

Amy V. Howell., Commissioner
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DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

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DJJ HOSTS ACADEMIC OPEN HOUSES STATEWIDE
– DJJ educators meet with parents & guardians of youths to discuss curriculum and learning opportunities –

(Atlanta, GA.) --- Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Commissioner Amy Howell today announced a second round of open houses that DJJ is hosting at schools in its short-term and long-term facilities so that youth in the Department's custody and their parents/guardians may learn more about the educational opportunities available to youth during their commitment.

DJJ is the state's 181st school district and has dual accreditation from both the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and the Correctional Education Association (CEA). Last academic year, 51 youth graduated from DJJ high schools and 125 students earned General Equivalency Degrees (GED).

"This initiative is just one of many efforts DJJ undertakes to reach out to parents and guardians and engage them in their youth's commitment and education," said DJJ Commissioner Amy Howell. "We encourage parents and guardians to become involved because they are an important part of a youth's recovery and rehabilitation."

Added Commissioner Howell, "Too often, the youth who come to us have had negative experiences with education and we try to change that so that they see there are other opportunities available to them other than commitment or incarceration as an adult."

SCHEDULE

Bob Richards RYDC	Floyd County	October 19	6-7 p.m.
Marietta RYDC	Cobb County	October 20	6-8 p.m.
Gainesville RYDC	Hall County	October 20	6-8 p.m.
Claxton RYDC	Evans County	October 22	3:30-4:30 p.m.
Crisp RYDC	Crisp County	October 22	10-12 p.m.
Eastman YDC	Dodge County	October 22	10-12 p.m.
Eastman RYDC	Dodge County	October 25	6:30 p.m.
Martha Glaze RYDC	Clayton County	October 25	1-4:30 p.m.
Gwinnett RYDC	Gwinnett County	October 26	6-8 p.m.
Milan YDC	Telfair County	October 29	10 a.m. -12 Noon
Muscogee YDC	Muscogee County	November 5	10 a.m. - 12 Noon

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Open houses already have been held at Aaron Cohn RYDC, Albany RYDC, Augusta RYDC and YDC, DeKalb RYDC, Macon RYDC & YDC, Metro RYDC, Paulding RYDC, Sandersville RYDC, Savannah RYDC, Sumter YDC, TJ Loftiss RYDC, and Waycross RYDC.

Media coverage is welcome but is RSVP-only. Reporters and photographers must adhere to DJJ Media Policy, which is in accordance with state law protecting a juvenile's right to privacy.

DJJ's mission is to protect and serve the citizens of Georgia by holding young offenders accountable for their actions through the delivery of services and sanctions in appropriate settings and by supporting youth in their communities to become productive and law-abiding citizens. Each day, at 26 facilities and 92 court services offices throughout the state, more than 4,000 DJJ employees work diligently to effect justice as well as redirect and shape the young lives in the agency's care so they can take responsibility for their delinquent conduct as well as become contributing members of society. At the same time, DJJ seeks to protect the victims of crimes so that they can rebuild their lives.

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