

Summit View Tour Report

1. What were you impressed with at this site?

During the visit I was impressed by the mutual respect between the Superintendent and the children. The Superintendent knew every child in the facility by name and all the children acknowledged and addressed the Superintendent during the tour. I was able to observe that the children felt comfortable approaching him and discussing their concerns or their progress and the Superintendent seemed to take their feedback and discussions to heart.

2. Was your visit observation(s) consistent with what you anticipated detention and corrections would be?

This facility had much more of a "prison" feel than I had anticipated. While I understand these children have committed more serious crimes at this facility, I felt the facility was far too restricted.

3. What were you most surprised about?

The facility set up was most surprising to me as previously mentioned in question 2.

4. What changes would you make to the facility?

I would make the facility less restricted. I felt that this type of set up is almost preparing a child for adult prison rather than prepare them for reintegrating back into society as a youth.

5. What would you like each site you visited to know?

I greatly appreciated the opportunity to visit their site and I would like them to continue to have an open dialogue with the youth and listen to their concerns. I think an important part of ensuring these children are getting what they need to succeed is to listen to their feedback including what is working and what is not working for them. This includes talking to youth formerly in the facility to find out how the facility prepared them to go back home.

6. What information did you learn from the youth in detention and corrections?

Many of the youth enjoyed the various vocational programs offered at the facility. They felt this would prepare them for careers after they left. Also, some of them were upset their entire group would get in trouble when one youth did something wrong. They felt this was unfair and did not promote them to have good behavior if they were still able to get in trouble.