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School Climate Committee

3:30-5p Wednesday | February 27, 2019
Bolling Building, Room 2-12A

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact School Climate Survey Committee meeting held on February 27, 2019. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit www.BostonCompact.org or email info@BostonCompact.org.

ATTENDANCE

Members present: **Tayla Andre** (CPLAN), **Blair Dawkins** (Evaluations Coordinator, BPS), **Linda Freeman** (SpEdPAC), **Britt Johnson** (CPLAN), **Julia Mejia** (Exec. Dir., CPLAN), **Becky Mongeau** (Data Specialist, RCAB CSO), **Jake Stern** (Office of Data & Accountability, BPS), **Alison Tyler** (Dir. of Data, Bridge Boston)

Members absent: **Spencer Blasdale** (Exec. Dir., Academy of the Pacific Rim), **Mary Dillman** (Interim Exec. Dir., Office of Data and Accountability, BPS), **Lisa Harvey** (Dep. Dir. of Evaluation & Programs, BPS), **Monica Roberts** (Assist. Superintendent of Engagement, BPS), **Gloria West** (Citywide Parent Council)

Others present: **Elise Swinford** (Compact staff) and **Rachel Weinstein** (Compact staff)

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

The minutes from the January meeting were approved.

AGENDA ITEMS

Sector updates: The Boston Charter Alliance family survey window begins in April and they are still in the planning stages. The Catholic Schools Office family survey started in January, and the survey window varies school to school. Boston Public Schools is preparing for a March roll out.

Becky Mongeau shared current participation levels in order to facilitate a discussion about how best to support schools on the verge of 30%. She noted that some survey windows had closed but could be reopened. **Rachel Weinstein** will email principals of high participating schools in order to learn best practices and share with the group.

Julia Mejia proposed several ideas for school outreach, including utilizing parent councils to support Catholic school parents, putting together a guide for parents at schools, and going through principals to get parent contacts.

Citywide Parent Council meeting: Compact staff are invited to the next meeting to talk about the Compact and the survey work.

Other organizations: **Rachel** will schedule these. **Julia** can go with **Rachel** to Project Hope and **Fabienne** can help reach out to St. Stephen's. Committee members suggested also reaching out to Boston Education Justice Alliance, Project RIGHT, Family Independence Initiative, and Union Capital Boston.

Translating surveys: **Rachel** reminded the committee of a suggestion to translate non-English surveys back into English by native speakers to verify that the surveys are effective. Parents can help with surveys in Spanish, Haitian Creole, Cape Verdean, Vietnamese, and Portuguese.

Social media campaign: **Elise** noted that we can recruit a design volunteer via Catchafire to help design a desk of images to use on social media, and asked for suggestions of messaging. Ideas include iPhone message bubbles, showing how much power parents have, how schools can use the survey results, to get parents to ask your school about the survey, and to communicate that sector leadership is listening.

Other outreach ideas: Having heard back from one school leader whose school has high participation, **Rachel** noted that they included an announcement in a weekly e-newsletter and sent the link to parents via text message. **Alison Tyler** suggested schools send the survey out over break. **Britt Johnson** suggested schools post flyers where parents can see them. BPS and the CSO can share the url widely, but BCA schools each have a unique url.

Recruiting young people: **Blair Dawkins** suggested engaging the Boston Student Advisory Council and asking them to do an event with us.

ACTION ITEMS

Elise will send the survey link to SpEdPAC to blast out when BPS releases it.

Jake will send the non-English surveys to parents.

Elise will follow up with Catchafire volunteers to work on social media images.

Rachel will follow up to schedule meetings with community organizations.