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School Climate Survey Committee

11:45a-1:15p | October 25, 2018

Bolling Building Room 2-12A

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact School Climate Survey Committee meeting held on October 25, 2018. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit www.BostonCompact.org or email info@BostonCompact.org.

ATTENDANCE

Members present: **Spencer Blasdale** (Exec. Director, Academy of the Pacific Rim), **Lisa Harvey** (Dep. Dir. of Evaluation & Programs, BPS), **Julia Mejia** (Exec. Director, CPLAN), **Danubia Camargos Silva** (District English Learner Advisory Committee representative), **Jake Stern** (Office of Data & Accountability, BPS), **Alison Tyler** (Dir. of Data, Bridge Boston), **Annie Smith** (Dir. of Data, RCAB), **Tayla André** (CPLAN leader), **Fabienne Eliacin** (CPLAN leader), **Mary Dillman** (Interim Executive Director, Office of Data and Accountability, BPS), **Linda Freeman** (SPEDPAC representative)

Members absent: **Blair Dawkins** (Evaluations Coordinator, BPS), **Monica Roberts** (Assist. Superintendent of Engagement, BPS), **Gloria West** (Citywide Parent Council representative)

Others present: **Rachel Weinstein** (Compact staff)

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

Approved September meeting summary with minor revisions.

NEW ITEMS

Danubia Camargos Silva explained that this would be her last meeting with the committee. **DELAC** will have elections in December and Danubia will let us know who/whether there will be a new representative in this group.

Committee Members discussed five recommendations:

- I. Outline a consistent survey administration timeline this year – BPS and BCA will have long survey windows in the spring, but the Catholic Schools Office will encourage schools to administer surveys during Catholic Schools Week (end of Jan/beginning of Feb). Catholic schools can choose their own three-week windows.
- II. Commit to releasing school-specific findings going forward – BPS is committed to sharing school-level findings. BCA leaders will discuss. The CSO can't require schools to release their findings, as pastors and principals have that authority. Both the CSO and BCA

representatives and parents in their schools will encourage schools to participate in releasing findings.

- III. Recommend each sector integrate the Compact questions in the beginning of their sector survey so all parents answer these questions first, ensuring collection of comparable info and facilitating learning from one another's strengths – This recommendation inspired a lengthy exchange that resulted in each sector committing to look into
 - (a) including the citywide/Compact pilot in pre-survey communications, such as robocalls, noting we are gathering feedback to strengthen equity and give individual schools actionable data;
 - (b) inserting a progress bar into surveys;
 - (c) explicitly marking the transition from sector-specific questions to the citywide Compact questions
- IV. Recommend simplifying the questions by revising compound questions
Tabled for November meeting
- V. Recommend removing the neutral answer option, i.e. move from 5-point scale to 4, so respondents have to choose whether they lean dis/agree
Tabled for November meeting

ACTION ITEMS

Rachel will reach out to Dr. Choi to ask if the administration time differences are a significant problem. She also will ask if Mathematica can analyze the open-ended responses, as well as whether it is possible to scale/categorize responses.

Spencer will connect with Shannah about BCA releasing school-specific results.

Rachel will draft email text that Annie, Alison and parent leaders can use to encourage specific schools to commit to sharing their common climate survey question results.

Alison, Annie and Jake to look into pre-survey communications, progress bars within surveys, and an explicit transition from sector to citywide questions, with a description of what is the Compact survey.

Rachel will ask Rahn Dorsey about whether the City/City's Resiliency Officer might help with the visibility of climate surveys. Note that data sharing is a way to break down silos.

Committee will discuss question revision in November before delegating to a smaller team.