

Our Children, Our Families Council
Summary of Expanded Learning Collaborative
May 7, 2015

Goals of the Effort

The Expanded Learning Collaborative (ELC): *Making the Most of K-12 Out of School Time Learning*, works to increase access to out of school time programs for all K-12 youth who want them and to enhance the quality of out of school time programs.

The ELC is guided by the following principles:

- Parent and youth choice and engagement
- Diversity
- Equity
- Relevant Learning
- Youth Development
- Quality
- Collaboration

Some of the Collaborative's specific goals are to:

- 1) Institutionalize the structure of the ELC Policy Council and revisit its composition as necessary to ensure that all relevant stakeholders are engaged.
- 2) Ensure elected, school, and community leaders are aware of out of school time issues and needs, and supportive in fending off threats and inviting new opportunities or resources.
- 3) Provide a forum for information sharing, coordination, recommending policy and advocacy for the field of out of school time in San Francisco.
- 4) Sponsor work groups composed of broad range of volunteer participants that focus on specific out of school time challenges.
- 5) Reflect on accomplishments and analyze threats, opportunities, and new information to revise the Policy Council's multi-year strategic plan.
- 6) Implement a universal application and enrollment process for all students looking for afterschool programming.
- 7) Increase the number of slots available for students.

Focal Population of the Effort

The work of the ELC is targeted at all children and youth in school in San Francisco.

Impact

The ELC's greatest impact has been in quality improvement of afterschool activities. They have a technical assistance branch that brings in a third-party to provide professional development and coaching. There are 150 slots for 10 hours of coaching that individuals can get. Besides the coaching, the ELC also has moved the needle in quality improvement by creating common tools and assessments by which providers can measure their quality of service.

The ELC has had various impacts in other areas of their work:

- Conducted research that informed changes to DCYF's grant-making for afterschool and summer programs, which led to more youth in programs being impacted by DCYF grants
- Created maps of afterschool and summer programs by location
- Hosted neighborhood resource fairs for families to explore their summer options
- Developed flyers and brochures to explain summer program options and funding to parents
- Held learning circles to increase providers' awareness and understanding of Common Core integration

The ELC's greatest strength is the eagerness of its community partners that really want to help build a system that they are only a small part of.

Challenges

One challenge the ELC faces is getting all community members, beyond DCYF and SFUSD, to commit to the collaborative. Also, it can be challenging to deal with misaligned understandings of authority and control.

Origins of the Effort

Since 2007, a voluntary Afterschool for All Advisory Council has been guiding the citywide effort to provide a diversity of quality after school options for all youth who want them. In 2013, the effort was re-named The Expanded Learning Collaborative: *Making the Most of K-12 Out of School Time Learning*, to reflect the expanded focus on summer and high school programs and to emphasize the learning aspect of all out of school programs.

Leading the Effort

The effort is co-lead by Bryant Tan, senior policy analyst at the Department of Children, Youth & Their Families and Mele Lau Smith, SFUSD's director of community partnerships. The collaborative is funded by DCYF, the school district and a private foundation. There is no dedicated staff, though various DCYF staffers devote a percentage of their time.

Members of the Effort

The Expanded Learning Collaborative Policy Council has 24 members — half of those seats filled by public agencies and the other half to be filled by various representatives from non-public stakeholders. The non-public representatives are selected through an application process. It is the Policy Council's intent to represent the city's diverse array of out of school time providers, participants and stakeholders

Public Representatives:

The 12 seats to be filled by appointment:

- 1) Kevin Truitt -SFUSD – leadership of Student, Family, and Community Support Department
- 2) Mele Lau-Smith -SFUSD – leadership of Student, Family, and Community Support Department
- 3) Hayin Kim- SFUSD – decision-maker of Community Schools approach
- 4) Mari Rutkin – SFUSD – decision-maker of Early Education Department's School Age Programs
- 5) Karina Henriquez- SFUSD – decision-maker of ExCEL programs
- 6) Maria Su- City- leadership of DCYF
- 7) Bryant Tan City- decision-maker of DCYF K-12 education-related efforts at DCYF
- 8) Phil Ginsburg/Bob Palaccio -City – leadership of Recreation and Parks Department
- 9) Michelle Rutherford- City – leadership of Office of Early Childhood Education (housed at HSA)
- 10) Michelle Jeffers – City- leadership from SF Public Library
- 11) Erica Maybaum – San Francisco Child Care Planning & Advisory Council (CPAC) staff
- 12) Kristen M Pozzoni of SF State University/ Kathy White of City College of SF- A public higher education institution with expertise in out-of-school time workforce preparation and/or delivery of OST high school programming

Non-Public Representatives

The 12 seats to be filled through an application process are:

- 1) Edward Kauffman of Mission Graduates-Executive Director or Manager of CBO providing out of school time services – comprehensive public school-based afterschool programming (including public charter schools)
- 2) Delia Fitzpatrick of Our Kids First- Executive Director or Manager of CBO providing out of school time services- comprehensive community-based afterschool programming
- 3) Alec Lee of Aim High – Executive Director or Manager of CBO providing out of school time services – summer K-8 programming
- 4) Marissa Cowan of Stonestown Family YMCA- Executive Director or Manager of CBO providing fee-based out of school time services without public funding (except for vouchers)
- 5) Jennifer Berger of Boys & Girls Club of SF-Executive Director or Manager of CBO providing out of school time services

– high school age OST programming

- 6) Guybe Slangen of SF Friends School- Executive Director or Manager of provider of out of school time services – at a private school
- 7) Masharika Maddison of Parents for Public Schools – Representative of parents (of elementary students)
- 8) Mollie Matull- Representative of parents (of secondary students)
- 9) Vacant – Representative of foundation/ corporate funders of out of school opportunities
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- 11) Andrea Broxton of Partnership for Children and Youth- Representative of a capacity building/training entity focused on out of school time
- 12) Pam Pradachith-Deimler of SF Beacon Initiative – Representative of a network of K-12 youth-serving organizations

Structure of the Effort

The policy council meets three to four times a year. On average about 50% of the group’s members are in attendance. The group communicates through email, list serve, and a newsletter.

The Role of Data

Annually, the ELC gathers data on what the demand is for afterschool and summer activities through surveying and enrollment data. They track the number of slots available and compare it to demand. They know the number of slots every afterschool and summer program has, how many students applied, and how many are on the waitlist.

Related Documents

- More information about the ELC is available at www.sfelc.org.