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School Climate Survey Committee

July 12, 2019 | 10-11a

Conference Call

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact School Climate Survey Committee meeting held on July 12, 2019. 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. Dir., Academy of the Pacific Rim), **Linda Freeman** (Special Education Parents Advisory Council), **Britt Johnson** (Collaborative Parent Leadership Action Network), **Julia Mejia** (Exec. Dir., CPLAN), **Becky Mongeau** (Data Specialist, Catholic Schools Office), **Jake Stern** (Office of Data & Accountability, BPS)

Members absent: **Tayla Andre** (CPLAN), **Blair Dawkins** (Evaluations Coordinator, BPS), **Mary Dillman** (Interim Exec. Dir., Office of Data and Accountability, BPS), **Lisa Harvey** (Dep. Dir. of Evaluation & Programs, Boston Public Schools), **Monica Roberts** (Assist. Superintendent of Engagement, BPS), **Gloria West** (Citywide Parent Council)

Others present: **Elise Swinford** (Compact staff), **Teresa Rodriguez** (Boston Charter Alliance survey liaison), **Rachel Weinstein** (Compact staff)

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

Meeting minutes from April and May were approved

AGENDA ITEMS

Committee one-pager: The committee reviewed the one-pager aimed at acclimating new members to the committee's work. Suggested edits were made, with the consensus that it was well executed.

Participation updates from sectors: The Catholic Schools Office has no additional updates. Boston Public Schools does not have final numbers yet but should soon. The Boston Charter Alliance had 3070 responses with 2903 total participants for their sector-wide survey. **Teresa Rodriguez** provided highlights of the results, noting that average scores indicating positive family reactions. Compact staff asked for clarification of how the denominator is determined: total school enrollment or total families in the school. Discussion suggested that each sector has different approaches, and **Jake Stern** requested that we have a

data specialist evaluate these inconsistencies and advise. **Rachel Weinstein** will reach out to Jonathan Zaff to see if he can advise **Jake**, **Becky Mongeau**, and **Spencer Blasdale** in a separate conversation.

Current fundraising efforts: The Boston Foundation indicated that they are interested in supporting our effort but want one or two other funders to collaborate in order to support the project. **Rachel** is still in conversation with the BU Center for Promise.

Next steps:

- **Julia Mejia** noted that CPLAN has already targeted schools for family engagement, and asked if we can partner with these schools as an easy outreach effort. **Rachel** noted this is a great idea and will be helpful once we have data analysis. **Julia** suggested the Boston Foundation Open Doors Grant.
- **Britt Johnson** suggested we continue to use family engagement events to market the survey since Catholic school survey participation was low. **Becky** noted that links are still open, but further outreach might not make sense for this year. Next year, CSO hopes to take over survey administration so outreach might be more effective.

EMERGENT ISSUES

Linda Freeman attended a Boston Education Justice Alliance meeting, learned they are working on a climate survey, and fears it somewhat replicates our work. She advised them to revise their goals. She also announced to the committee a Weekend of Action at Statehouse.

Jake announced that BPS has appointed a new Director of Accountability who will be Mary Dillman's supervisor. **Rachel** will loop in the new director.

ACTION ITEMS

Compact staff will follow up on the following items: the Boston Foundation Open Doors Grant, reaching out to Jonathan Zaff to see if he can advise our data associates, and looping the new BPS Director of Accountability in to our work.