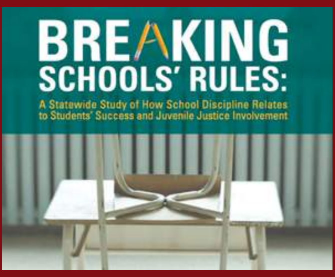
2011

COLORADO SMART SCHOOL DISCIPLINE LAW

Padres y Jóvenes Unidos' youth and community members win the Smart School Discipline Law which bans zero-tolerance practices and limits unnecessary arrests. The bill also streamlines reporting and data collection of school discipline practices disaggregated by race, and enhances training for school police so they are better equipped to work with students and school administrators.

#ASSAULTATSKYLINEHIGH

After a school dance, 20-year old Raheim Brown and a companion are parked in Oakland Hills, near Skyline High School. Oakland School Police Sergeant Barhin Bhatt and Officer Bellusa approach them. Both students are beaten and shot, leading to Raheim's death. Black Organizing Project launches the Bettering Our School System (BOSS) campaign in response to the murder.



BREAKING SCHOOLS' RULES:

A Statewide Study of How School Discipline Relates to Students' Success and Juvenile Justice Involvement

SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE INITIATIVE

The Obama Administration launches the Supportive School Discipline Initiative, a partnership between the Department of Education and the Justice Department to move school districts to end exclusionary discipline and create supportive school environments.[107]

The initiative came after the release of "Breaking Schools' Rules: A Statewide Study on How School Discipline Relates to Students' Success and Juvenile Justice Involvement."[108] The report studies nearly 1 million Texas students, outlining the criminalization of Black students in Texas, detailing national trends, and analyzing the devastating impact of the school-to-prison pipeline.[109]

LAPD ENDS STUDENT TICKETING

Los Angeles Police Department agrees to stop ticketing students for tardiness and restricts the practice of truancy sweeps.

2012

SANDY HOOK ELEMENTARY SHOOTING

A gunman shoots his way into Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Connecticut, killing 20 first grade students and six members of the school staff, including the principal and school psychologist.[110] The National Rifle Association (NRA) subsequently calls on Congress to appropriate funds for placing armed police officers in every American school and arming teachers.[111]

President Obama puts forth the Comprehensive School Safety Program, allocating $150 million for school districts to hire police and counselors.[112]

PHILADELPHIA CODE OF CONDUCT IS REVISED

OAKLAND SCHOOL POLICE COMPLAINT POLICY

Black Organizing Project students and parents organize and win a new school police complaint policy in the Oakland Unified School District. The policy allows parents and students to hold school police officers and school security accountable by instituting a formal, accessible, and more transparent complaint process.

PUSH FOR A NEW CODE OF CONDUCT

EDUCATION! NOT INCARCERATION
We Need More Res

Voices of Youth in Chicago Education push for a new Student Code of Conduct that ends 10-day out-of-school suspensions for minor offenses, cuts maximum suspension time in half, and eliminates arrests for disorderly conduct.

FIRST U.S. SENATE HEARING ON THE SCHOOL

Through the Campaign for Nonviolent Schools, Philadelphia Student Union and Youth United for Change, in partnership with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and Education Law Center, successfully revise the Code of Conduct to include a "discipline matrix" that reduces the number of infractions for which students can be suspended by 50%.

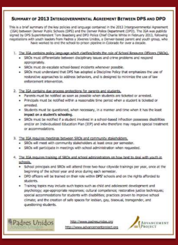
Students also demand that the new code detail the relationship between the police department and the school district.

TO PRISON PIPELINE

Senator Dick Durbin, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights, convenes the first-ever Senate hearing on ending the school-to-prison pipeline. Over 400 students, parents, and advocates from across the country attend the hearing, with support from Advancement Project & Alliance for Educational Justice.

2013

DENVER DISCIPLINE MODEL REVISED



Summary of 2013 Intergovernmental Agreement Between DPS and DPD

This is a brief summary of the key policies and language contained in the 2013 Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Denver Public Schools (DPS) and the Denver Police Department (DPD). The IGA was publicly signed by DPS Superintendent Tom Boasberg and DPD Police Chief Charlie White in February 2013, following negotiations with youth leaders from Padres y Jóvenes Unidos, a Denver-based parent and youth group, who have worked to end the school-to-prison pipeline in Colorado for over a decade.

1. The IGA contains policy language which clarifies/limits the role of School Resource Officers (SROs).
   - SROs must differentiate between disciplinary issues and crime problems and respond appropriately.
   - SROs must de-escalate school-based incidents whenever possible.
   - SROs must understand that DPS has adopted a Discipline Policy that emphasizes the use of restorative approaches to address behaviors, and is designed to minimize the use of law enforcement intervention.
2. The IGA contains due process protections for parents and students.
   - Parents must be notified as soon as possible when students are ticketed or arrested.
   - Principals must be notified within a reasonable time period when a student is ticketed or arrested.
   - Students must be questioned, when necessary, in a manner and time when it has the least impact on a student's schooling.
   - SROs must be notified if a student involved in a school-based infraction possesses disabilities and/or an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and who therefore may require special treatment or accommodations.
3. The IGA requires meetings between SROs and community stakeholders.
   - SROs will meet with community stakeholders at least once per semester.
   - SROs will participate in meetings with school administration when requested.
4. The IGA requires training of SROs and school administrators on how best to deal with youth in schools.
   - School principals and SROs will attend three two-hour citywide trainings per year, once at the beginning of the school year and once during each semester.
   - DPD officers will be trained on their role within DPS' schools and on the rights afforded to students.
   - Training topics may include such topics such as child and adolescent development and psychology; age-appropriate responses; cultural competence; restorative justice techniques; special accommodations for students with disabilities; practices proven to improve school climate; and the creation of safe spaces for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning students.

Padres Unidos Jóvenes Unidos
http://www.padresunidos.org
http://www.advancementproject.org
Advancement Project

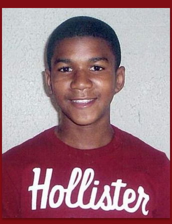
After years of organizing, Padres y Jóvenes Unidos wins an intergovernmental agreement between Denver Public Schools and the Denver Police Department, with support from Advancement Project.

The agreement significantly alters the roles of police officers in schools and redefines student offenses, separating behaviors suited for in-school discipline from those requiring police actions. The new model also includes conflict de-escalation and a greater focus on restorative justice practices.

SCHOOL CLIMATE BILL OF RIGHTS

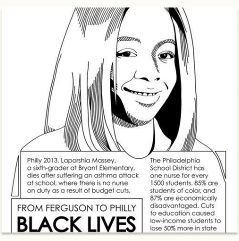
The Los Angeles Unified School District passes the School Climate Bill of Rights and votes to end suspensions for "Willful Defiance."

TRAYVON'S LAW



After a jury found George Zimmerman not guilty of the murder of Trayvon Martin, Power U Center for Social Change and the Dream Defenders take over the Florida State Capitol building in Tallahassee. Together, they create Trayvon's Law, calling for an end to the school-to-prison pipeline and Florida's stand your ground law.

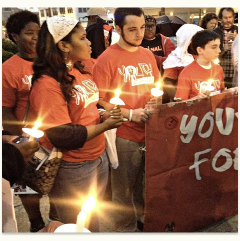
A STUDENT DIES OF AN ASTHMA ATTACK



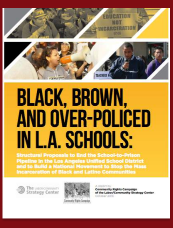
Philly 2013. Laporshia Massey, a sixth-grader at Bryant Elementary, dies after suffering an asthma attack at school, where there is no nurse on duty as a result of budget cuts.

The Philadelphia School District has one nurse for every 1500 students. 85% are students of color, and 87% are economically disadvantaged. Cuts to education caused low-income students to lose 50% more in state

A 12-year-old sixth grade student at Bryant Elementary School in Philadelphia suffers an asthma attack and dies because the school did not have a full-time school nurse. The School District of Philadelphia previously closed 24 schools and laid off 3,783 employees, including essential student support staff like nurses, school aids, and crossing guards.



EQUAL PROTECTION PLAN



BLACK, BROWN, AND OVER-POLICED IN L.A. SCHOOLS:

Structural Proposals to End the School-to-Prison Pipeline in the Los Angeles Unified School District and to Build a National Movement to Stop the Mass Incarceration of Black and Latino Communities

The Labor/Community Strategy Center

Community Rights Campaign

A report by
Community Rights Campaign
of the Labor/Community Strategy Center
October 2013

Labor Community Strategy Center releases, "Black, Brown and Over-policed in Los Angeles Unified School District Schools," which analyzes the Los Angeles School Police Department's data on tickets and arrests by race, age, and type of school discipline issue.

The report includes recommendations to adopt the Community Rights Campaign's Equal Protection Plan – a policy proposal to end ticketing and arrests for students in elementary and middle school and institute restorative practices and positive interventions as an alternative to criminalization.

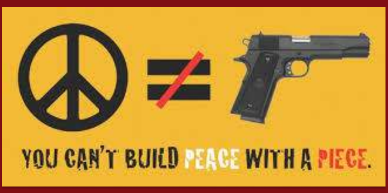
20,000

There are 20,000 school police officers on public school campuses.[113]

PILOT RESTORATIVE JUSTICE MODEL LAUNCHES

The Campaign for Nonviolent Schools (Philadelphia Student Union & Youth United for Change) wins a pilot program to use restorative justice models at 10 high schools in the School District of Philadelphia.

NO PEACE WITH A PIECE


YOU CAN'T BUILD PEACE WITH A PIECE.

Urban Youth Collaborative and Youth Justice Coalition hold a youth exchange in response to the call for increased school policing that followed the Sandy Hook school shooting. The exchange leads to the formation of the "No Peace with a Piece" digital campaign, demanding that President Obama end the school-to-prison pipeline and reject efforts to expand police in schools.

2014

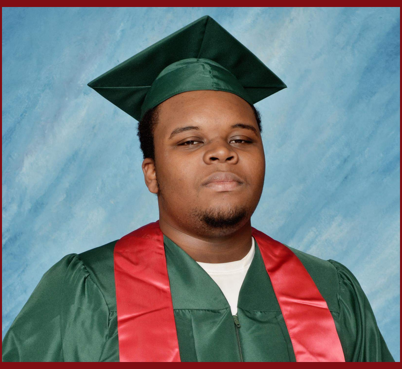
2014

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE GUIDANCE

As part of the Supportive School Discipline Initiative, the U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice release school discipline guidance. The guidance includes recommendations for school leaders and school districts to improve school climate and ensure compliance with federal law.[114]

Part of the school discipline package is a "Dear Colleague" letter that urges school districts to administer discipline without discriminating against students on the basis of race, color, or national origin.[115] For the first time, Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, and Attorney General, Eric Holder, publicly acknowledge the existence of the school-to-prison pipeline and racial discrimination in school discipline.[116]

MICHAEL BROWN



18 year-old Michael Brown is shot and killed by police officer Darren Wilson in Ferguson, Missouri, where his body is left in the hot sun for four hours.[117] The murder of Michael Brown sparks the Ferguson Uprisings.[118] Black youth and community members demand justice for Michael Brown and an end to the racist policing practices of the Ferguson Police Department.[119]

The whole world watches as the Ferguson Police Department uses military weapons, tanks, and tear gas to suppress protests – exposing the Department of Defense's Federal 1033 Program.[120]

SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE SCHOOLS RESOLUTION

Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth wins the first phase of its Solutions Not Suspensions Campaign with the passage of the, "Safe and Supportive Schools Resolution." The resolution transforms the San Francisco Unified School District's approach to school discipline by banning willful defiance suspensions and mandating that out-of-school suspensions are used only as a last resort.

SOLUTIONS NOT SUSPENSIONS
SCHOOL IS MY HUSTLE
PUSH BACK against PUSH OUT!
SOLUTIONS NOT SUSPENSION
SOLUTIONS NOT SUSPENSIONS

The resolution also requires all schools to pursue alternatives such as restorative practices and positive behavior intervention supports (PBIS).

After three years of organizing and negotiation, the San Francisco Board of Education approves a new Memorandum of Understanding between the San Francisco Unified School District and the San Francisco Police Department that aims to reduce student arrests and police presence on campus.

MAY 2014

A STUDENT DIES AFTER FALLING ILL

A seven-year-old student dies after falling ill at Andrew Jackson Elementary School in Philadelphia. This elementary school also lacks a full-time nurse due to budget cuts. An audit by the Pennsylvania General Auditor later exposes that despite these massive budget cuts, the district hired 72 new school police officers between July 2011 and December 2014 – the same timeframe in which the two student deaths occurred.

AUGUST 2014

SCHOOL POLICE ROLE IS LIMITED IN OAKLAND

Oakland Board of Education passes a policy limiting the role of school police. The policy outlines how school administration and staff should not rely on police for disciplinary issues. The Oakland Board of Education also passes a Memorandum of Understanding modeled after the above policy.

This policy is an agreement between Oakland Police Department and Oakland Unified School District, which defines and limits the role of Oakland police officers, and is a result of organizing led by Black Organizing Project.

LAPD STOPS CITING STUDENTS

The Los Angeles School Police Department stops citing students for fighting, petty theft, and other minor offenses, and instead refers them to counseling and other related services.

SEPTEMBER 2014

DEVELOPING STORY
BRITTANY OVERSTREET
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
abc ACTION NEWS
5:30 73°

#ASSAULTATCHAMBERLAINHIGH

A school police officer in Tampa, Florida breaks the jaw of a 10th grade female student, knocking her out in the process. The student is also charged with resisting arrest. Advancement Project and Power U Center for Social Change provide rapid response support, calling for the charges to be dismissed.

OCTOBER 2014

GEORGE CARTER

A 15-year-old visionary Rethinker with Rethink New Orleans, is killed on his way to school in an act of inner-communal violence. After Hurricane Katrina, his local school never reopened, forcing him to travel across town to attend school. George had a transformative vision for schools and wanted to create schools with “mood detectors, not metal detectors.”

DECEMBER 2014

#ENDWARONYOUTH

The Alliance for Educational Justice executes a national #EndWarOnYouth Day of Action, calling for the removal of school police and an end to state sanctioned violence in schools. Youth stage die-ins in Miami, Philadelphia, New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Baltimore.

IT'S OUR DUTY TO FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

2015

2015

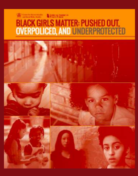
DISPARITIES IN ARRESTS

Although nationally the number of suspensions has declined, the disparity between Black student enrollment, their arrest rates, and referrals to law enforcement has increased.[126] During the 2013-14 school year, Black students represented 16% of enrollment and 27% of arrests and referral to law enforcement.[127] During the 2015-16 school year, Black students represented 15% of enrollment and 31% of arrests and law enforcement referrals.[128]

BLACK GIRLS MATTER

The African American Policy Forum releases "Black Girls Matter: Pushed Out, Overpoliced, and Underprotected," exposing how Black girls in schools are criminalized at a disproportionate rate than their white and male peers.[121]

According to data from the Department of Education, nationally, Black girls are suspended six times as often as white girls, while Black boys are suspended three times as often as white boys.[122]


BLACK GIRLS MATTER: PUSHED OUT, OVERPOLICED, AND UNDERPROTECTED

MARCH 2015

DOJ FERGUSON INVESTIGATION

The Department of Justice releases findings from an investigation of the Ferguson Police Department conducted after the murder of Michael Brown.[123] The Department of Justice finds that school police officers have a pattern of resorting to force when interacting with students of color and are routinely used to handle school discipline issues like "disorderly conduct."[124]

70%

70% of U.S. students report that police are stationed at their schools.[125]

#NO215JAIL CAMPAIGN SUCCEEDS

Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter releases a "10-Year Master Plan for the Philadelphia Prison System." The plan recommends closing the House of Correction and building a new jail with 3,000 beds, more than doubling the intended capacity of the existing facility. Philadelphia Student Union joins Decarcerate PA and the #No215Jail campaigns, successfully stopping the plan from moving forward.

MAY 2015

SB 100

Voices of Youth in Chicago Education organize and win the passage of SB 100 in the Illinois legislature, mandating that suspensions and expulsions are a last resort in school discipline. The bill also attempts to make schools more equitable by holding public and charter schools to the same disciplinary standards and providing academic and behavioral support to struggling students.

BLACK GIRLS MATTER MIA TOWN HALL

Power U Center for Social Change launches the first Black Girls Matter MIA Town Hall in coalition with Black organizations in Miami, and support from Advancement Project. The town hall centers the lives, experiences, and work of Black girls in the fight to end the school-to-prison pipeline.

BUILD PRISONS
Build schools
cation & JOBS
(CREATE)
FUND SCHOOLS NOT PRISONS
LOWER
NO MORE
JAILS
STOP
EXPANS
#No215
NO NEW JAIL
CLOSE HOC
BRING OUR NEIGHBORS HOME
#No215Jail

OAKLAND UNIFIED REVISES POLICIES

Following continued organizing against the school-to-prison pipeline by the Black Organizing Project, the Oakland Unified School District eliminates "Willful Defiance" suspensions for fourth through 12th grade students. The policy also includes eliminating involuntary transfers and shifting $2.3 million into restorative justice, the African American Male Achievement program (AAMA) and other preventive programs.

JUNE 2015

URBAN YOUTH COLLABORATIVE

Urban Youth Collaborative pushes the New York City Council to allocate $2.4 million in restorative justice for schools.

JULY 2015

M4BL

Young people from across the country gather at the Movement for Black Lives (M4BL) convening in Cleveland, Ohio. A year later, the Alliance for Educational Justice and its member organizations drafted the education justice platform for M4BL, calling for the removal of police from schools and an end to the school privatization movement.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRACTICE PILOT PROGRAM SERVICES

After organizing by Power U Center for Social

Change, Miami-Dade County Public Schools takes the first concrete step towards implementing restorative justice, releasing a Request for Proposals entitled Restorative Justice Practice Pilot Program Services.

AUGUST 2015

ALTERNATIVES TO SUSPENSIONS

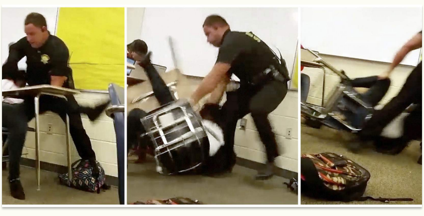
The Miami-Dade superintendent announces the elimination of out-of-school suspensions, creating Student Success Centers as an alternative to suspensions.

OCTOBER 2015

#ASSAULTATSPRINGVALLEY:

A Columbia, S.C. Black female student is flipped from her desk, slammed to the ground and dragged out of the classroom by a school police officer. Fellow students intervene and record the assault. The officer arrests and charges both students with crimes. Video of the assault goes viral, causing a national uproar.

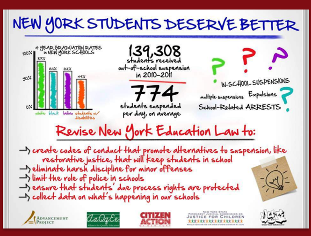
The Alliance for Educational Justice joins Every Black Girl Inc. and provides rapid response support by leading the effort to drop all charges, coordinating actions, and helping shift the national narrative on school police.



NY BILL REDUCES OSS

Urban Youth Collaborative successfully pushes for the introduction of a state bill to limit suspensions and eliminate racial disparities in school discipline across New York. Young people first began working on the bill in honor of Jawaan Daniels.

Jawaan was a freshman at Lafayette High School in Buffalo, N.Y. who was shot and killed on his way home from school after being suspended for walking the hallways without a pass.


NEW YORK STUDENTS DESERVE BETTER
4 YEAR GRADUATION RATES in NEW YORK SCHOOLS
100%
50%
0%
87%
63%
63%
49%
white
black
latino
students w/ disabilities
139,308 students received out-of-school suspension in 2010-2011
774 students suspended per day, on average
?
?
?
?
IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS
multiple suspensions
Expulsions
School-Related ARRESTS
Revise New York Education Law to:
→ create codes of conduct that promote alternatives to suspension, like restorative justice, that will keep students in school
→ eliminate harsh discipline for minor offenses
→ limit the role of police in schools
→ ensure that students' due process rights are protected
→ collect data on what's happening in our schools
Advancement Project
AaQqEe
CITIZEN ACTION
New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children

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