



Serving Students by Bringing Educators Together

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
10a-12p | Wednesday, December 13, 2017
Neighborhood House Charter School

Presented are **DRAFT** minutes from the Boston Compact Steering Committee meeting held on December 13, 2017. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit www.BostonCompact.org or email info@BostonCompact.org.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: **Shannah Varón** (Executive Director, Boston Collegiate Charter School), **Rahn Dorsey** (Chief of Education, City of Boston), **Ali Dutson** (Principal, Mission Grammar School), **Kevin Taylor** (Chief Operating Officer, KIPP MA), **Kate Scott** (Executive Director, Neighborhood House Charter School), **Dr. Makeeba McCreary** (Chief of Staff, Boston Public Schools), **Kate Brandley** (Regional Director, St. John Paul Catholic Academies), **Neil Sullivan** (ex-officio, Executive Director, Boston Private Industry Council), **Jon Clark** (Co-Director, Brooke Charter School), **Naia Wilson** (Headmaster, New Mission, BPS)

Members Absent: **Dr. Karla Estrada** (Deputy Superintendent of Student Support Services, Boston Public Schools), **Andrew Miller** (Director of Academics, Catholic Schools Office), **Monica Roberts** (Assistant Superintendent of Engagement), **Oscar Santos** (Head of School, Cathedral High School)

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

Members approved the October minutes.

UPDATES ON INITIATIVES

Rachel Weinstein updated the Committee on the Compact's collaboration with CPLAN on a pilot school climate survey.

Kevin Taylor updated the Committee on ongoing operations meetings with BPS transportation officials, commenting that the three sectors have developed a good dialogue.

Rachel updated the Committee on the Teaching & Learning Committee: we welcomed teachers to advise on BEC, the Boston Educators Collaborative, school visits, and forthcoming networks for EL students and SWD.

EMERGENT ISSUES

Rahn Dorsey gave an overview of his discussions at the Mayor's Office on the future direction of the Compact. The Mayor's Office is interested in initiatives that elevate educational leaders. Rahn emphasized that the Compact must address issues of public framing and present more research before discussions about enrollment can continue.

Regarding future directions, **Kevin Taylor** suggested we take stock of wins and challenges, and that we should work to raise the voices of parents of color. **Shannah** expressed interest in an improvement science-driven approach for determining next steps in initiatives.

Bell times: **Naia Wilson** expressed concerns from BPS principals that there was a lack of transparency in this process and that the context of specific schools should be considered. BPS central office colleagues commented that they are dedicated to improved engagement on this issue and to improving the process in general. **Kevin Andrews** expressed concerns that BPS principals were not consulted, and noted that there is some confusion on this issue in the charter sector.

Role of the Compact: **Kevin Andrews** suggested that we need to engage more with parents. In support, **Makeeba McCreary** acknowledged that there is a silent majority of BPS families that need representation. **Rahn** suggested opportunities for outreach to develop advocates for the Compact.

Framing the Compact: **Rachel** reviewed the framing document, asking the committee 1) What is the Compact trying to achieve, and are we successful? And 2) Given the intended audience, is this document helpful? **Makeeba** suggested condensing it to one page by limiting it to three policy objectives and three approaches. **Ali Dutson** suggested improving the visual rhetoric. **Naia** posed a question about if our current work is enough to achieve these broad aims. **Rahn** said that the Compact's productivity is high, but its impact is low; he echoed Makeeba's suggestion of condensing our mission. **Kevin Taylor** suggested an approachable framing document that might rely on the ACE acronym: e.g., we Achieve this through these C in order to improve Es. Several charter leaders echoed the need for simplifying both the document and our mission.

Network Improvement Communities: **Rachel** introduced the Compact's two proposed NICs: one on EL students (in partnership with Eskolta) and another on SWD (looking to partner with the Rennie Center). The Committee reacted to this shift toward school improvement science positively.

ACTION ITEMS

Rahn Dorsey will work with the Mayor's Office to schedule a meeting with the Mayor.