

Minutes from the Subcommittee on the Office of College Success of the Human Services Committee

Present: City Councillor Ken Reeves, Allyson Allen, John Clifford, Michelle Farnum, Susie Flug, Steve Swanger, Carolyn Turk, Sue Walsh

On Tuesday, June 8th, 2010, Councillor Reeves conducted a meeting of the Subcommittee on the Office of College Success. The group is comprised of volunteers from the Human Services Committee.

Councillor Reeves gave an overview of what the elements of a Cambridge Office of College Success might be. The office could use the Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) model, which pairs a student with a mentor from pre-high school graduation through college graduation. The Office would have a role distinct from the role and tasks of the traditional high school guidance counselor.

Hopefully the program would work with the high school and with the guidance counselors and do, "whatever it takes" for student success. This could mean assisting with college applications, post high school assistance with financial aid forms, turning sophomores, juniors, and college seniors on to different scholarship and financial aid opportunities. The office would maintain a role in the student's life until college graduation.

One thing that was very clear to the Subcommittee is that college awareness must start very early. At the HCZ, they start with "Baby College". In many middle- and upper-middle-class families, where people have been to college, parents begin coaching children toward college and university, very early. The issue of at what age/grade to begin a Cambridge Initiative was not resolved. However, everyone seemed to be in agreement that middle-school students should be exposed to colleges through visits, presentations at school, and visual identification of different schools (e.g. banners and other branding tools in use by universities). After-school programs could be more instrumental in turning children on to college.

The subcommittee wanted more information about junior college graduation rates. It was agreed that the Subcommittee should obtain more information about the graduation rates of CRLS grads from Bunker Hill Community College. The Subcommittee should also look at other successful college-track programs, such as College Visions in Providence and the various Upward Bound programs, and at colleges that have a transition year, such as Brandeis, Emmanuel, and Curry. It was also mentioned that more information on the Avid program at (CRLS) would be helpful.

The Subcommittee agreed that there are many different programs in Cambridge. It would be good if a coalition of these programs could share information and strategies. Steve Swanger spoke in depth about the desirability of a Workforce Program office inside CRLS. He would like an office there now to compliment the work in which he is currently involved with the Workforce Program. The discussion was inconclusive about whether a new Cambridge Office of College Success would have to be located at CRLS.

The Subcommittee generally agreed that there would need to be a full-time staff person for an Office of College Success (maybe two persons). It is unclear where the funding would come from for this position(s). Councillor Reeves suggested that some funding might come from the Cambridge Public School Department or the large local universities. The Subcommittee is aware that there is much work to be done to develop this idea. The next meeting of the Human Services Committee is on June 30, 2012, to further develop these ideas.

Matriculation List for Class of 2010

College Name	Total	College Name	Total
American International College	1	New England Institute of the Arts	5
American University	1	New York University	2
Art Institute	2	Newbury College	7
Art Institute of Boston	2	Northeastern University	3
Bates College	1	Pace University	2
Bay State College	1	Paul Smith College	1
Becker College-Worcester	1	Pine Manor College	2
Benjamin Franklin Inst. of Tech	9	Princeton University	1
Berklee College of Music	1	Regis College	4
Boston College	3	Rochester Institute of Technology	1
Boston University	4	Rutgers University	1
Brandeis University	2	Salem State College	2
Bridgewater State College	2	School of Art Institute of Chicago	1
Brown University	2	Simmons College	4
Bryn Mawr College	1	Skidmore College	1
Bunker Hill Community College	32	Southern New Hampshire University	1
Carleton College	1	St. Anslem's College	1
Centre College	1	Stanford University	2
Clark University	6	Suffolk University	3
Colby Sawyer	6	Swathmore College	1
Colgate University	1	Syracuse University	1
College of the Holy Cross	1	Temple University	1
Colorado College	1	Trinity College	1
Columbia University - Barnard College	1	UMass Amherst	24
Dean College	2	UMass Boston	18
Drexel University	2	UMass Dartmouth	18
Eckerd College	1	UMass Lowell	5
Emory University	1	Union College	1
Fairfield University	1	Universidad del Turabo	1
Fordham University	1	University of Colorado - Denver	1
Framingham State College	2	University of Denver	1
Franklin Pierce College	2	University of Maine	1
George Washington University	3	University of Michigan	1
Georgetown University	1	University of Mississippi	1
Georgian Court University	1	University of New Haven	1
Hamilton College	2	University of Pretoria	1
Harvard-Radcliffe Harvard Undergraduate Admission	9	University of Rhode Island	1
Haverford College	1	University of San Francisco	1
Hesser College	1	University of the Arts	1
Jireh Preparatory School	1	University of Vermont	4
Johns Hopkins University	1	University of Virginia	1
Johnson and Wales University	8	Vanier College	1
Johnson County Community College	1	Vassar College	5
Kalamazoo College	1	Virginia Polytech Institute & State University	1

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La Salle University	1	Virginia Wesleyan, Norfolk	1
Lasell College	2	Wentworth Institute of Technology	4
Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts	2	Westfield State College	1
Lee Academy	1	Wheaton College	3
Loyola Marymount University	1	Wheelock College	1
Massachusetts Bay Community College	4	Whittier College	1
Massachusetts College of Art	1	Worcester Poly Tech	1
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Allied Health	2	Yale University	2
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	3		
McGill University	3		
Middlesex Community College	8		
Montserrat College of Art	1		
Mount Holyoke College	2		
Mount Ida College	1		