

# POLICE FREE SCHOOLS

Kentucky's young people need support from teachers, counselors, therapists, social workers, and their community – not more law enforcement. When police enter schools, they do what they are trained to do: detain, handcuff, and arrest.

## THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE:

Nationally, schools are removing police, but Kentucky is moving in the wrong direction.

A wide body of research shows police in schools increase negative and sometimes dangerous interactions between children and law enforcement.

Interactions occur disproportionately between law enforcement and students of color, students with disabilities, and students from families with low incomes.

This burdens children with the full weight of the criminal legal system simply for misbehaving, and some are even physically, mentally, and emotionally harmed.

Law enforcement is much more likely to arrest students of color and with disabilities, according to data from the U.S. Department of Education.

**6–7x**

Rate Black girls are arrested compared to white girls in Kentucky in the 2015-16 school year.

**2.3x**

Rate students with disabilities are arrested compared to all others in Kentucky in the 2015-16 school year.

## MORE SUPPORT, LESS LAW ENFORCEMENT:

Students need more licensed social workers and therapists. This will help our children navigate life, find a sense of belonging in their communities, and grow into healthy young adults.

During the 2015-2016 school year, 1.6 million students attended a school with a sworn law enforcement officer and no counselor.



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