Recommendations on Ensuring Public Voice in Cradle-to-Career Data System Governance

Ensure that the right people are appointed
- Cultivate a diversity of perspectives, particularly from communities that traditionally have been the least well served
- Recruit members who have expertise in equity
- Prioritize community members who can be conduits of information to and from the data system's intended audiences
- In the years when new data providers or data points are being discussed (such as when workforce training is added), select community representatives that have expertise in the new area of work

Scaffold the involvement of community members to ensure meaningful participation
- Provide orientation, a resource binder, and mentoring for new board members to ensure all parties understand expectations for participation and the data system's underlying technical, legal, and data frameworks
- Ensure that all parties understand that community members provide critical expertise necessary for the implementation of the data system and thus should be participating as decisionmakers and co-creators
- Support the development of trust and a shared vision so that all can focus on evaluating whether the data system is meeting the stated goals
- Foster an open mindset in meetings and ensure that community members are treated equally
- Earmark part of the managing entity's budget for board support

Provide the right types of information
- In addition to usage data and requests made to the managing entity, ensure the governing and advisory board members receive information from the community regarding potential improvements, gathered intentionally through vehicles such as input opportunities embedded in tools, public forums, and partnerships with community-based organizations
- Provide information in a readily-digestible format, including both stories and statistics
- Line up meetings, decisions, and actions with internal and external parties

Cross-pollinate information across the governing and advisory boards
- Allow the governing and advisory boards to review key planning documents before the managing entity's implements its workplan
- Have the meetings produce recommendations in time to inform legislative and budgetary processes
- Coordinate with related public governance contexts, such as the Local Control Action Plan redesign
- Provide transparency through public meetings and reports to the legislature