



Steering Committee
12:30-2p | Friday, July 20, 2018
Mission Grammar School

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact Steering Committee meeting held on July 20, 2018. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit www.BostonCompact.org or email info@BostonCompact.org.

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Ali Dutson (Principal, Mission Grammar School), Kevin Taylor (Chief Executive Officer, City on a Hill Charter Schools), Rahn Dorsey (Chief of Education, City of Boston), Makeeba McCreary (Managing Director & Senior Advisor of External Affairs, BPS), Andrew Miller (Director of Academics, Catholic Schools Office), Shannah Varón (Executive Director, Boston Collegiate Charter School), Raymond Dewar (Principal, Cristo Rey Boston), Kristen Daley (Director of Special Projects and Initiatives, BPS), Neil Sullivan (ex-officio, Executive Director, Boston Private Industry Council)

Members absent: Naia Wilson (Headmaster, New Mission, BPS), Kate Brandley (Regional Director, St. John Paul Catholic Academies), Jon Clark (Co-Director, Brooke Charter Schools), Oscar Santos (Head of School, Cathedral High School), Kate Scott (Executive Director, Neighborhood House Charter School), Monica Roberts (Assistant Superintendent of Engagement, BPS), Sharon Lisanckie (Executive Director, Boston Preparatory Charter Public School), Lisa Warshafsky (Principal, Saint John Paul II Catholic Academy – Lower Mills campus)

Others Present: Kevin Andrews (Senior Advisor), Rachel Weinstein (Compact staff)

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

The Committee welcomed Kristen and Ray (and Lisa and Sharon, in absentia) aboard.

March meeting summary was approved with one revision.

Rachel updated the Committee on Compact efforts. In terms of the Boston Educators Collaborative, we exceeded our goal of 200 participants by June 2018. Evaluations were overwhelmingly positive. Teach Plus is leading on the fundraising for 2018-19. Regarding a network of Roxbury schools focused on special education, we will coordinate school visits and consultancies in the coming school year while we raise funds for a more rigorous improvement network. In terms of the school climate survey pilot, Mathematica found our questions both highly reliable and valid. We will work with parent groups on refinements for 2019. Transportation troubleshooting continues. Our operating budget for FY19 is sound, but we will need to raise for NICs and out-years.

NEW BUSINESS

I. Sector Updates

The BPS delegation and Rahn provided an update on the transition in BPS leadership. Interim Supt Perille is anticipated to keep largely the same executive team. She will focus on a smooth opening for the school year and seeing that central office functions support schools. Build BPS and high school improvements are also on her

radar.

Andrew shared that the Catholic Schools Office is rethinking how they support schools. For SY18-19, they are piloting five key domain areas of support: governance and finance, leadership and religion, enrollment and engagement, academics, and equity. Most of the team’s work will be focused on K-8 schools. The CSO is working on a plan to increase the number of teachers of color and would be happy to collaborate with Compact partners on this.

Shannah communicated that the Boston Charter Alliance is focused on transportation and employee engagement. BCA schools also are working as a group on community relationships, the joint application, family surveys and the Compact.

II. Youth who are off-track

Rahn provided an overview of the BPS-Parthenon/EY report, highlighting that there is a population of young people that we know are off-track from early warning indicators and another that seemingly gave no warning. Key drivers of the problem include the variability in school quality, program alignment with support for English learners and students with disabilities, and the concentration of students with high needs in “open enrollment” high schools. Committee Members expressed interest in investigating the extent of the problem across the three sectors. Shannah shared that BCA is looking into funding a study. Andrew noted that the CSO has CCLR data from the Opportunity Agenda and exit surveys from 3 of the 5 Boston high schools (the other two are privately run).

The Committee is eager to equip schools with the tools to serve youth who are off-track, which potentially could mean sharing practices and/or investing as a group. In addition to early warning indicators, Kevin Taylor surfaced the question of sharing known EWI in a timely manner when students migrate between sectors.

III. Updating Steering Committee bylaws and structure

The Committee adopted a proposal to add two BPS members, bringing the total number of Members to 15. The Committee will meet three times each year, including a winter meeting that is open to the public.

IV. Emergent issue: how student records are/not shared with law enforcement

The Committee discussed what happens when any school calls school police. It was recommended that all schools/sectors have legal teams ready should there be requests from ICE.

ACTION ITEMS

The sector leaders will meet with the Mayor before the start of the school year. Executive Committee Members/Co-Chairs will brief their respective leaders with Compact staff.

The Executive Committee will consult with Rachel to populate a working group on youth who are off-track.

Makeeba and Rachel will reach out to potential new BPS Steering Committee Members.