

Joshua Laub



Joshua Laub is the Director of Youth Development at the Office of Safety and Youth Development for the New York City D.O.E. He was born in NYC and attended public schools in Los Angeles and Houston. He earned his Bachelor of Arts at Tufts and a Master of Arts in Teaching at Brown University.

Joshua has served the public school children of New York City since 1994 when he began his teaching career at East Side Community High School on the Lower East Side. In 1999 he became an assistant director at Banana Kelly High school in the south Bronx. He then served as Principal of Banana Kelly for ten years before taking on his current assignment with OSYD in 2011.

Most of Joshua's teaching experience has been in high-need communities. He acquired and practiced his skills working with young people who have not had the opportunity to develop behavioral controls. His greatest strength is in supporting students buffeted by repeated personal, family and/or social failures.

Laub's work focuses on troubled young people and helping them want to rejoin the community. He tries to bring along the adult members of the team needed to make such an effort succeed. For instance, winning over an otherwise capable teacher, who, struggling to make a class work, wants to punish an angry, disruptive child, instead of signing on to the more difficult job of forging a collective strategy to win that child over.

In Joshua's current position at OSYD, he is coordinating an inter-agency collaborative to support students and schools with the goal of reducing multiple suspensions, decreasing arrests of our children, and improving their chances of graduating high school. This project will encourage schools to rethink their current practices for young people in transition from a long-term suspension and/or absence. This effort includes training for the adults, supervising mentors for the young people, and connecting the entire team to a wider array of resources and services in the community, including tutoring, housing, health, and employment.