

**Youth Court  
Lowndes County Mississippi**

BEVERLEY MITCHELL FRANKLIN  
COUNTY JUDGE



DONNA STONE  
YOUTH COURT ADMINISTRATOR

POST OFFICE BOX 1471  
COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI 39703-1471  
OFFICE TEL. 245-4622  
FAX 245-4617

Toni Kersh, Director  
Office of Dropout Prevention and Compulsory School Attendance Enforcement  
P.O. Box 771  
Jackson, MS 39205-0771

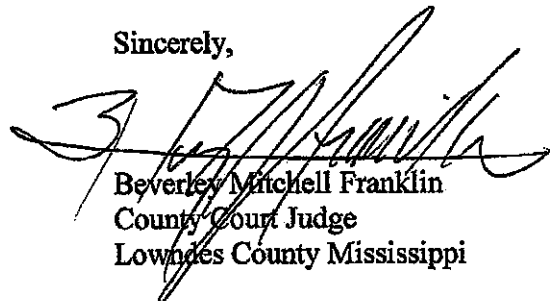
Dear MS. Kersh,

In response to your memo of September 22, 2011; I would submit the following:

- School should be provided **year round** in the Detention Centers. Education is vital to the future of every one of the detainees. We have the rare opportunity of a captive audience. For many of the youth we see school attendance is a/the problem. Many have gotten behind and are overwhelmed. An opportunity for remediation is available and in my opinion, should be seized.
- School needs to be structured with regular hours mirroring a public school setting i.e. 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Hopefully one benefit of this practice will be in their transitioning back to the public school setting.
- All detainees attend classes for the entire school period. (Detention Officers are available to address discipline issues.)
- Transitions team meetings also assure that everyone is working toward the same academic or educational goal and are an excellent tool for the detention teacher.

I appreciate this opportunity for input and look forward to being notified of the Board's action.

Sincerely,

  
Beverley Mitchell Franklin  
County Court Judge  
Lowndes County Mississippi

