



**Coordinating Council for Children, Youth and Families
February 7, 2018 Meeting Minutes
5:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. Senior Center, Cambridge**

Summary of Conversation Topics

- Cambridge Youth Council
- Find It Cambridge
- Cradle to Career Family Engagement Pipeline
- Cradle to Career Pipeline Working Group
- Results Based Accountability
- StriveTogether Network

Next Steps

The group identified the following next steps (or commitments) during the meeting:

What	Who	By When
2017-2018 Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Thursday, March 15th 344 Broadway o Thursday, May 3rd 344 Broadway 	All Family Policy Council members and affiliates	

Present:

Hector Acevedo, Tina Alu, Branville Bard, Ben Clark, Uma Edulbehran, Luba Feigenberg, Kim Goldstein, Liz Hill, Claude Jacob, David Kale, Laurance Kimbrough, Michelle Lower, Alanna Mallon, Maria McCauley, Neal Michaels, Bridget Rodriguez, Sumbul Siddiqui, Ellen Semonoff, Kenny Salim, Nancy Tauber, Tagesech Wabeto, Khari Milner, Liz Liss, Ben Clark, Nia Aubourg, Cassie Breecher, Ron Benham, Lace Campbell, Laura, Sharlene Yang

Co-Chairs: Mayor Marc McGovern and **Neal Michaels**

Executive Director: Nancy Tauber
Content Manager: Hector Acevedo

Socialize, Network and Eat

5:15 pm – 5:30 pm

5:30 Call to Order: Neal Michaels

- Welcome
- Introductions - New member Laurance Kimbrough
- Public Comment- None

- Announcements

- o Wool Sock Drive to help families with warm clothing.
- o 50 year Since MLK Speakers panel on February 26th at 6pm.
- o Flu Shots on Weds afternoon and Thursday mornings
- o Free showing to middle schoolers of the film Black Panther
- o The City of Cambridge is offering a Scholarship Program to Cambridge students.
- o Second Annual City Mini Bond program.

➤ Updates

- o Cambridge Youth Council Update
- o Find It Update (Hector Acevedo)
 - 287 Organizations on Find it Cambridge
 - Families are calling asking for help in connecting them to programs.
- o Family Engagement Pipeline Gatherings - January 30th (afternoon) and June 7th (morning)
 - 40 people attended our second pipeline gathering.
 - Our 3rd pipeline gathering will be held in June.
- o Cradle 2 Career Pipeline Working Group and Middle School Network meeting.
- o Middle School Network will present their ideas for expansion at March meeting.

➤ Results at the Center Decision Making

- o Cassie Breecher from Beyond Strategy Consulting
- o Objectives
 - Define and digest the concept of a Common Agenda within the Cambridge community context.
 - Build awareness and knowledge of two key models for results-oriented collaborations.
 - Compare the two models through practice.
 - Discuss how these two frameworks might apply to your context in Cambridge.
- o What we know about the City of Cambridge
 - ...has deep data and analytics bench strength.
 - ...has existing cross-sector bodies specifically focused on outcomes for children and families (unique among municipalities).
 - ...boasts a robust ecosystem of social benefit organizations.
 - ...shows significant disparities in outcomes among key demographic sub-groups.
 - ...is strategically-planned, road-mapped, and needs-assessed, though perhaps more in silos right now than fully integrated or coordinated.
 - ... does not need another asset map, needs assessment, strategic plan.
 - What else? (Anything missing, disagreements/corrections, etc.?)
- o Common Agenda Defined /^l kāmən ə^l jendə/: a shared vision for change, including a shared understanding of the problem and joint approach to solving it through agreed upon actions.
- o Essential Components of Common Agendas
 - A shared vision for change.
 - A common understanding of the problem, which includes:
 - measuring and reporting common data points
 - contributing and restricting factors on key data points

- Shared accountability for solving the problem (facilitated by measuring and reporting common data points, and grounded in continuous improvement practices)
 - Mutually-reinforcing actions that address the problem, agreed on by the diverse informants (an action plan).
- o Discussion Questions
- Does Cambridge have a common agenda?
 - Some of our organizations have a common agenda however, it seems that some common agendas haven't talked to each other yet.
 - There are some overarching/common agendas that connect and some that do not.
 - It seems that there are many plans however, we need goals and smaller pieces to help us reach those goals. Small goals that people can get around.
 - Process for developing School Dept. plan was to include families, staff and leadership to help develop larger strategic plan.
 - Which elements (or pieces of elements) of a common agenda does Cambridge already have in place?
 - The City, School Department, Police Department, Health Department and some community based organizations have elements in place for a common agenda.
 - What do you think are the biggest roadblocks and accelerants in Cambridge to creating a common agenda?
 - Key, mutually-reinforcing actions that address the problem, agreed on by diverse informants (an action plan). *This MUST include "end users" of the system(s).*

Oversimplified Comparison of Two Models



3. *Trying Hard is Not Good Enough: How To Produce Measurable Improvements For Customers and Communities*, Mark Friedman, FSI Publishing, 2005.

4. www.strivetogogether.org

Results-Based Accountability (RBA)



STRIVE Together Network



- o Demo Facilitation Part 1: How in the world would we go about tackling this?
 - Consider the following results statements:
 - All youth in Cambridge enter high school ready to succeed.
 - All middle school students in Cambridge are prepared to achieve their potential.
 - We want middle school students in Cambridge who are resilient, both academically and social-emotionally.

- o Demo Facilitation Part 2: How in the world would we go about tackling this?
 - Find a partner, choose a result statement, and answer the following:
 1. Who are our “end users”? (Identify TWO)
 2. How can we measure if our end users are better off? (Identify ONE)
 3. How can we measure if our services are doing what they were intended to do (and doing it well)? (Identify ONE)
 4. How are we doing on the most important of these measures? (One or two sentences on how you’re doing on the two measures you identified)
 5. Who are the partners with a role to play in doing better? (Identify TWO)
 6. What works to do better? (Identify TWO “what works” – **one must be a no-cost/low-cost idea**)
 7. What do we propose to do? (One or two sentences on how you would implement these two ideas)
- o The Point...
 - Given Cambridge’s existing assets, various partners already participating around different tables, and needs assessments already completed, how can we develop a COMMON AGENDA?
 - We need
 - Common understanding of the problem (defined data points)
 - Shared accountability (based on mutual data points)
 - Action Plan (mutually-reinforcing actions addressing problem)
- o Debrief
 - When you imagine using one of these frameworks:
 - What components feel like a good fit for your context?
 - What components give you pause?
 - What are some of the most significant “headwinds” and/or “tailwinds” that might affect implementation of any framework?
 - o Headwinds = things that might slow us down
 - o Tailwinds = things that might accelerate progress
 - Have you seen anything that helps organizations work through the early years stages of development?
 - o there are examples of organizations that wanted to focus on emotional development. It comes down to what are the top 3 things that will indicate if children are entering kindergarten ready to succeed.
 - There is no perfect data set. All data sets can be adjusted based on the information that you are trying to collect.
 - How do we engage other folks that need to be at meetings. What is the value of attending the meeting. We need to know the importance of the language we use. What will make a difference? This process gives use a different set of perspective to help us look at what we are missing and how to fill those gaps.
 - It is important to work with stakeholders to create a shared vocabulary so that everyone is on the same page.

- Adjourn
 - Motion to Adjourn: Neal Michaels
 - Second: Claude Jacobs

Motion Passed

- 2017-18 Family Policy Council Meetings:
 - March 15th
 - May 3rd