Message from DYS Director Harvey Reed
Virtual Tour of DYS Facilities
November 12, 2014

Dear Staff and Stakeholders:

Nearly every day, a new youth arrives at DYS. In fact, a total of 522 youth came to DYS in Fiscal Year 2014. When youth are admitted to DYS, they are often confused, upset, and anxious. Family members often experience similar feelings.

Now a new service from DYS allows youth and families to catch a glimpse of facilities prior to a youth’s arrival at DYS. Virtual tour videos offer a look at classrooms, living units, youth rooms, cafeterias, recreation and community service opportunities, visitation areas, and more.

Open one of the following tours to get started!

- Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility or http://bit.ly/1zAwGn6
- Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility or http://bit.ly/112mGoz

This new service continues the agency’s commitment to keep youth and families connected. Facility Superintendents now call families during a youth’s first week at the facility in order to facilitate and encourage family involvement and answer any questions from family members. Superintendents let families know about ways to participate in a youth’s treatment as well as services offered for families, including video communication and CLOSE to Home (Connecting Loved Ones Sooner than Expected), a free, monthly bus service.

Other ways to stay informed about DYS include the following:

- Emails from DYS (choose “mailing list”)
All of these efforts support our mission of improving Ohio's future by habilitating youth and empowering families and communities. Family involvement is a critical key in helping a young person get on the right track. DYS is committed to keeping families informed and sharing solutions and challenges that impact youths' success.