

the former Graham and Parks program and the Morse program have been placed, but there has not been room for any new children.

Mr. Chambers reported on the youth centers. Enrollment has increased at the Gately and the Frisoli Centers. At the Gately, 66 are enrolled, and there are four slots open. The numbers are also up at the Moore; there are 40 kids enrolled this year, up from the past average of 30 kids. Numbers are also up at the West Cambridge Youth Center in the Haggerty School, and they are way up in the Area Four Youth Center, with lots of Cambridge kids who go to the Prospect Hill Academy School. Mr. Chambers told the committee that the Youth Program also surveyed parents about what their childcare arrangements were over the summer. Responses were received from 63 families. He submitted a copy of the survey with a list of the responses. **Attachment C.** He noted that he plans to do further categorization and analysis of the answers.

In response to a question from Councillor Simmons about whether attendance at youth centers is based on neighborhood residence, Mr. Chambers said that there is more correlation of youth center choices with the proximity of the schools that the students attend than with the neighborhoods in which they live. Councillor Simmons asked where the children who attend the Moore Center come from. Mr. Chambers said that the Moore Center actually has a higher correlation of neighborhood residence than the other centers.

Ms. Herold said that DHS would provide the committee with an analysis of youth center enrollment and attendance by neighborhood residence and school.

Councillor Simmons then moved the discussion to the issue of the experience with summer programs during the past summer.

Ms. DeRosa reported that for the CEOC programs, this summer was very similar to the summer before.

Ms. Keegan reported that 684 children were enrolled in Community Schools summer camps this past summer. Community Schools passed out surveys about parent satisfaction and difficulties with summer childcare coverage. They received responses from 141 families, representing 196 children. A summary of the responses is attached as **Attachment A.** Most of the responses seemed to indicate that the camp hours and schedules met the family needs, although while only four respondents noted needs for additional weeks of camp, there were four responses that the kids would be cared for at home by siblings, six with no plans for coverage of the gaps yet and one who was planning to take the children to work.

Ms. Keegan also submitted a summary entitled "Cambridge Community Schools Post Summer Survey." **Attachment B.** The second survey was distributed to parents who were enrolling their kids in the Community Schools fall enrichment programs. Eleven percent, (22 families) indicated a need for more camp weeks, and 49% of this group was made up of parents of children who attended the summer academic camps. Thirty one children did not go to any camp. Thirteen of the 31 came from the former Harrington,

and indicated that the reason for not sending their kids to camp was lack of money, even though scholarships of 25-50% of the cost were offered to everyone who asked. Six families who were offered the highest level of scholarship indicated that their families still could not afford the cost. Ms. Keegan noted that the previous year, the Schools Summer Academics program paid these costs, but state funds for this program were cut this year.

Ms. Semonoff added that the previous year, \$60,000 of state funds to the Schools paid the fees for kids jointly enrolled in school summer academic programs and Community Schools camps. Ms. Shoy said that the joint program added a big incentive for kids to participate in the summer academics. There were several different models for the combination of school and camp. Ms. Turk announced that the School Department just got word that the state funds have been cut again.

Councillor Simmons asked if the youth centers offer academic support. Mr. Chambers said that there is academic support during the school year.

Ms. Richards Scott informed the committee that the 21st Century Partnership Grant provided staff training for summer programs for math enrichment, science and literacy. The material dovetails with school curriculum, especially in the literacy area. The 21st Century programs impacted 450 children over the summer

Councillor Simmons said that she still has questions as to whether parents have sufficient information about the resources for childcare over the summer. She also questioned whether Cambridge needs more summer academics, and if so, how they can be provided.

Ms. Semonoff agreed that publicity is a major issue. For example, St. Peter's Church in Central Square ran the Afterworks Program, which provided childcare during the weeks before and after the regular camp schedule. They had openings for the end of the summer weeks, even though parents have expressed some difficulties in finding coverage for those weeks.

Councillor Simmons also expressed her interest in more information about programs like Afterworks that are not run by the City of Cambridge. She emphasized that the city cannot "do it all," there are neither sufficient funds nor sufficient city buildings. Schools are already staying open so many hours with so many different school, city and community programs that there may not be enough time left for custodians to clean them.

For the next meeting Councillor Simmons would like information about all of the other uses that are taking place at the schools. Perhaps the information could be provided for the Morse, King Open and Peabody Schools to give the committee a good sample to begin to review.

Councillor Simmons thanked all those present for their attendance. **It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday, November 18, 2003 at 8:30 a.m. The following issues and items were noted for discussion at the next meeting:**

- **Updated inventory of all of the OST programs in school buildings, beginning with the Morse, King Open and Peabody.**
- **Can the schools continue to house all OST programs, both city-based and private programs?**
- **Are there sufficient OST programs to meet the needs of Cambridge families, and, if so, how can we inform them?**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

For the Committee,



Councillor E. Denise Simmons, Chair

A

FY04 Community Schools Summer Survey Summary

Camp	# Summer Surveys	Representing # Children
Compass Ext	9	9
Fitzgerald	26	44
Graham & Parks	2	2
Haggerty	16	18
Harrington	14	24
King	10	14
Morse	14	17
Peabody	30	36
Tobin	<u>20</u>	<u>32</u>
TOTAL	141	196

Summary

of 141 Surveys:

- 4 need longer camp weeks
- 2 need longer camp hours (late pick up option)
- 1 needs early drop off option

What families did after camp ended:

- 69 family vacation (48%)
- 39 Home Care with parent (28%)
- 7 attended other camps
- 10 with Babysitters
- 4 Home Care with other siblings
- 6 no plans yet
- 1 person takes child to work

Cambridge Community Schools Post Summer Survey

Cambridgeport	37
Fitzgerald	9
Fletcher/Maynard	15
Graham & Parks	13
Haggerty	24
Harrington	23
Kennedy	5
King	12
Longfellow	3
Peabody	15
Morse	23
Tobin	<u>15</u>
TOTAL	194

Summary

194 Surveys received

22 need longer camp weeks (11%)

49% of these attended summer academic camps

26% attended private camps

25% attended DHSP camps

13 need longer hours

61% in summer academics

23% in private camps

16% in DHSP camp

Cambridge Youth Programs
Youth Center Members Participation Survey for Pre- teens ages 9-13

Name of Parent or Guardian: _____

Name of youth center that your child/children attend(s): _____

Section One:

1. What did your child/children do for the summer?

2. What did your child/children do between the end of school and the start of summer camp/programs?

3. What did your child/children do between the time of summer camps/programs ending and the start of after school programs/activities?

4. If there were programs available at the end of school in June and the end of summer before school would you be interested in enrolling your child?

Section Two:

Did your child/children attend a summer program in Cambridge during the summer of 2003?

Yes No

(Please circle yes or no)

If you answered no to using summer programs in Cambridge please answer the following questions:

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Why do you choose not to use the programs that are offered in Cambridge during the summer?
(Please circle the appropriate numbers that apply)

- (1). I stay home with my child/children during the summer
- (2). My child/children and I are out of town during the summer
- (3). It is too hot
- (4). I do not like the activities being offered
- (5). My child/children hangout with their friend
- (6). Could not afford a summer program
- (7). Decided to give my child/children a break and let him/her/them stay at home alone
- (8). My child/children attended a summer program in another city (please give reason for sending your child to another city to attend a summer program)

(9.) Other reasons (please give other reason).

Section Three:

If you answered yes please answer the following questions that apply to you:

- (1). Cambridge Youth Programs Arts Program at the Gately Youth Center
- (2). Cambridge Youth Programs Arts Program at the Frisoli Youth Center
- (3). Cambridge Youth Programs Sports Leadership Academy at the Area IV Youth Center
- (4). Cambridge Youth Programs Summer basketball league (at Area IV)
- (5). Community Schools summer camp
- (6). Community School Arts in the Parks Program
- (7). Camp Rainbow (run by the Recreation Department)
- (8). Summer Playground Program (run by the Recreational Department)
- (9). School Department Sponsored Summer Academic Program

(10). My child attended another summer program in the city of Cambridge: What was the name of the program that your child attended during the summer?

How many days a week did your child/children attend the summer program (*Please circle the number that best represents you*).

(1). 1-2 days a week (2). 3-4 days a week (3). 5-6 days a week

What the total number of hours that your child/children participated in a summer program during the week? (*Please circle the best represents you*).

(1). 1-5 hours a week (2). 6-10 hours a week

(3). 11-15 hours a week (4). 16-21 hours a week

(5). 21-25 hours a week (6). 26-30 hours a week

Section Four:

What are the most convenient times for your child/children to participate in a summer program? (*Please circle one*)

(1). 8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

(2). 8:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

(3). 8:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.

(4). 12:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.

(5). 12:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.

(6). 6:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.

Other: _____

What activities would you like offered to your child/children during the summer?

Would you like to volunteer at a summer program next summer? Yes _____ No _____
(*Please circle yes or no*)

If yes what would you like to do?

Other Comments that pertain to summer programs in Cambridge:

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Cambridge Youth Programs Parent Surveys

Number of surveys collected: 63

Section One:

1. What did your child/children do for the summer?

Attended Day Camp two weeks overnight camp and family vacation

Maine Camp and neighborhood/city activities and Water Country as well as Six Flags

Maine Camp, movies, Gately camp, and swimming

Trip and ESL study and swim

My child went to summer bridge then two-week vacation

Pre and post summer camp, visited family out of the country and Jam! Nastics Summer Camp

A swim camp 2 weeks, day camp 4 weeks, and sleep away camp 2 ½ weeks

Stayed with grandmother or aunt and went on vacation

Attended academic camp and basketball camp also spent time with relatives out of state

Went to Area IV

Hung out with friends

Academic Summer Bridge Cambridge vacation trips

Went to Water Country, Washington D.C., Virginia, and Maine and went to the library most of the time

Attended Daybreak Day Camp through Cambridge camping also took classes at the museum

Went to your summer camp

Frisoli + Summer Bridge also played Summer League Basketball

Two weeks at summer camp one week at the Compass Program and one week Georgia

Cf

We spent the month of July in the Cape

Went to camp

Went to camp

Camp

Attended Area IV camp and attended overnight camp and went to the Vineyard

Went to camp

Went to New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island stayed with cousins

Played, read, went to the beach, the park, stores, and went to Florida

Went to camp for six weeks

Summer school

Stayed home played basketball and swimming

Chilled with my friends and dance

Attended camp-Frisoli

Attended Summer Bridge Program

Stayed home

Stayed home

Attended Summer Camp and went away for 2 week vacation

Attended camp at Gately and YMCA

Attended summer camp Gately

Attended the Sports Leadership Program, summer reading, and traveled to Florida

Summer Academic Support Program at the Baldwin school and overnight camp at Horizons for youth

Attended camp

Camp and vacation
Summer camp

Attended an overnight camp for 4 weeks

Attended Summer Camp

Attended Summer School

Sailing, Community boating, and reading assignment

Spent the entire summer either in Vermont with her grandmother or in Ohio with her father and brothers

Area IV Sports Camp

Summer Bridge Camp

Attended Summer School

Summer Bridge Cambridge

Attended Summer Bridge Cambridge

Attended Summer Camp

Day Camp

Went to summer program support

Day Camp

Camp, Maine, played football, and Red Sox Game

Went to overnight camp for 9 days, Day Camp, swimming at the pool, and Water Country

C7

2. What did your child/children do between the end of school and the start of summer camp/programs?

Study English conversation we are foreigners

Maine Camp

Maine Camp

Stayed home and went to out with friends

She did nothing

Camp Program

Swim Camp started even before school was out

Stayed at grandmothers

Spent time with relatives out of state

Nothing

Visit family out of state

Vacation with family

Nothing

He was home with me

Watched T.V. went to the library and beach

He was bored at the Frisoli and stared earlier

Camp started right away

He was down the Cape

She went swimming

Played basketball

Overnight camp

Played Basketball

Read Book

C8

Went to Summer Camp and stayed home

Stayed Home

Play basketball for the Area IV Youth Center

Stayed home and read

Nothing

Spent a couple of weeks with father before camp started

Hung out at her grand mothers house

Not applicable

Not applicable

Stayed home with parent

Stayed home with parent

Visited grand parents in Pennsylvania

Reading

Nothing

Stayed with grandmother

Home with sibling

Family reunion and travel

Attended different programs

Stayed at home

Summer school

Sailing

Spent some days with grandmother in Medford until picked up by father

Sister

Read, book reports, math packet for school

Nothing

Family vacation

Family vacation

Came to work with mom

Stayed with grandparents or parent missed work

Went to the park with parent played with friends, read some books

Played with kids in the neighborhood

Nothing hung around came to work with parent one day

They stayed at home with parent

3. What did your child/children do between the time of summer camps/programs ending and the start of after school programs/activities?

Travel to Canada

Swimming, movies, and fun stuff

Neighborhood/city activities

Attend family reunion in Virginia

Went to Haiti and Dominican Republic

Post Camp Program

Stayed at grandmothers

There wasn't any significant time left

Vacation in Georgia

Home with mom

Read and visited grandmother

He played basketball

Vacation on the camp with his father

The Cape

Played basketball

Bored and went to Frisoli

Nothing

Attended the East House the last two week in August

He stayed with grandparents

Reading books and playing

Looking at after school options

Go home

Read books

Vacation

Nothing

Went on vacation to Florida and Maine

Hung out at her grandmothers house

Not applicable

Not applicable

They stayed at home

Attended YMCA Summer Camp

Went on vacation with family

Traveled to Florida and reading during vacation

Nothing

Nothing had a very difficult time finding a sitter and keeping and keeping them occupied
I had to bring them to work with me for a week

Home with family and parents

Travel relaxed and read

Overnight camp and traveled until school started

One of my two children stayed at home while one went on a trip to New York

Stayed at home until school begin

Not applicable

Spent the last days in Vermont with her grandmother

Sitter

Stayed home

Nothing

Family vacation

Family vacation

Vacation

Visited Grandparent

Went different places: Water country, good time, and parks

Played with kids

Nothing

Stayed at home with me

4. If there were programs available at the end of school in June and the end of summer before school would you be interested in enrolling your child?

Yes 45 No 18

Section Two:

Did your child/children attend a summer program in Cambridge during the summer of 2003?

Yes 44 No 19

If you answered no to using summer program in Cambridge please answer the following questions:

Why do you choose not to use the programs that are offered in Cambridge during the summer? (Please circle the appropriate numbers that apply)

- (1). I stay home with my child/children during the summer 5
- (2). My child/children and I are out of town during the summer 3
- (3). Is it too hot
- (4). I do not like activities being offered 4
- (5). My child/children hangout with there friends 1
- (6). Could not afford a summer program 3
- (7). Decided to give my child/children a break and let him/her/them stay at home alone 2
- (8). My child/children attended summer program in another city (please give reason foe sending your child to another city to attend a summer program)

Rafael went to summer camp in Somerville because that is where we live

Dancing and babysitting sister and brother

The programs in Cambridge did not have appropriate start and end times that suited my schedule

He had to go to Summer School in Somerville because that is where his school is

Community Boating Inc. he loves that program he likes sailing and it's only one dollar the whole summer

They offer better summer program at reasonable price.

Cheyenne attended an overnight all girls camp in Vermont I wanted her to try new things and different experience

(9). Other reasons (please give other reason)

My child attended specialty camp offered swimming 2x per day and horse back riding

Unaware of all the programs listed

I recently moved to Cambridge and was not aware of what programs were offered

Did not know about the program

Summer School and overnight camp

Section Three:

If you answered yes please answer the following questions that apply to you:

- (1). Cambridge Youth Programs Arts Program at the Gately Youth Center 9
- (2). Cambridge Youth Programs Arts Program at the Frisoli Youth Center 4
- (3). Cambridge Youth Programs Sports Leadership Academy at the Area IV Youth Center 6
- (4). Cambridge Youth Programs Summer basketball league (at Area IV) 2
- (5). Community Schools summer camp 1
- (6). Community School Arts in the Parks Program 1
- (7). Camp Rainbow (run by the Recreation Department)
- (8). Summer Playground Program (run by the Recreational Department)
- (9). School Department Sponsored Summer Academic Program 8
- (10). My child attended another summer program in the city of Cambridge: What was the name of the program that your child attended during the summer?

Baldwin Summer Academic after school program

Agassiz School for Summer School

Summer Bridge Youth Programs Academic camp

Summer Bridge Cambridge

Summer Bridge Cambridge

Summer Academic Program Head at the Baldwin

Summer Bridge

Area IV Youth Center

Not Applicable

Summer Bridge

Not Applicable

Technique Swim Camp at Harvard and Day Break Day Camp (Cambridge camp ass.)

Not Applicable

Not Applicable

Cambridge Youth Enrichment Program

Gately Youth Center

YMCA

CYEP Harvard University

Basketball Camp vacation

CYEP at Harvard University

Cambridge Camp

Summer Bridge Camp

CADC

Summer Bridge

Jamnastic After works

East End House

Summer Baseball Camp Innovations at the Tobin School private camp

Day Break Day Camp Housed at Friends School Through Cambridge Camping
Museum of Science classes

YMCA Summer Camp

C15

How many days a week did your child/children attend the summer program (Please circle the number that best represents you).

(1). 1-2 days a week 1 (2). 3-4 days a week 1 (3). 5-6 days a week 41

What's the total number of hours that your child/children participated in a summer program during the week? (Please circle the number that best represents you).

(1). 1-5 hours a week 1 (2). 6-10 hours a week 10
(3). 11-15 hours a week 1 (4). 16-21 hours a week
(5). 21-25 hours a week 2 (6). 26-30 hours a week 28

Section Four:

What are the most convenient times for your child/children to participate in a summer program?

(1). 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 2 (2). 8:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. 13
(3). 8:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. 35 (4). 12:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.
(5). 12:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. 1 (6). 6:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.

Other:

During Parents Working hours

9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

What activities would you like offered to your child/children during the summer?

Swim

Academic

Outdoor

Academic

Swimming and dancing singing

Art, sport, activities, swimming, and cooking

Exciting activities that are not usually found for example horseback riding, archery

Arts and sports

Reading, swimming, and basketball

Basketball, dance, computer, science, cooking, horseback riding, camping things, what my child would not get to normally get a chance to do

Overnight camp

Academic, swimming, and sports

Soccer

Academic activities to be offered first and then fun ones in the second place

Basketball and football

All kinds of sports, swimming, baseball, volleyball, field trip, beach trips, movies

Swimming, library, and field trips

Volleyball and tennis

Swimming and baseball

More activities for pre-teen such as cooking, swimming, sewing, boating, and rock climbing

Reading, math/science, art, performing dancing/singing, drama, and swimming

Reading/math

Martial arts, nutrition, school preparation classes

Interested in sports camp music and drama

Swim lessons

Swimming, sports, arts

Cooking classes, sailing, roller blading + safety issues, baseball camp, academic, speed reading techniques, and note taking

Physical activities and couple of hour's academics

Gymnastics

Would you like to volunteer at a summer program next year?

Yes 15 Possible/maybe 5 No 25

Other Comments that pertain to summer programs in Cambridge:

More academic activities are needed and should be offered in all summer programs in Cambridge.

I want to give the Cambridge Youth Programs a lot of credit. The programs they provide have improved tremendously over the past three years. I would never have sent my children to there programs in the past.

I like the quality of programs that the Department of Human Services has provided.

The Youth Centers have provided us parents with quality programs at a low rate, but you raised the price this year. But even with the price increase it's still affordable and the quality has improved a lot.

My children are driving me crazy. One wants to go to the Frisoli Arts Academy, one wants to attend the Area IV Sports Academy and another wants to go to the Summer Bridge. I am a single parent, but I made it work. This summer wore me out. But my children had fun.

The prices vary from program to program. For example I paid \$35.00 per week for the Gately Arts Academy and also paid \$75 per week in the Summerville YMCA camp. My chilled enjoyed the Gately Arts Academy the best. She said she had more fun, the activities had her engaged and the staff was better.

I had to sit on a waiting list for two weeks before I was able to send my child to a summer program at the Gately. They said they had filled all the slots but they did not look filled to me they only had about fifty or sixty kids. Most camps can hold 100 or so kids.

City of Cambridge

HUMAN SERVICES

In City Council November 3, 2003

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Councillor E. Denise Simmons, Chair
Councillor Marjorie C. Decker
Councillor Anthony D. Galluccio*

The Human Services Committee held a public meeting on October 15, 2003, beginning at 8:35 a.m. in the Ackermann Room for the purpose of discussing how parents covered the gap in out of school time programming for the summer vacation time between camp and school and the effects of school consolidation on afterschool programming.

Present at the hearing were Councillor E. Denise Simmons, Chair of the Committee, and City Clerk D. Margaret Drury. Also present were Jill Herold, Assistant City Manager for Human Services, Ellen Semonoff, Deputy Director of the Human Services Department (DHS), Carolyn Turk, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Eileen Keegan, Division Head, Community Schools, DHS, Jackie Neel, Division Head, Childcare, DHS, Judy Bibbins, Community Schools, DHS, Mary Wong, Executive Director, Kids' Council, Roslyn Shoy, Program Director, Community Schools, DHS, Selvin Chambers, Director of Youth Programs, DHS, and Susan Richards Scott, Agenda for Children.

Councillor Simmons convened the hearing and explained the purpose. This meeting was scheduled at the June 24, 2003 meeting of the Human Services Committee with a view of receiving reports on how parents covered the gap in childcare services between the end of school in June and the beginning of camp and between the end of camp in August and the beginning of school in September, as well as reports of how school consolidation has affected afterschool programs for children in Cambridge.

Ms. Neel began with a report on the changes in the DHS childcare programs in light of school consolidation. She said that the moves went remarkably smoothly. The Longfellow Preschool program is now the King Open Preschool. Enrollment seems to be steady. There were two classes in the afterschool program at the former Graham and Parks School. One class is now at the Morse School, so there are two classes of afterschool at the Morse School. One class, the younger kids, is sharing a classroom with the Special Start program. This works well because the Special Start program ends at 1-1:30 p.m., so the teachers have time to set up their afterschool program. The other class at Morse is in the art room. The space issues at the Morse have been challenging, but the principal has been very flexible and accommodating. All of the returning children from

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Committee Report #1

A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor E. Denise Simmons, Chair of the Human Services Committee, for a meeting held on October 15, 2003 for the purpose of discussing how parents covered the gap in out of school time programming for the summer vacation time between camp and school and the effects of school consolidation on after school programming.

In City Council November 3, 2003

**REPORT ACCEPTED.
PLACED ON FILE.**