Pretend you are in charge of the Iowa Juvenile Home for a day and you have the privilege of making decisions about the following questions:

1) What should student rooms look like? (If you would like to draw a picture, there is extra paper available)

a. Think about how many students should be in a room.

** 4 people*
** I think 7-10 students should be in a classroom*
** Have your bed don't squeak.*
** I think it should stay the same.*
** 2 people per room. It depends because if the person is not on Asap. But if they don't feel safe around people because of past abuse, they should be able to be by themselves.*
** I believe students should have at least one roommate & you should be able to have what you want in your room!*
** 2 people or less.*
** They should have a bed. Some should have their own rooms. Others could have like 2-4 roommates.*
** Approximently 10, but no more. 10, or less students.*
** The student rooms at IJH should have a max of 4 people in them and we should be able to have our own picture frames with pictures in them.*
** At least 2 person in the room.*

b. Think about what personal items should be allowed.

** I think we should be allowed to have 2 books, if we are C-steps, T-steps or in Skow Cottage level 3 and 4. We should be able to carry personal pens & pencils.*
** Colorful walls, rugs, comfy beds and a dresser. No cameras.*

*

** I think we should be allowed all of our things that are allowed in public schools (our own clothes).*
** Better beds. Appropriate clothes, own clothes, CDs, posters.*
** I would let them pick a color to paint their rooms then I would let them put pictures up on the walls and the rooms would be lots bigger. A compy couch or chair.*
** Personal items that are comforting to "students".*
** Clean but also comfortable.*
** I think we should have posters on our wall. And our room should be any color we want. To make us feel like were at home and safe. We should have anything we won't in our room as long as it's safe.*
** Group desks, like the science class, books, encouragement posters.*
** We should be able to have a book, notebook, pen, or pencil. Have our source of light so we can see if its dark.*

** I think student rooms should have regular school desk in them.*
** Only items that should be allowed in the room are a free reading book, pencils, erasers, class materials. Such as textbooks, worksheets, calculators, art supplies. It should be quiet in there for students to work, or perhaps calm down from regular class.*
** I think pictures and books. No pencils, pens, markers. People are swallowing stuff and writing on walls.*
** the lights should be bright. The windows should be able to be open, at least half way. The droors should be painted a different color. We should be able to have a comfy chair in our rooms.*
** Also we should be able to decorate the walls however we want.*
** New mattresses and bed frames. Maybe some shelves to put books and radios stuff in it.*
** A real bed to help with physical problems. Alarm clock for waking up. Dresser for pictures and/or alarm clock.*
** Books, radio, alarm clock, dresser, no bunk beds.*

2) What should the areas of the homes where everyone is together look like? (If you would like to draw a picture, there is extra paper available)

** Have bean bags, magazines, curtains, colored walls, plants, so it can have a homey feeling. Some kids haven't been home for 5 years or more, because they have no where to go.*
** I think our rooms should have 1-2 kids in a room. I think we should be able to have personal items to do which are quiet. I like the way Arnold is setup.*
Clean, comfy couches, colorful walls. No cameras.
** I think it should be homie and not so dang institutionalized.*
** Bean bag chairs, cushion bags, pictures, more space, craft activities.*
** The girls should get together to pick colors for each room and pick out decorations. Lots of fluffy pink pillows & new chairs & new bean bags & a whole bunch of new games for the Wii & lots of snack foods.*
** Neat and comfortable.*
** Big fluffy chairs in Skow. A clean safer area. Also a bigger place for all of us to be instead of being crowded in the little space we have in Skow.*
** Arnold cottage is what I want is to look like. Skow cottage needs more improvement- the walls-not clean.*
** I think they should look like our home. Couches, T.V., a kitchen (which we have all of these things). I don't think much should change about this.*
** The areas of the homes should be kept clean, safe, sanitary. There should be more areas, or rooms where kids can go to calm down, away from other. Not necessarly a quiet rooms, though. More like somewhere that is relaxing and calming, and makes you feel comfortable. Not locked in and isolated. The bedrooms should also have doors, and no cameras should be in the rooms. The bathrooms should have plug-ins.*
** I think they should be clean and homelike. I think we should have houses for girls who can handle a homelike enviroment and then put girls who cant w/ a regular cottage with no safety risks.*
** If I were to decide I would have better couches in the lounge area and no more carrols and hard chairs.*
** Better furniture such as leather. Paint the walls a better color. Have more space in the lounge for girls to walk through.*

** A T.V., more chairs, and more activitys/fun things to do.*
** TV, table, card table, lunch room.*

3) What should the room or space look like for students who are feeling stressed or out-of-control? (If you would like to draw a picture, there is extra paper available)
a. Think about what items should be provided to the students to help that them feel safe?

** Stuff to animal*
** I think there should be a bean bag or something like that to sit on. The quiet rooms are kind of small so I think a little bigger room would work and we should be allowed any items as a coping skill as long as we are not hurting ourselfs or other with them.*
** Maybe an ocean scene on the walls or the jungle, & mabe some bean bags. Only cameras in this room.*
** They should have like a couch and carpet cuz I'm tired of laying on that freezing cold floor in a room that looks like an MHI.*
** Blue walls, color card to describe how they feel. Get them alone and talk to them. Pictures of family. Teddy bear, reading, singing.*
** Rooms that are NOT white and they have to be bright colors & cool decorations on the walls with fluffy pillows & bean bags.*
** You should take the quiet rooms out because I feel like a caged animal when in them!*
** No safety rooms, they feel like cages.*
** Calm and comfortable.*
** It should have pads on the floor and wall and a bouncey floor so we can jump around. It should make us feel safe and not traped and not isolated.*
** A desk at the back of the room with items to use or play with to take time.*
** I think it should stay the same with nothing in there for us to hurt ourselves or others. Maybe you could get a blanket brought to you.*
** It should have a built in couch. Then be painted cool colors. They should have stress balls for the room for stressed out kids w/ the couch and for out of control an empty room.*
** We should have rooms that have a spot where we could sit or lay down like on a beany bag chair, etc. We should also have a bunch of stress balls like ones with textures on them because for some people, the texture relaxes them.*
** May a closed off room that a staff can sit in there with the student to talk to them. Maybe calming stuff like, art supplies and musical stuff.*
** Pads on walls/floor, and book, ball, and/or desk of cards.*
** Padded room 4 safety or stress reliver.*

4) How many students should live in a cottage? Please explain why.

** 11; that way, they are not over-crowding, they have enough space where they are comfortable.*
** 6*
** I think there should be between 11 to 12 students in a cottage because it is easier to split up the group into areas in the cottage but still have open areas.*
** 6, or 8 to 9, cuz I feel like we can do more activities with less kids.*
** 12-Arnold, 15-Bryant, 15-Skow, no boys.*

** Like 5, cuz ya'll don't understand that multiple females DO NOT get along! Don't matter if you're the most normal kid, you're gonna get in a fight when you live w/16 other girls!*
** Only 6-7, because with 15 girls in a cottage it's hard to get along with everybody & people always start drama.*
** I believe that 12 should, because it's not as chaotic.*
** Less than 10 because I feel the more girls, the more drama.*
** 6-8 because when you have 4 staff and 10 or more girls, there's competition to get attention.*
** 15, because there's more interactions and more to do with a group of 15 girls.*
** I think we should have 5-10 girls in a cottage so we can get along and it makes laundry chore easier, plus a lot of girls in one little area is a lot of stress!*
** 15 because there might be different things people can help each other with and plus it would be fun when we have group activitys.*
** I'd say between 10-15 kids. Because I know that there are a decent amount of kids that get sent here & they deserve to be here in a decent amount of time. In case their waiting in detention or something like that.*
** 10. Because some people get stressed for having a lot of people/more problems.*
** 5 or 6 because we can at least be able to go off campus.*
** 10 at the max.*
** I would say about 10 girls that way it's not to much chaos in the cottage.*
** No more than 10 because it would start problems and/or make more money for the instatute.*
** 10 or less, less chaos.*

5) Should cottages be located on or off campus? Please explain why.

** I think they should be on campus, reduces the # of AWOL, and other problems.*
** I think on campus.*
** I don't know. It would be nice to have it off campus.*
** Off, cuz this is a transitional place and being made the weird kid in town cuz you live here is hard on your self-esteem (trust me!).*
** It depends on what level you're on.*
** Off campus, because it would make us feel more normal & it would be cool to live off campus.*
** Off campus because I don't want to feel like I'm trapped on an island!*
** Off campus. I think it would be better because we're not on the campus every day, all day.*
** Off, because then we can feel un-isolated.*
** Off, because that way we could have more fun and learning!*
** On campus so we can stay as one group and not be away from our friends. Plus that to much walking. lol!*
** Off campus because some people would feel like the get to go to an off campus school and it would be a better life style for others.*
** I think some cottages should be on & some should be off. If we're off, then we obviously should earn that privledge & it should only be offered for the girls that are acting well.*
** Good girls can have off campus so they can go to off campus school, bad on campus for on campus school.*
** Off campus, no one will be able to show distraction to others (restrained).*

** Off campus would be what I would pick so we could feel less isolated into one area and be able to have some extra space.*
** On because people would get the erge to go awol anytime they feel like it.*
** On & off campus because some kids go to public school and/or sports. Off campus cottages should be for people w/public school and/or sports. And on campus cottages for kids that have problems and/or school here. Also, ho sports for on campus cottages.*
** Off campus, be able 2 live with the community.*

6) What off-campus activities should be available for students at the Iowa Juvenile Home?

** I think we should be able to volunteer at the nursing homes, learn and practice real jobs outside campus, have life skills classes, and go off campus to learn, and actually do stuff that will prepare you.*
** Going to movie theater, swimming pool, animal shelter, shopping trips, going to butter cow.*
** Animal humane society, movies, retirement homes, YMCA, and everything else that involves animals.*
** Go to Adventureland, lost island.*
** Jobs, sports, walks, going out to eat/shopping.*
** Swimming, movies, park.*
** Going swimming, football games, Sky Zone (trampoline place), movies, YMCA, library.*
** Movies in a town with nice theaters (CR or Marshalltown). Going to eat off campus.*
** Shopping and movies and eating off grounds, and the pool.*
** Rollerskating, YMCA, mixed martial arts, jobs, school, shopping, church, sports, park, walks, going out to eat, haircuts, camping.*
** I think we should be able to go to school in town. And go to nursing homes and help the older ppl feel like they still have a chance. Also we should be in the town activities because we're apart of the community to.*
** I feel parades, football game, dance, work, school volleyball, music class, singing lessons, band.*
** Humane Society, movie, football games, library (which we go to all of these except the library).*
** Bowling, concerts, Adventureland, basketball games.*
** Go shopping, go to resurants, go to amusment parks.*
** Going to the movies more often, or going out for treats, or maybe even going out to eat.*
** Public school and public jobs for people older.*
** Rec rooms, weight gym, water parks, amusement parks, jus about anything.*

7) What are some things you would keep the same at the Iowa Juvenile Home?

** I would keep the level system the same.*
** Level system, books, groups.*
** The staff.*
** Nothing.*
** The boundary things.*
** None!*
** Level system in Bryant.*

** Boys and girls not sleeping in the same cottage.*
** Level system, staff, food, and daily routines & the basic rules.*
** The uniforms, the staff.*
** The staff and teachers is what I would keep.*
** The staff, the cottages, school, the structure. Because a lot of the girls here don't do well with change.*
** The level system.*
** Not much!*
** I would keep the structure and the discipline because it's very helpful to some girls.*
** The consequences.*
** Probobly nothing.*

8) What are some things you would like to change at the Iowa Juvenile Home?

** I would like to have some staff change; there are some who are not fair. I would like to change up the program for kids who are doing well, so they can get incentives and that way, other kids will see the incentives and they will be more motivated to do well. If we get money from our parents, we should be able to spend it somewhere (for those who meet requirements). They used to be able to go shopping, and now we can't. I think that's a great incentive for kids, and will be greatly motivated by it.*
** Dress code. I think that we should be able to wear our own clothes & shoes. No cameras.*
** The food.*
** Intermixing of guys & girls. Have our own clothes & makeup.*
** Clothes, music, restraints, more time to do hair, bracelets, but no metal or gold.*
** Food choices! The food is nasty.*
** Uniforms.*
** We should get allowance so we can buy personal hygiene items because state items suck. No desk!*
** Boys and girls work together in classes.*
** Wearing our own clothes & makeup to express who we are, being able to talk to the boys on a certain level, intermirials, own under garments.*
** The support unit, the quiet rooms, and the whole program.*
** The rules, the dirtyness at cottage, quiet rooms and escorts.*
** To be able to go off-campus more often.*
** Wear own clothes, makes us feel comfortable & the green shirts are depressing.*
** The school because I would want to go to public school and do sports & things. Also I would change it to no more restraints allowed.*
** Maybe the living style, like the clothing, I think we should be able to wear our own clothes.*
** Some of the rules and responsibility. Also the scheduell for the day and/or when we go to sleep.*
** Being able 2 talk 2 the girls, having more time on the phone, more home visits.*

9) Anything else that you think is important for the students at the Iowa Juvenile Home?

** Better restraints (that don't hurt us kids). Cleaner environment.*
** Staff are rude, mean, and hurtful. They make kids feel awful and they do everything they can to make us miserable.*
** Family, trust and respect, home visits if able to by judge.*
** We should get to wear our own clothes, because people's self-esteems are low when they wear the same thing as everybody else. Or at least give us pretty, bright colors to wear.*
** That we should be able to wear your own clothes cuz these uniforms bring my self-esteem down.*
** Wear their own clothes.*
** Being able to go on home passes and transported to home cities for that.*
** I think they should change the food so that people would eat and get the nutrition that they need because meals are very important for our education.*
** I think everyone should be treated the same. Staff show favorites no lie and when someone big acts up, they are scared to put them on desk, but someone smaller has to be on desk.*
** No*
** I think some peers and staff should have some more freedom.*
** Having a punching bag 4 kids that have anger/aggression problems or any one else.*