



Coordinating Council for Children, Youth and Families
January 18, 2018 Meeting Minutes
 5:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. Main Library, Cambridge

Summary of Conversation Topics

- Cambridge Youth Council
- Find It Cambridge
- Cradle to Career Pipeline Working Group
- Say Yes to Education/Weiss Institute
- Middle School 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"> ○ Thursday, February 7th Senior Center ○ Thursday, March 15th 344 Broadway ○ Thursday, May 3rd 344 Broadway 	All Family Policy Council members and affiliates	

Present:

Hector Acevedo, Tina Alu, Branville Bard, Ben Clark, Uma Edulbehram, Luba Feigenberg, Michelle Godfrey, Kim Goldstein, Liz Hill, Claude Jacob, Mike Johnston, David Kale, Michelle Lower, Alanna Mallon, Maria McCauley, Neal Michaels, Bridget Rodriguez, Sumbul Siddiqui, Ellen Semonoff, Nancy Tauber, Tagesech Wabeto, Rory Millar, Khari Milner, Annie Leavitt, Bilien Teklu, Ahmed BENGHOMARI, Liz Liss, William Phillips, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Ali Scholes, Kaitlin Gass, Jean Jordan, Ben Clark, Nia Aubourg

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:

- Welcome

- Introductions - New members Mayor Marc McGovern, Kim Goldstein taking Alanna Mallon's Community-at-Large spot. Alanna Mallon and Sumbul Siddiqui are City Council Reps, and Liz Liss is the Mayor's Education Liaison.
- Announcements
 - Warming Center is open.
 - Immigrant Legal Clinics are open.
 - Walk In's are accepted for flu shots.
 - Family Fun Day at the Peabody School Gym.
 - Baby U kicks off next Saturday.
 - Story Time for Social Justice will be held at different CPL branches In February.
- Updates
 - Cambridge Youth Council Update
 - Participated in MLK Jr Day of Service
 - Family Night at CRLS to support students in a Q and A session
 - AVF meeting was very productive.
 - Supporting BSU by passing out a survey around microaggressions.
 - Find It Update (Hector Acevedo)
 - Showcase new flyers and rack cards
 - 281 Organizations on Find It Cambridge
 - Family Engagement Pipeline Gatherings - January 30th (afternoon) and June 7th (morning)
 - Cradle 2 Career Pipeline Working Group - 25 members participated in a webinar with Forum for Youth to learn about their work with communities to create a insulated pipeline and coordinate efforts to improve outcomes for young people.
- Say Yes to Education/Weiss Institute Recap
 - The Weiss Institute, an initiative of Say Yes to Education in partnership with America's Promise Alliance, expands the capacity of communities to make it possible for all young people to earn a college degree or other postsecondary credential.
 - Group Work-Reviewed attributes of Say Yes to Education/Weiss Institute and answer these questions:
 - ★ What are we already doing in Cambridge?
 - ★ Which attributes should we explore further?
 - Collaborative Governance
 - Create Sustainable College Scholarship Incentives
 - Assess Community Strengths and Identify Gaps
 - Postsecondary Planning System
 - Data System
 - Access to Comprehensive Services
 - Site visit to Buffalo to learn more about Say Yes
 - Discussion
 - Strong connection to the early childhood initiatives in cambridge
 - Look at the scholarship amount. How much is enough to effectively support

students. Create sustainable scholarship funding.

- Scholarship needs to serve as the rallying point for the community.
- Ensuring that there are real interactions with families. Make strong connections.
- Look at who is accessing information and is the information meaningful.
- Explore who are the students who actually get the scholarship.
- Look at data system and how it can be integrated into the data systems we already use.

➤ Middle School Presentation and Discussion

- See below for case study and presentation
- Discussion
 - It is very difficult to see all the steps necessary to get from point A to point B.
 - One challenge is that MSN liaisons do not have access to ASPEN.
 - Work with various stakeholders to make sure that program student attends is the right fit.
 - What is preventing more hours? Funding?
 - There is an hour ceiling within CYP and many youth centers have been short staffed which prevents them from adding to their hours as a MSN liaison.
 - More funding is needed and more flexibility around the time that the work gets done.
 - Motion to move for Annie and Khari to research the amount of funding that is needed to figure out the amount of money needed for MSN 3.0 by March 15th.
 - Motion Passed

7:15pm

➤ Adjourn

➤ 2017-18 Family Policy Council Meetings:

February 7th

March 15th

May 3rd

Middle School Network CASE STUDY

Ranya

September 12: I talked with Ranya, a 7th grader at PAUS, during lunch when I sat at her table to talk about some OST opportunities. We talked some about what they each did after school and Ranya specifically said nothing but that her and her sister in 5th grade wanted to play soccer. I asked her more about what made her interested and if she wanted to play on a team. She said yes and I told her about Camb Youth Soccer (CYS). She knew about it and I told her that the season started last week but that I would still check if she could join. She said she would like me to do that but hinted that it might be hard for her family to pay. I said that I would be able to speak with them about possibly getting some financial

help and that it was still worth applying. She agreed and I let her know I'd follow up with her when I had gotten info from CYS.

Later that day, I called Susan Ruff, CYS Executive Director, and asked her if there was room for the two girls to play and that their family might need financial assistance. She said that yes they can still register and financial assistance can be provided. All I needed to do was email her the two girls' information (name, grade, DOB, contact info etc.)

September 15: I spoke with Ranya during morning advisory and got the necessary info for CYS. I then emailed the info for both girls to Susan.

September 17: I heard back from Susan who said she would be in touch with the family and that both Ranya and her sister would be registered free of charge and placed on teams but in different leagues because of their grade difference. She then included John Delancey the coordinator of the Upper School league so that he could answer any questions further

September 19: I spoke with Ranya at lunch to make sure that CYS had been in touch with her family. She said they had been but that there was some confusion around what they had talked about mainly because her mother's English is not very good. I said that she could call them again but that I would also be in touch with Susan and John to get the necessary info. I made sure to write down what specifically she was confused about and needed to know. I then got her home phone number and mother's name and said when I get the info I will call her mom.

I then emailed John and Susan with the specific questions Ranya had and heard back from John later that day with all the questions answered. He also copied Ranya's soon- to-be coach on the email so he would be expecting Ranya and be clued in on the back and forth going on between myself and CYS. The coach later emailed me saying he was looking forward to seeing Ranya at the game tomorrow.

Later that evening I called Ranya's mom and spoke to her while Ranya was connected on another line. I relayed the info I received from John and made sure they fully understood that tomorrow was the first game and where they needed to go, when to get there and the equipment Ranya needed to play. I gave them the name of her coach and also told them sports store near the field if they needed to get anything and that the coach said he would have extra equipment if needed. Both Ranya and her mother seemed to know what to do and I gave them my number in case they had any further questions.

I emailed John and Ranya's coach to say that I had spoken with her family and that everything should be all set.

September 22: On Monday morning I checked in with Ranya to see how the game went. Everything went smoothly and she said she had a great time!

Reflection: Ranya	Reflection: Susan Ruff, CYS
I later spoke with Ranya about her experience with CYS:	I emailed Susan and asked to her to answer some questions about her experience getting Ranya connected:

Q: How did the soccer season go? And, would you want to do it again?

A: It was fun! I liked it because the people on the team were nice, helpful and they accepted me. The field was far, but it was good and clean and had a lot of space. Yes, I would do it again.

Q: How do you think you benefited from playing soccer?

A: It made me want to join more teams like that.

Q: How do you think soccer will help you in the future?

A: It could help me with social skills, making new friends, and I would recommend it to others.

Q: How did I help you get involved with the team?

A: You helped me because I thought I would have to pay and you helped me get it for free. You also helped me fill out the paperwork, which my mom really liked. And, it made me want to ask you in the future to join more things.

Q: What other after school programs do you do?

A: I play basketball with the school right now and will play soccer and track too.

Q: How was having the MSN Liaison in the schools an asset to CYS?

A: The MSN Liaison was very helpful to Cambridge Youth Soccer in connecting students who had not had a CYS experience connect with our program through their school, and participate in our fall soccer.

Q: What made connecting Ranya to CYS successful?

A: CYS is committed to improving our outreach to students who do not know about our programs. We are happy to cover any registration fees, and equipment fees, but we often do not have a way to get this information to the students. Julia was able to reach us by email, and we connected Rayna to a team and her new coach within a few days. Rayna was able to get out on the field and enjoy her team.

Q: Were there any challenges about connecting Ranya?

A: The main challenge was to get the signup information to Rayna so that her parent or guardian could agree, without making the registration process overly complicated and discouraging. Julia was very helpful in relaying questions and answers between Rayna, her family, and CYS.

Q: Other thoughts?

A: I am hoping that CYS can work with Julia again in March to bring more students into our soccer program for the spring season. I thought the fall was a good start to an expanding partnership.