The core workgroup confirmed four key areas for collaboration where work is currently being done by the Hartford Public Library and Hartford Public Schools in support of Hartford children and families.

Each zone has a lead contact from the Hartford Public Library branch and from each partner school in the designated zone. This zone leadership team will work to develop action plans for each school and for the zone branch. The intention of the action plans is for each school and branch to develop a Collaboration Focus with action steps based on the four key areas. Zones serve the needs of students within the zone. Different zones will have different needs and resources and plan accordingly.

Key Areas of Focus for Zone Teams

School Readiness
- Collaborate to improve work with families and children from birth through pre-school that helps to prepare them for school entry and success.

Library Services & Access
- Collaborate to coordinate the access students and families have to high quality public and school library services and materials for children Pre-K to 12th Grade.

Programming for Students & Families
- Collaborate to coordinate and develop programs for students and families that align with academic priorities of HPS including the implementation of Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards, and programs focusing on promoting the love of reading and learning.

Intervention Programs & Services
- Collaborate to improve participation and awareness around programs and services provided after school, during school breaks, and during the summer aimed at improving student achievement, offering academic support for students who are at-risk academically, and reducing or eliminating summer learning loss.
**Vision**

Hartford Public Library and Hartford Public Schools work collaboratively to serve the library and intervention needs of Hartford students and families through a coherent system of relevant resources, programming, and services.

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**Background**

The results and findings of a core work group around the collaboration between Hartford Public Library and the Hartford Public Schools served as a basis for prioritizing initial action steps and projecting long-term development and planning. Based on the data gathered, three areas of focus were identified:

1. **Zone Collaboration Strategy**
   - Purpose: To build partnerships between branch libraries and surrounding schools to improve services and access.

2. **Partnership Communication Strategy**
   - Purpose: To effectively communicate programs and resources to all stakeholders to improve services and access.

3. **Technology, Resource and Access Strategy**
   - Purpose: To leverage tools, systems, and resources to improve services and access.

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**1. Zone Collaboration Strategy**

- Define and communicate ten branch library/schools zones to establish a collaboration structure
- Pilot Collaboration with Goodwin Branch and surrounding schools in order to define the framework
- Develop a long-term roll out plan and timeline for the rest of the library branches and schools
- Create a citywide Branch Manager, LMS and Technology Leadership Team to facilitate a community of practice

**2. Partnership Communication Strategy**

- Create a Communication Plan that includes innovative strategies to inform all stakeholders
- Create a partnership website that provides information and access to opportunities and resources
- Determine a structure for sustaining the communication strategy

**3. Technology, Resource and Access Strategy**

- Identify and deploy tools and systems currently available for shared use
- Plan and implement professional development to support full use of tools and systems
- Create a long-term plan for shared service, resource, and access point expansion that includes fiscal and personnel strategies to support the plan