

Cross-Sector Collaboration Taskforce  
Meeting 5 Breakout Group Notes

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- Focus on wards 7 and 8 because that is where the most schools are and that is where the majority of students are.
- There is a (possibly incorrect) perception that where they are going is "better". Anecdotally, students are incentivized to leave their community school – it is "always better on the other side."
- There is a push and a pull.
- Resourcing of schools is different.
- Looking at Wards 7 and 8 is just looking at the problem through a prism; they are affected disproportionately, so they are the most in need of a solution.
  
- More data needed:
  - What types of students are being pushed out? Are they SPED students that are given some "gentle counseling out" of their original school?
  - What is driving mobility?
    - The factors are different for every family
  
- Need to understand the why of mobility
  
- Possible policies:
  - Parent engagement:
    - Provide more on school culture so a family knows whether a school is a good fit for their student
      - But how do you describe the culture of a school in an objective way?
      - New Orleans has an organization that helps families with that process. DC has School Reform Now – get them to do more with more families.
    - A framework to follow when something goes awry
      - Provide counseling when a student is thinking about leaving or decides to leave. Why are they leaving? Can it be improved so that they don't leave?
    - Only allow movements during certain times during the year
      - Prepare parents for why this is important - so a student can acclimate to the environment before any decisions are made.
      - If students can only move at certain times during the year, will that make parents/students choose their school more carefully? What would the effects be on truancy? Other issues?
  - Other:
    - Provide more programmatic offerings in areas that are lacking
      - Make community schools more attractive to families so families don't automatically decide it's not good for them
    - Sharing of best practices between schools (e.g. sharing of IEPs before a student transfers so the school receiving the student is prepared).
    - Financial resources for parents to get their child to school