

# Remedial Town Hall Meeting June 26, 2020

Organizer: Stacey Thompson, Program Administrator, Office of Driver Training

Attendees: Julia Tipple, Administrative Professional, Office of Driver Training

Lt. Herb Homan, Ohio Traffic Safety Office

Larry Kingston, Kingston Driver Training

Lori Cook, AAA East Central

Mark Bloom, Better Ohio Teen Drivers

Drew Salyer, DriveTeam Inc.

Terri Silone, Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce

Mark Arnold, American Driving School

Kristy Duritsch, Safety Council of SW Ohio

Angela Luti, A&J Driving Academy

Topic 1: Online Remedial: the rule currently allows for online remedial as 4 hours online and 4 hours with a brick and mortar, how do you feel about complete online courses? How about blended as it is currently written?

Kristy: I am not a fan; that would take away all our business.

Mark A: I am also not a fan, I have teens that come in to the class and teens that take classes online, and when I interview those online teens they just click through the course. If we do this with adults who are already not following the rules then we are allowing them to continue using bad behavior.

Lori: Part of the classroom experience is putting in those 8 hours because they could not follow the rules.

Kristy: I just want to emphasize the discussions, they cannot learn as well and talk with others as well in the online setting.

Larry: I am not in favor.

Teri: I am also not in favor.

Stacey: How do you feel about the blended?

Mark A: I am still going to put them through eight hours, I want to know what they have and have not absorbed. The online just doesn't let them learn in a way that makes them see what they have done is wrong.

Lori: What you are trying to get done in these classes is a change in behavior, it changes all aspects of your life when you are a better driver. Technology is going in a new direction for a lot of things and a lot of programs, but we will have to see how AAA goes.

Larry: I don't think that this would be cost effective.

Mark A: I am not as concerned with the cost, but there are so many things that we are already worried about. These people did not pay attention the first time through, but also we are trying to get people to accept responsibility for their actions and that just can't be done in the online setting.

Topic 2: In the rule we have a strange cut off between juvenile remedial and adult remedial, currently the age cut off is 18, and we want to know where the cut off came from? What are your thoughts on the cut off?

Lori: I think that it was because students were waiting until 18 to 19 and then thinking they would not have to take the juvenile classes. We personally don't see a lot of that in juvenile, they are usually 17.

Mark A: There is kind of a clear line too, and we had to camera that down to whether the BMV or the court imposed the class. We don't get a ton of juveniles and if we do most of the time it is a judge that imposed the class. There is also a number you can call too for the Ohio BMV to figure out where they should be.

Teri: 19 and over should be in the adult class and then there should be a box to check for whether it was a juvenile offense.

Mark A: I think there should be a hard black and white line, 19 and over in the adult, 18 and under in the juvenile. The box on the adult form would also be nice for record keeping.

Lori: I would be okay with this, I think there should be a hard and fast line. And then have a check box for juvenile offenses.

Mark A: The reason I say that there should be this hard and fast line is because some of the adults in these classes have done some pretty scary stuff.

Lori: I agree, some of these kids are only here because they have a lack of experience and they just need a reminder of what they learned in driver's education.

Angela: I also agree with a cut off line.

### Topic 3: Juvenile Driver Improvement Program Curriculum: we are currently the curriculum holders and writers and we have not updated it, what are your thoughts on finding a national curriculum?

Lori: I don't have a problem with the department creating the curriculum, but the current version is outdated. It is not currently scripted enough for someone to be able to teach. I think it needs to be more user friendly.

Mark A: I like that it is Ohio specific, I am a big fan of the origins from Jeff Graf. I am not a fan of the fact that it can be hard to teach, I think it needs tweaked, but I don't think it needs a complete overhaul.

Lori: I think that it is great that the current version is Ohio specific and that I can narrow it down all the way to the county.

Mark A: I use the Ohio State Highway Patrol site too. Half of the students have hit someone taking off from a red light and it is always due to some sort of a distraction and the OSHP website has distracted driving statistics. So I can clearly show them that if they continue that behavior they will continue to get into trouble.

Stacey: The curriculum is currently incorporated by reference, and to modify it would mean a rule change. Currently the curriculum is a PowerPoint, how would you feel about having that open to modify?

Lori: I think that would be great to be able to update statistics and modify slides as needed.

Teri: I think that would be a great idea.

Angela: I also think that would be a great idea.

Mark A: I have already added in the classroom as necessary. I think we should have a group of people sit down and help with the modifications. But I think that DPS should have control of the curriculum because it needs to be controlled.

### Topic 4: Testing

Stacey: I think that it was proposed that we move from three tests to two.

Mark A: I have no objections, but what are we going to do if they fail twice?

Teri: I have no objections.

Lori: We don't really use a third test, but it is really up to whether or not they want to pass. It usually comes down to comprehension issues.

Mark A: I agree, a lot of people cannot read and have to have the test read to them. I think if we move to two tests that there needs to be a rule that say they have to retake the class.

Lori: I also agree with that.

Larry: I agree with imposing a rule.

Terri: I don't ever need a third test, so I think moving to two would be fine.

## Topic 5: Advanced Juvenile Driver Improvement Program: talk to me about the functionality of the course.

Drew: For us, all of ours are court imposed. We are usually seeing severe violations or multiple violations. A few of them are ones that the parents are wanting them to take the course. Or they are taking it electively, but the majority come from the courts and magistrates.

Mark B: We see a few come that aren't coming through from the judge but we don't know the offense when those people come. The purpose of the law is to elect to take AJDIP before going to the court, because I have a relationship with the court and the magistrate I get more business from the courts than kids electing to come.

Drew: I know that a lot of Jeff's students are from the magistrate down in Dayton.

Mark B: We don't know about this until after the fact, but some of the kids go to the Ohio BMV with our certificate and the Ohio BMV does not recognize our certificates. It only is recognized by the magistrate. I think from talking to Valerie about this it would mean going back to the legislature, and petitioning for a change. I am not willing to go back again. In regards to forms, the DTO 0132 form is a complete duplicate of what is on the certificate. I was wondering if there was a way to eliminate the form.

Drew: Ours is a little different because we send more information to the magistrate. We send more than just the certificate. A lot of what we also send is in regard to attitude, we report on their attitude as well and whether or not we think they are going to repeat their offenses.

Mark B: We also report the comment cards but we don't get asked for anything else.

Mark B: The cost of certificates is a little outrageous as well.

Stacey: That would also be a legislative change.

Mark B: Pass.

## Topic 6: Electronic Certificates: do you think that we should move to electronic transmission of certificates?

Mark A: I want to print the certificates, we give them a one-time opportunity to get them where they need to go. If they lose them or they go to the wrong place then they have to pay for a duplicate and get them to where they are supposed to be.

Stacey: I am talking about a perfect world where the certificates would go directly to the BMV or the court.

Mark B: I would love to be able to electronically send certificates, just because they are more of a hassle right now since we can't travel with a laptop and printer to be able to do them on demand.

Mark A: In your situation it makes more sense because they are really only dealing with the courts. We have a lot more courts to send to and we don't know which one, and we also don't know if it is court imposed or BMV imposed.

Teri: I also prefer electronic certificates because of the cost.