

DRAFT Updated Since Retreat—DSC Theory of Change

Because We Believe.... (Our Assumptions, Beliefs and Values)	We Do This..... (Our Strategies for Change)	To Achieve This.... (Our Long-term Goals)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Our society is designed to maintain racial and class-based inequity, and schools reflect and perpetuate this status quo. New systems, policies and pedagogy must actively undo this damage. ● An education system that is shaped by those most impacted will work best to serve our communities. ● Organizations of students, parents united with educators and community members have the power to transform the school system. ● Every child and young person has a fundamental human right to a quality education in a safe and nurturing environment. ● Punitive forms of discipline and criminalized school environments don't get to the root of the problem and push students out of school and into the criminal justice system, and low-wage work. ● Supportive school climates and transformative and restorative justice will lead to improved academic outcomes, social-emotional development, and opportunities to reach students' full potential. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engage our members in developing campaign strategy, building skills and sharing best practices to better understand the problem and develop solutions. 2. Develop a sustainable national coalition infrastructure to help build a movement led by the students and parents most impacted by pushout and criminalization. 3. Build national awareness of school pushout and of community-based solutions to generate support from policy-makers and the general public. 4. Work to create systemic change by continuously build our collective capacity to address root causes and develop our broader political analysis. 5. Support member organizations to pass and implement local, state and federal policies and model programs that implement positive approaches to discipline and school climate. 6. Build alliances among coalitions, advocacy groups, researchers, professional associations and others to support the movement on the ground. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Build a large, strong, informed base of youth, parent and community organizations ending the school to jail track by organizing for changes as well as monitoring the implementation. ● Invest more resources in universal, free, public education including funds divested from criminalization, prisons and war, ensuring students are prepared for college and/or careers. ● Achieve change at the national, state and local levels through policies, implementation and funding streams that support transformative and restorative justice, positive behavior supports, social-emotional learning, and other positive approaches leading to reductions in suspensions, expulsions and arrests and improved educational outcomes. ● Create healthy, restorative public schools with community peacebuilders and counselors instead of police, corporal punishment, metal detectors and militarization. ● Create culturally responsive schools including building school climates, developing curriculum and teaching practices to address white supremacy, inequity and implicit and explicit bias. ● Transform school decision-making bodies so that students, parents and school communities have control over decisions that impact them through planning, policy development and implementation. ● Defend and strengthen a public school system instead of expanding charter schools and other forms of privatization.