

THE GOAL

High School Graduation for All

High school graduation remains a universal American rite of passage into adulthood. We all know someone who struggled on the road to high school graduation. What we may not know is the cohort of youth who have **only a 1 in 5 chance of graduating**: the justice engaged.

Just how big is this cohort? **In Colorado today, over 22,000 youth are considered justice engaged. That's the size of the city of Golden.** Every year, about 6,500 youth become newly justice engaged.

Making a mistake shouldn't determine the rest of your life, but without the right supports, nearly 75% of these students never graduate.

Earning a high school diploma decreases the risk of premature death and increases employment prospects and lifelong earning potential. - health.gov



The JES-CO initiative's goal is to increase the graduation rate of justice engaged youth in Colorado by:



The Supports for Youth in Juvenile Justice System Bill will:



Clear Up Confusion

Establish processes to help the justice and education systems communicate. Provide step-by-step guidance for students and families.



School Personnel Empowerment

Spell out protocols and provide the training designated school staff need to support their justice-engaged students and families.



Hotline Support

Make a hotline (similar to I Matter) available to guide school and district personnel, families and students on topics like best school options and how to get wrap-around services.



Rural and Urban Support

Reduce the burden on rural schools with limited identified students and resources, and systematize supports to help larger numbers in urban environments.

THE PROCESS

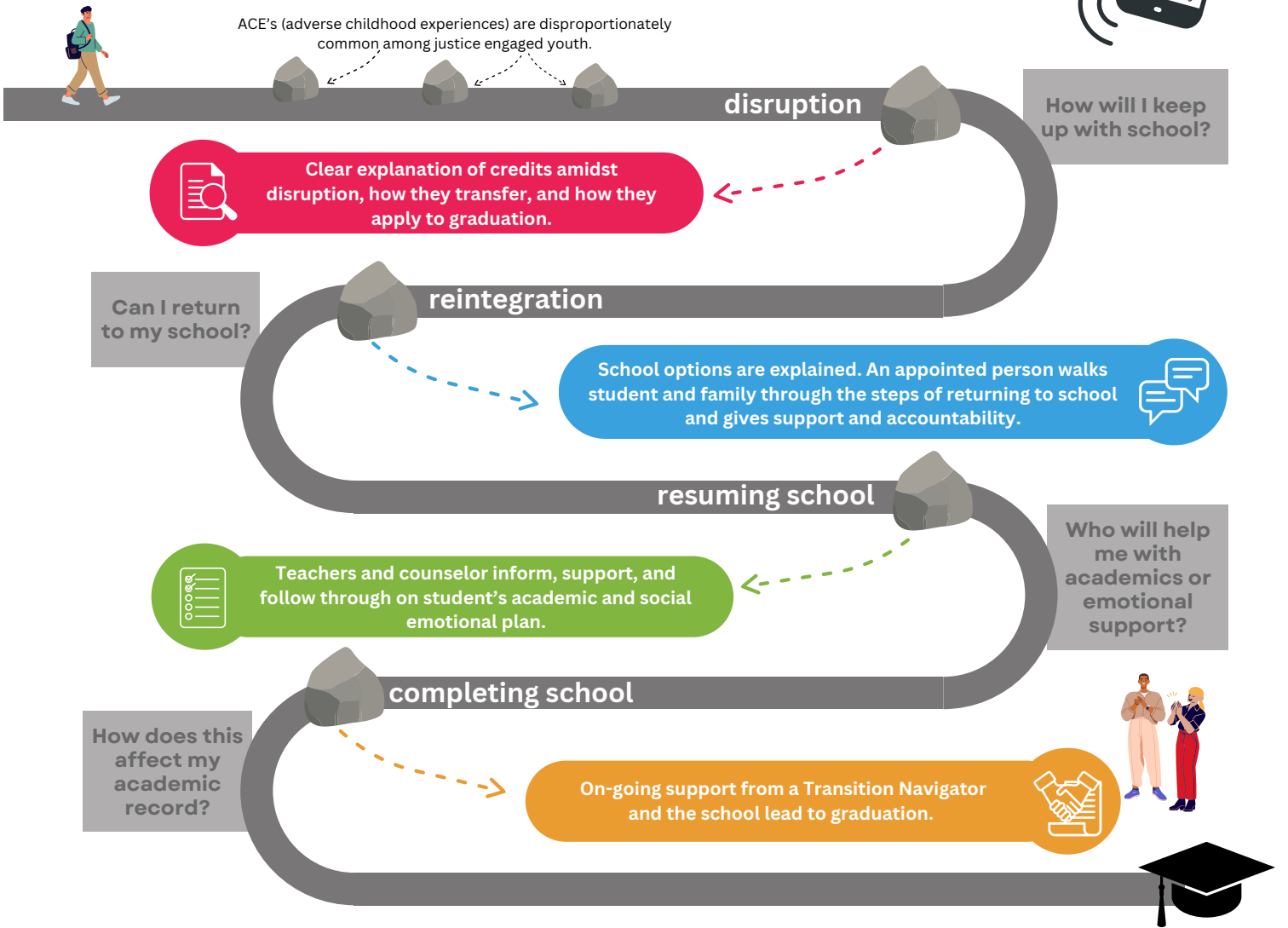
Since 2005,
Generation Schools Network has focused on supporting students with systemic barriers to educational attainment.

2021-2023
Two-year case study supporting 20 justice engaged students on their graduation journey.

Collection of justice engaged student stories across Colorado through our 100 voices survey.
Engagement with stakeholders in community meetings and conferences across the state.

2024
The *Supports for Youth in Juvenile Justice System* Bill is introduced to the Colorado legislature.

Improving the justice engaged student journey



Visit our Website
justiceengagedstudents.org



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