



School Climate Survey Committee

10:15-11:15a | November 14, 2019
Bolling Building, office of Lisa Harvey

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact School Climate Survey Committee meeting held on November 14, 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** (Collaborative Parent Leadership Action Network), **Blair Dawkins** (Evaluations Coordinator, Boston Public Schools), **Linda Freeman** (Special Education Parents Advisory Council), **Julia Mejia** (Exec. Dir., CPLAN), **Jake Stern** (Office of Data & Accountability, BPS), **Becky Ubiparipovic** (Data Specialist, Catholic Schools Office)

Members absent: **Spencer Blasdale** (Exec. Dir., Academy of the Pacific Rim), **Lisa Harvey** (Dep. Dir. of Evaluation & Programs, BPS), **Britt Johnson** (CPLAN), **Monica Roberts** (Assist. Superintendent of Engagement, BPS), **Gloria West** (Citywide Parent Council)

Others present: **Kristin McSwain** (Opportunity Agenda), **Elise Swinford** (Compact staff), **Rachel Weinstein** (Compact staff), **Jonathan Zaff** (BU Wheelock)

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

October meeting minutes were approved.

AGENDA ITEMS

Welcome:

The committee welcomed **Kristin McSwain** of the Opportunity Agenda and **Jonathan Zaff** of the BU Wheelock School and provided a brief overview of the history of our survey project. **Dr. Zaff** noted that a new institute through BU Wheelock is focused on being a Boston community partner and this survey project fits well with their new mission.

Opportunity Agenda/ BU involvement:

Kristin noted the Opportunity Agenda's interest in investing in such work, thereby creating a road forward in analyzing the 2019 data. CPLAN representatives noted the primary concerns of parents regarding surveys are incessant collecting of data with no action and concerns about how the data is (or sometimes is not) implemented. **Julia Mejia** noted the need to continue with parent stipends to ensure sustainability and equitable outreach.

Dr. Zaff outlined his plan of engaging a graduate student to work with the survey data with his oversight who would also design useful data visualizations to support family/ school engagement.

Jake Stern questioned whether the objective remained the same for analyzing the 2019 data given the delay, suggesting that improving survey administration might be a goal (or other priorities that lead to action). CPLAN reps emphasized the need to release and act on collected data in order to keep commitments to families.

Tayla Andre questioned the 30% participation threshold for interpreting data. **Jake** noted that the 30% rule does not always apply to larger sample sizes, and BPS will publish data of less than 30% participation with a caveat. **Julia** noted that schools with lower participation rates are likely those that most need our attention, and that lack of engagement may signal deeper issues. **Jon** observed that the decision to publish data from less than 30% of a group depends on questions of transparency, who the intended audience is, and what kind of data is being communicated. He recommended that we collect demographic data going forward. **Jake** noted that it would be possible to create corresponding participation rates with demographics.

Becky Ubiparipovic requested clarification on what the analysis will look like (i.e. an aggregate of all CSO data in order to be most inclusive or risk schools below 30% not being represented). **Rachel Weinstein** noted the importance of responding to family's desire for school-specific data, but that aggregating within sectors is an important question.

BCA data:

Elise Swinford shared 2019 participation rates for BCA schools. **Tayla** asked if we could compare response rates between the Compact and Panorama surveys.

Outreach:

Jake offered to pull demographic data from last year's survey in order to help parents target schools that most need outreach. **Julia** noted that CPLAN is working with three schools currently who might benefit from this. They will discuss further offline.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Linda Freeman shared several events with the group.

ACTION ITEMS

Compact staff will reach out to Spencer Blasdale and Teresa Rodriguez to determine the new BCA Panorama contact.