



Kids' Council Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2016

5:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.

344 Broadway, 2nd. fl Conference Room

Summary

Summary of Conversation Topics

- Kids' Council Name Change
- Cambridge College Success Initiative and Cambridge Youth Council

Key Agreements

- The Coordinating Council for Children, Youth and Families will now be referred to as the Youth and Family Policy Council

Next Steps

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

What	Who	By When
Save the proposed meeting schedule for 2015-16 (3 rd Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 25, 2016 (Main Library) • March 17, 2016 (344 Broadway) • May 19, 2016 (TBD) 	All KC members and affiliates	



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Detailed Notes

Present:

Mayor Denise Simmons, Neal Michaels, Tina Alu, Griffin Andres, Ron Benham, Lace Campbell, Andrea Collymore, Louis DePasquale, Mary Gashaw, Lee Gianetti, Michelle Godfrey, Liz Hill, Claude Jacob, Jack Kiryk, Michelle Lower, Alanna Mallon, Kester Messan, Linda Mindaye, Matt Nelson, Rihana Oumer, Geeta Pradhan, Susan Richards, Olivia Scott, Ellen Semonoff, Nancy Tauber, Patrick Wardell, Jeff Young, Jan Devereux, Staisha Foster Jarvis, Emily Singer, Lorra Marseille, Margaux Froute, Will Reed, Monique Reyes, Naia Aubourg, Tenya Gardner

Co-Chairs: *Mayor Maher and Neal Michaels*

Executive Director: *Nancy Tauber*

Content Manager: *Nancy Tauber*

Desired Outcomes:

- Shared Understanding of the College Success Initiative and how it relates to the work of the Cambridge Youth Council.
- Agreement to change the name of the Kids' Council

Socialize, Network and Eat

5:15 pm – 5:45 pm

Call to Order:

5:45 pm – 6:00 pm

- Welcome & Introductions (Mayor Simmons)
 - Agenda Overview/Adoption of Minutes (November 19, 2015 meeting)
 - Griffin Andres moved to adopt the minutes
 - Ellen Semonoff seconded motion
 - Minutes adopted
 - Public Comment
 - Griffin Andres moved to close public comment
 - Louie DePasquale seconded motion

- Public comment closed
- Announcements/Updates
 - Nancy Tauber announced:
 - Find It Cambridge will be presented at the next Kids' Council meeting
 - CYC helped with the 2nd Annual Food Drive for the Many Helping Hands MLK Day of Service
 - CYC was on Chronicle Jan. 20th. Here is a link to the clip which starts at 2 min. 30 sec.
 - <http://www.wcvb.com/chronicle/whiz-kids-making-a-difference/37540888>
 - Tina Alu – CEOC is providing help with taxes.
 - Claude Jacob – Health Profile and Middle Grade Survey are both available.
 - CET Making Connections Training completed the 2nd series with 15 participants from around the city.
 - Sat. Jan. 23rd is Center for Families Fun Day.

2015-16 Kids' Council Meeting Schedule:

- Thursday February 25, 2016 (Main Library)
- Thursday March 17, 2016 (344 Broadway)
- Thursday May 19, 2016 (TBD)

Kids' Council Name Change

5:59 pm – 6:20 pm

- Vote
 - Family and Youth Policy Council – 14
 - Kids' Policy Council – 2
- Second Vote
 - Family and Youth Policy Council – 6
 - Youth and Family Policy Council – 10

The new name is Youth and Family Policy Council

College Success Initiative (CSI) and Cambridge Youth Council (CYC) Presentation

6:20 pm – 6:40 pm

- Emily Singer, Coordinator for the College Success Initiative, and Tina Alu presented the work of the initiative. See below for power point.
- Members of the CYC presented their point of view:
 - *There is a stigma for those who take CP (College Prep) classes.*

- *Only 3 kids' of color in my honors class, and it is hard for me to advocate for myself.*
- *We want to raise awareness about the issues of honors and CP classes.*
- *My 8th grade teacher told me I should take a CP class, but I wanted to take honors so I did. I had to speak up for myself.*

Small Group Work

6:40 pm – 7:20 pm

Questions

1. Since the Kids' Council has been focusing on family engagement and College Success Initiative is also looking at how to improve family engagement, can you think of family engagement strategies and parent leadership efforts that people are currently using in Cambridge?
2. What's been successful and not successful?
3. The Youth Council would like to know the following:
 - a. How can we begin to shift the power to students for choosing their high classes?
 - b. How well do you think the Innovation Agenda has helped to bridge the gap? And how can we improve it?
 - c. What are the pros and cons of having leveled classes?
4. Is there anything that the Kids' Council can do to help with these efforts?

Feedback

- All these efforts should provide translation.
- Family Engagement Question
 - Find out what staff at CRLS are doing around family engagement – beyond the Family Liaison
 - Look at non-traditional access points and non-traditional people.
 - Build off relationships teachers already have with students and families
 - Backpack Express
 - School Nurses
 - Look at what is working
- CYC Questions
 - Selecting Classes for 8th graders
 - When 8th graders are picking classes, parents should be there.
 - Guidance Counselors should bring high school students with them when they visit 8th graders.
 - Provide mentoring and academic support for middle school students through existing avenues (sports, drama, youth centers, and other

- activities they are already working with). CYC tried to start a mentoring program last year, and it was challenging to recruit 8th graders. Encourage more 8th grade shadowing of high school students (make it a requirement)
- Create a fact sheet about picking classes (include differences between CP and Honors)
 - CP vs. Honors and AP Classes
 - Offer honors option in all classes, and students need to be encouraged to pursue the honors option.
 - Why are there CP and Honors classes in 9th grade?
 - Make it clear what CP, Honors and AP classes are.
 - Why do we call it college Prep?
 - Post-Secondary Success
 - Create a “posse” for students taking challenging classes
 - Create opportunities for students to share their stories with teachers, Upper School leadership, families and students.
 - Talk with and inform families and students earlier about the possible pathways in high school and beyond.
 - Make sure families and students know how to advocate for themselves.
 - Add questions to the Middle Grade and Teen Health Survey about college and post-secondary plans.
 - Create smaller, intimate affinity groups so that families have a safer, more supportive environment to discuss these issues.
 - Customize College Information Sessions so that all families feel comfortable and connected.
 - Everyone working with young people need to have information regarding the College Success Initiative. Everyone needs to be involved.
 - College resources should be part of Find It.
 - Youth and Family Policy Council formerly known as Kids’ Council
 - Continue to support work of CYC
 - Youth and Family Policy Council members need to be advocating about these issues everywhere they go.
 - Create a public campaign for children of all ages.

Adjourn:
7:20 pm



College Success Initiative

City of Cambridge
Office of College Success

Kids Council Meeting
January 21, 2016

Emily Singer, OCS Coordinator
John Lindamood, CHA, Steering & Advisory Committee Co-Chair
Tina Alu, CEOC, Non-profit partner

Logo design: Richard Slater
City of Cambridge, DHSP

College Success Initiative Partners

Advancing college success for graduates of CRLS, CLC Bridge to College Program, and Just-A-Start YouthBuild

Cambridge Public Schools:

CPSD Leadership
Cambridge Rindge and Latin School (including RSTA and HSEP)

City of Cambridge, Department of Human Service Programs (DHSP):

Office of College Success	DHSP Leadership
Cambridge Youth Programs	Community Learning Center (CLC) Bridge to College Program (BTC)
Office of Workforce Development	Community Engagement Team

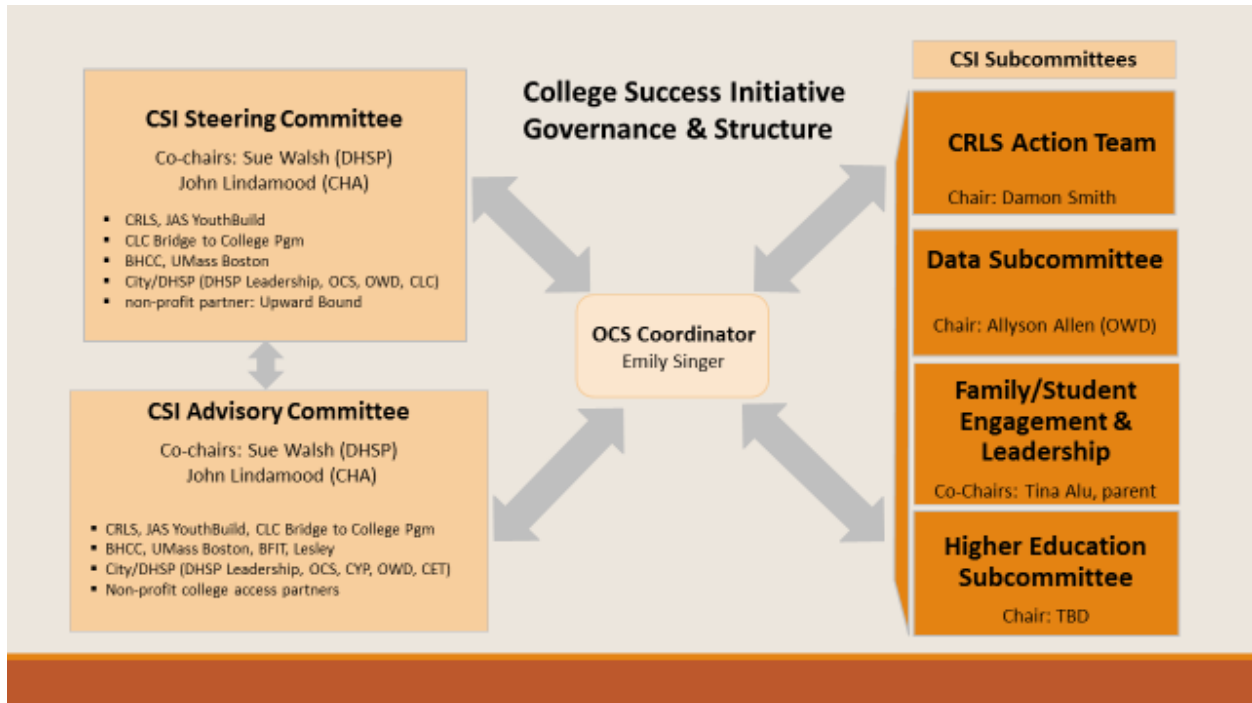
Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA): Resident Services, The Work Force Program

Non-profits:

American Student Assistance	Breakthrough Greater Boston
Cambridge School Volunteers	Cambridge Community Services – CityLinks Program
Friends of CRLS	Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee
Homeowner’s Rehab, Inc.	Just-A-Start Career Connections
JFY NetWorks	Just-A-Start YouthBuild Cambridge/Chelsea
Upward Bound MIT/Wellesley	

Higher Ed:

Bunker Hill Community College, UMass Boston, Lesley University, Ben Franklin Institute of Technology



Baseline Data:

CRLS graduates from 2006 who obtained a post-secondary credential* within six years

CRLS	Low-Income		Non-Low-Income		All	
Class of 2006	248	29%	227	43%	475	36%
		72 students		98 students		170 students

*Credential: a credit-bearing Certificate, Associate's or Bachelor's Degree

Source: MA DESE District Analysis, Review & Assistance Tools (DART)
www.doe.mass.edu/apa/dart

CRLS Class of 2006 Post-Secondary Enrollment and Completion after 6 Years

CRLS CLASS OF 2006				
	Count	Did Not Attend	Attended No Completion	Attended & Completed
LOW-INCOME	100%	30%	41%	29%
	248 students	74 students	103 students	72 students
NON-LOW-INCOME	100%	25%	32%	43%
	227 students	56 students	73 students	98 students
ALL	100%	27%	37%	36%
	475 students	130 students	176 students	170 students

CAMBRIDGE: College Success Initiative

% Completion of Attended	
Total Attended	Completed/Attended
70%	41%
175 students	72 students
75%	57%
171 students	98 students
73%	49%
346 students	170 students

BOSTON: Success Boston

**College Success Initiative
Vision Statement**

Low-income students from Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, Just-A-Start YouthBuild, and CLC Bridge to College Program, will graduate with a post-secondary credential within six years at a rate *equal to* their non-low-income peers.

College Success Initiative
3-year Strategic Plan
GOALS

