



Our Children, Our Families Council



DRAFT MEETING NOTES

Thursday, September 10, 2015
4:00 p.m.

City Hall, Room 201, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102

Members in Attendance: Co-Chairs Mayor Edwin Lee and Superintendent Richard Carranza; Sherilyn Adams, Elizabeth Blanco; Carla Bryant; Barbara Carlson; Teresia Chen; Landon Dickey; Melissa Dodd; Barbara Garcia; Phil Ginsburg; David Goldin; Guadalupe Guerrero; Philip Halperin; Luis Herrera; Jill Hoogendyk; Kentaro Iwasaki; Abram Jimenez; Naomi Kelly; Ritu Khanna; Olson Lee; Myong Leigh; Laura Moran; Allen Nance; Masharika Prejean Maddison; John Rahaim; Edward Reiskin; Todd Rufo; Luisa Sicairos; Abby Snay; Brent Stephens; Maria Su; Greg Suhr; Egon Terplan; Michael Wald; Monetta White; Candace Wong; Jillian Wu

Members Absent: Lyslynn Lacoste; Trent Rhorer; Kevin Truitt; Les Wong

Council Staff in Attendance: Sandra Naughton, Jennifer Tran

Speakers: Alecia Dominguez Barillas

Swearing In Ceremony

Opening Remarks

Supervisor Norman Yee made some opening remarks before the meeting officially started. Supervisor Yee expressed his excitement about the Council convening, and all of the hard work that went into passing Proposition C as one of the most robust ways to support children and families in the nation. He emphasized that the effort is not just about resources but about working together, beyond coordinating school and other youth services, but also about thinking about how transportation, employment, housing, and other services impact our families. He commended the Mayor and Superintendent for their leadership and their collaborative approach to supporting children and families.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Mayor called meeting to order at 4:22 pm, and each member introduced themselves.

Mayor made some introductory remarks. The Mayor noted the strong foundational partnership between the City and County of San Francisco and the school district and the many investments the City has made to support children, youth and families, including summer jobs and internships for youth, summer learning opportunities, free local bus and rail services for youth, college savings plans for all district kindergarteners. The Mayor expressed the need for the City and school district to do more to address service gaps and unmet needs, and in particular to address disparities in outcomes for some children, youth and families. The Mayor emphasized the need to break out of our systems' silos and find solutions together so that all families and children have access to the services they need. The Mayor noted that parents, like himself, face many challenges at different stages of their child's life. This new Council will focus on how to support children and families, especially those that face additional barriers due to the color of their skin,

the language they speak, or where they were born – whether that be in another country or in a San Francisco neighborhood fighting generations of poverty.

The Mayor noted the many assets San Francisco has – an electorate that cares about children, significant resources dedicated to vulnerable populations, great nonprofit providers, dedicated businesses, and innovative leaders in our public agencies and private sector. The Mayor noted that this Council intends to harness those assets to do better and to place children and families first in policy decisions.

The Mayor noted the Council was created in the City’s charter for the next 25 years, so that it will outlast his and the Superintendent’s tenures, and so its changes will be institutionalized. The Mayor noted that now is the time to seize this historical opportunity and thanked everyone present for joining him in “rolling up our sleeves” to start this important work.

The Superintendent made some introductory remarks. The Superintendent noted that the Council has an important critical job to do together to improve the lives of children and our future leaders. He noted that we need to do something different than what has been done before, and that we must disrupt the status quo. He noted we need to challenge ourselves and each other to have the uncomfortable conversations, to recognize our implicit biases, and to hold ourselves accountable for making progress toward the disparities we see our children facing.

He noted that we need to ask ourselves, “Are the very policies and procedures that we are holding up actually getting in the way of our most disenfranchised children and families?” He noted that if we do not disrupt the status quo of our systems, we become part of it.

The Superintendent noted that the City and School District’s current relationship is probably one of the best in the nation. He noted though, that the work of the Council will go beyond the efforts of the current Mayor and himself. Since the decision makers on the Council control the system, they have the power to build change that transcends leaders’ current tenure. He noted that in addition to the Council, the efforts of the Council’s working groups will be integral to move the Council’s work forward.

2. Public Comment on Any Item Listed Below as for “Discussion Only.”

No speakers for public comment.

3. Presentation on the Need for Change (discussion only)

Sandra Naughton introduced Alecia Dominguez Barillas, a San Francisco native, who shared her story with the Council about growing up in housing projects with her single mother and the challenges she faced at home, in school and in her community. Alecia developed asthma due her to living conditions, moved several times, developed gum disease by age 12, lived with her grandparents for a period of time, and dropped out of high school. She eventually earned her GED, enrolled in City College, transferred to Golden Gate University and is now pursuing a Master’s in Public Administration. She is married and has two young children. Her family recently had to move out of San Francisco due to the high cost of living, although her goal is to move back and raise her family in the city.

After Alecia’s story, Sandra posed a series of questions to Alecia about what could have been different in her childhood to support her.

4. Review and Adoption of Draft Bylaws (discussion & possible action)

Sandra Naughton presented a brief overview of the draft bylaws to the Council, including highlights related to the proposed Theory of Change, Guiding Principles, Member Roles, Meeting Design, and Working Groups.

The Superintendent opened the floor for motions. Council member Barbara Garcia moved the approval of the Our Children, Our Families Bylaws dated September 1, 2015. The motion was seconded by Council member Phil Halperin.

The Superintendent invited discussion among Council members. One member asked for clarity about one of the guiding principles about “putting equity first” in decision-making. Sandra clarified that the intention was to consider the impact of decisions on demographic groups within the population whose outcomes are worse than other groups. Another Council member commented on the importance of emphasizing the accessibility of information to the Services Inventory Working Group description. Another Council member asked for more definition of the guiding principle related to co-designing efforts with the community, and a fellow Council member suggested adding an explicit mention of youth voice in that principle. Another Council member suggested adding a new guiding principle that specifically addresses involvement of youth throughout the entire design and decision-making process. A Council member suggested broadening the previous recommendation to include children, youth and families. A Council member suggested specifically referencing youth representation on working groups.

The Superintendent asked Sandra to recap the suggested amendments from the discussion, and after the summary asked the Council if that summary accurately reflected their suggestions. The Superintendent suggested that staff work on the language for those amendments, but that the Council vote on the motion on the floor to approve the bylaws, with the stated amendments.

The bylaws were adopted unanimously by Council members present with 37 ayes (5 Council members were absent/did not vote: Lacoste, Rhorer, Truitt, Wald, and L. Wong).

5. Discussion of Research-based Draft Outcomes and Indicators for Children, Youth & Families (discussion only)

Deputy Superintendent Guadalupe Guerrero and Sandra Naughton presented on the research-based draft outcomes and indicators that had been developed as a starting point for the Council’s development of its charter-mandated outcomes framework. Both speakers referenced a handout that outlined their presentation about the outcomes framework, and that included the most recent available data (if any) for each of the draft indicators.

The Superintendent invited discussion among Council members. One member stated that the outcomes the Council identified should be viewed as value judgments rather than as “researched-based,” while the indicators should be “research-based.” He stated the outcomes will represent the core moral values as a city and school district we want to reach. Another member inquired whether it would be possible to somehow address the quality of housing in the the indicator related to “stably housed.” Staff suggested possibly using a qualitative survey such as the Controller’s City Survey to assess quality at a point in time. Another member added that the Council will need to be deliberate in who it consults for its data if we want to ensure an equity lens, especially if the aim is to reach out to those who are not typically heard in such processes. For the housing indicator, for example, it would be ideal to look at predictability of housing, especially for those experiencing domestic violence or those exchanging sex for housing. Another member added that it may be useful to explore using a metric related to the affordability of

housing, such as a percent of income spent towards housing – although there are some limitations to that approach, or size of units built over time. This member also added that it may not currently be feasible, but that the Council should consider how to track the alumni/graduates of SFUSD that remain to live and work in the city.

Another Council member stated that the Council should consider a measure focusing on physical activity and the amount of time children spend outside. Additionally, a measure about how frequently children and families are visiting parks, including camps and programs, should also be considered.

A Council member suggested that the new data working group should come up with an additional set of measures beyond those in the to-be-developed outcomes framework that the Council wants to track and observe over time. This additional set of indicators may include some measures the Council would like to adopt in its next five-year outcomes framework cycle.

A Council member suggested that indicator number 6 also track the percentage of SFUSD grads who complete an industry recognized certificate, in addition to degrees.

A Council member suggested that indicator number 7 also include a quality aspect, such as earnings, wages, or other markers of being on a career pathway.

Another Council member asked if the Council should benchmark the measures against other cities and communities. Staff indicated that they have started that conversation, and that there may be a range of comparisons that are used across different domains such as safety, health, education, etc.

Another Council member suggested adding a measure related to 21st Century literacy due to the functional literacy problem he sees in the city.

Another Council member suggested adding an indicator to track enrollment into SFUSD. A Council member added that it would be helpful to look at shifting demographics in the city and to make some correlations between where children live and who is attending public schools.

A Council member stated that he really liked indicator number 17, even though the data does not yet exist, because it would require an integrated approach across systems.

A Council member suggested exploring tracking how well or not public systems communicate with families in this city.

A Council member suggested that for outcome C that the Council also track social and emotional connections young people have in their neighborhood not just at school.

A Council member suggested that for outcome D that the Council track parent capacity to be employed and have ongoing sources of stable income.

A Council member made a suggestion related to process. He suggested that given that there is so much interest from Council members, that the new outcomes framework working group provide input on ways for the full Council to provide more input on the development of the framework throughout the process before our next Council meeting.

A Council member suggested that for outcome F that the Council consider youth leadership development and civic engagement. This member also suggested that there will need to be a focus on how Transitional Age Youth are impacted by outcome C. This member also suggested looking at disaggregating the data by subgroups such as youth with disabilities, physically and emotionally, to ensure they are included.

6. Announcements (discussion only)

Sandra Naughton announced that Council members will be asked to submit their nominations for Council working groups by September 17 via a nomination form sent to all members. Sandra also announced that any Council members interested in providing input into the development of the Council's communications plan (particularly participation in a September 24 strategy session) or in a process evaluation of the Council conducted by a third-party evaluator should contact Sandra Naughton or Laurie Scolari.

7. General Public Comment.

Addressing the Council was the following individual: Allison Magee, who made a suggestion to consider including children of incarcerated parents in the outcomes framework.

8. Adjournment.

Superintendent adjourned the meeting at 6:03 pm.