



Serving Students by Bringing Educators Together

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

2:30-4:30 | Tuesday, October 3, 2017

St. John Paul II Catholic Academy, Media Room

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact Steering Committee meeting held on October 3, 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), **Andrew Miller** (Director of Academics, Catholic Schools Office), **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), **Monica Roberts** (Assistant Superintendent of Engagement) by phone, **Oscar Santos** (Head of School, Cathedral High School), **Kate Brandley** (Regional Director, St. John Paul Catholic Academies), **Kevin Andrews** (ex-officio), **Neil Sullivan** (ex-officio, Executive Director, Boston Private Industry Council),

Members Absent: **Dr. Karla Estrada** (Deputy Superintendent of Student Support Services, Boston Public Schools), **Naia Wilson** (Headmaster, New Mission, BPS), **Jon Clark** (Co-Director, Brooke Charter School)

Others Present: **Rachel Weinstein** (Compact staff), **Elise Swinford** (Compact staff), **David Guarino** (Senior Partner, Melwood Global)

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

Members approved the May minutes.

Members voted to approve revisions to bylaws. The motion passed with one abstention from BPS as member needed time to review. They later voted in favor via email.

BYLAWS DISCUSSION

- The Chief Collaboration Officer summarized the major changes to the bylaws as such: Executive Committee Members will oversee the Chief Collaboration Officer and provide outward representation of the Compact; standing subcommittees can be transitioned to ad hoc; meeting summaries will be posted online; and the language has been strengthened explaining that all policy changes will go through the governance bodies of each sector, not the Compact.
- The Steering Committee voted on the bylaws. Monica Roberts, who attended via phone, was unable to see a copy of the bylaw revisions and therefore abstained until she could access a copy.

UPDATES ON INITIATIVES

- The Boston Educators Collaborative is offering 8-9 courses this fall. The CCO will send an email to be forwarded to principals during this meeting. Evaluations from the spring courses were positive. Local teacher Caroline Jones, Dr. Tommy Chang, Melissa Grubbs and Paul Toner of Teach Plus, and the CCO will give a presentation at the Great City Schools Conference later this month to increase visibility of this program.
- Our special education initiative has received positive attention, but the Compact is still looking for planning funding to begin on July 1. The CCO requested help with ideas for possible funders.
- St. John Paul – Neponset, Codman Academy and the King are continuing their school partnership on Black and Latino Boys. The schools had significant turnover, so have requested a no-cost grant extension and are currently doing school visits to each school.
- The Compact is contracting with the Teacher Collaborative (Maria Fenwick) to organize school visits for school delegations to schools where Black and Latino boys are thriving academically and socially. This is an outgrowth of the work of the Teaching and Learning Committee.
- The committee discussed the value of the school climate survey to help influence any future Compact discussions on tri-sector changes. The charter and Catholic sectors discussed the need for common student ID numbers. The CCO met with 12 family members who will be part of the school climate survey. They will meet with educators to move the survey process forward.

TRANSPORTATION DISCUSSION

- Members of the Transportation Tiger Team shared that the daily calls to troubleshoot busing concerns have transitioned to a weekly calls to share recommendations. The charter sector is willing to engage in conversations about start/end time changes, but stipulated that concerns about student safety must be addressed first. The Catholic sector expressed concerns about the current transportation situation as well, particularly wanting clarity about students' eligibility for buses.
- **Kevin Taylor** (Chief Operating Officer, KIPP MA) summarized his visit to the yard and catalogued his concerns about day-to-day operations. A main concern is bus radio functionality.
- **Shannah Varón** (Executive Director, Boston Collegiate Charter School), identified the door-to-door program as of primary concern. **Rahn Dorsey** (Chief of Education, City of Boston) identified door-to-door as a priority, as well as how to fund students going to school on their own, and identifying safe routes. **Kevin Andrews** (ex-officio) suggested a full analysis of the transportation system.
- The CCO suggested that these pressing issues be addressed at the upcoming Transportation Committee meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS DISCUSSION

- **Dave Guarino** (Senior Partner, Melwood Global) gave a brief presentation on the Compact's updated communications plan. The goal is to elevate work that we are already doing, and to build consensus that cross-sector collaboration is in the interest of the greater good. We should aim to strengthen the identity of the Compact as a singular organization doing this work.
- The priorities for stories to elevate are the Boston Educators Collaborative, the Black and Latino Boys initiative, and the school climate survey.
- The charter sector suggested that we focus on bigger wins to elevate for more coverage, such as transportation. The CCO identified the school climate survey as a potential big story. BPS suggested that we also think about the larger story of communicating what an urban education should be about. The Catholic sector suggested that families are interested in the involvement of Catholic schools in the Compact and that this could be elevated. Members distinguished between big stories and big wins.
- The CCO asked members to consider how they might infuse talk of collaboration into conversations with parents and elected officials. She asked that members send smaller cross-sector stories to Compact staff.

ACTION ITEMS

Steering Committee will forward BEC enrollment email to principals.

Transportation will be addressed at the Transportation Committee meeting this week.