

Our story and purpose:

Generation Schools Network was founded in 2006 with a mission to serve students facing barriers to academic achievement. Through the years, we noticed **a persistent gap in educational attainment** for students who have been involved with the justice system.

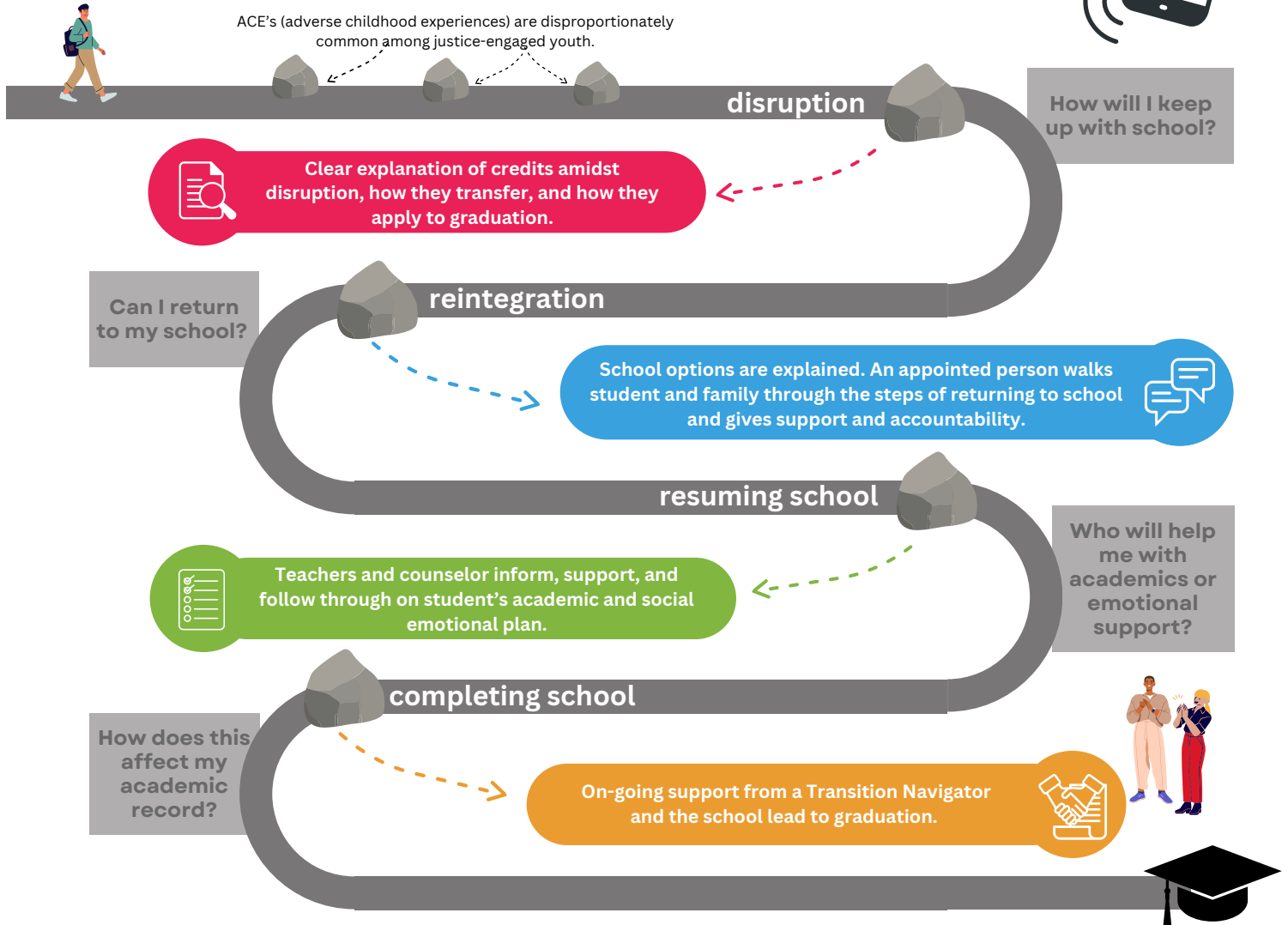
In 2021, with the support of the School Partnership Justice Innovation Grant from the Colorado Attorney General's office, we **conducted a 2-year pilot** to connect with students, educators, and families most proximate to this issue and collect meaningful data on school disruption.

Our findings identified the confusion between the education and justice systems, informing our next steps and bringing us to where we are today: the birth of Justice-Engaged Students - Colorado (JES-CO), **an initiative that's reclaiming education as a path towards liberation for justice-engaged youth.**



Our goal: improve the justice-engaged student journey

A lot can change for a student once they become involved with the justice system, both internally and externally, leaving the way forward unclear. Let's walk that journey now.



OUR ACTION PLAN



Legislation

The Justice Engaged Student Bill of Rights (JESBOR) clears up confusion between systems and for families and removes barriers to graduation.



Community Voice

Our town hall meetings in impacted communities across the state, 100 Voices surveys for justice-engaged youth and families, and Educational Journey Mapping protocol bring real stories to the forefront.



Funding/Resources

A SAMHSA grant and local partnerships provide the funds and connections needed to make this work sustainable.



Justice-Engaged Student Experiences:



Student #1: *"At one point in middle school we were really poor and had to move into this trailer park when my parents split up... that really affected everything. The crowd was rough and the school was rough and everything was just hard, so I started falling behind."*

Student #2: *"The support drops off in middle school. You come from [an elementary] school that gives you support and from there the support really fell out... people can kind of feel like a number and not really cared about...the school isn't designed for my problems."*

Student #3: *"COVID happened. How do you do school when its online and you have undiagnosed Dyslexia? I reached out so many times, I got tired of asking. I decided I'll just sit here and struggle through it... [my Dyslexia] wasn't caught until late in high school. The SPED Advocate recognized I needed it and she went after them until I got it. Once I was diagnosed, they gave me the help I was needing."*

20,000+

COLORADO YOUTH WHO ARE JUSTICE ENGAGED RIGHT NOW (that's the population of Golden)

?

NATIONALLY, JUST 20% OF JUSTICE-ENGAGED STUDENTS WILL GRADUATE. THIS DATA IS UNKNOWN IN COLORADO.

72

COLLECTIVE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE JES-CO STAFF HAVE WITH ADJUDICATED YOUTH.



Visit our Website
justiceengagedstudents.org



720-452-3600



info@jesco.com