



Serving Students by Bringing Educators Together

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

8:00 – 11:00am | Wednesday, January 13, 2016

Brooke Charter School - Mattapan | 150 American Legion Highway, Mattapan

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact Steering Committee meeting held on January 13, 2016. For more information about any of the items listed below, please visit www.BostonCompact.org or email info@BostonCompact.org.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: **Rahn Dorsey** (Chief of Education, City of Boston), **Shannah Varon** (Executive Director, Boston Collegiate Charter School), **Karla Estrada** (Deputy Superintendent of Student Support Services, Boston Public Schools), **Erica Brown** (Advisor to the Executive Director, City on a Hill Charter Schools), **Ali Dutson** (Principal, Mission Grammar School), **Kim Rice** (Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Boston Public Schools), **Kate Brandley** (Principal, St John Paul II – Neponset), **Jon Clark** (Co-Director, Brooke Charter Schools)

Members Absent: **Ross Wilson** (Managing Partner of Innovation, Boston Public Schools), **Amy Ryan** (Associate Superintendent for Academics and Digital Learning, Archdiocese of Boston), **Makeeba McCreary** (Chief of Staff, Boston Public Schools), **Diana Lam** (Head of School, Conservatory Lab Charter School)

Others Present: **Kevin Andrews** (ex-officio), **Rachel Weinstein** (Compact Staff), **Kegan Smith** (Compact Staff), **Mary Tamer** (BCA Staff)

PROPOSED COMPACT CONVENING

The Steering Committee discussed a potential Compact convening stressing the importance of hosting an event that would have lasting impact on those present. Members proposed bringing teachers and sector leaders together so that teachers can share their vision for professional development. This could be a springboard for future collaborative action.

IMPACTFUL CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATION FOR TEACHERS

Continuing discussion on how to work more directly with teachers, the Steering Committee considered possible venues for impactful cross-sector teacher collaboration. Members identified as a barrier that many past efforts with teachers were driven top-down, beginning with school administrators. Members are interested in work that actively engages teachers and proposed hosting a series of focus groups with teachers to see how they'd like to engage collaboratively around a variety of topics. Members considered using existing partners to build focus groups, but cautioned that these groups may not be representative of the field as a whole.

The Steering Committee considered Teach Plus' idea of forming a tri-sector teacher-led professional development program as a way of leveraging teachers' expertise across



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sectors. Per Committee enthusiasm, staff will explore more fully a partnership with Teach Plus.

BUDGET AND DEVELOPMENT

Steering Committee members discussed the proposed Generation Teach pilot expansion that would include schools from all three sectors. Members expressed concern with the participation cost to schools and agreed that the pilot is only possible if the Compact can secure additional funding to subsidize school costs. Members also expressed concern over the ability to recruit enough schools for the program. They agreed that this is a worthwhile program aimed at encouraging college students of color to pursue teaching careers in Boston. Members agreed to go forward with the pilot, contingent upon Generation Teach being able to secure a partner school in each of the three sectors.

***Approved** – Compact will contribute \$50K to subsidize three schools' participation in the Generation Teach pilot, contingent on identifying schools.*

EVALUATION VIA THE OPPORTUNITY AGENDA – DISCUSSION WITH KRISTIN MCSWAIN

The Steering Committee met with Kristin McSwain to discuss the upcoming release of the 2016 Opportunity Agenda Report Card and to prepare for using the report card as a shared public accountability tool in the years ahead. Kristin previewed the release event and shared the data to be released.

Members expressed concern about measuring outcomes by sector, which implies competition between the sectors. They requested an aggregate measure that evaluates the state of all schools in Boston. Members also requested a supplementary data that looks beyond academic outcomes to include discipline, attendance, and socio-emotional outcomes. There also was enthusiasm for a separate report that considered student mobility across sectors.

UNIFIED ENROLLMENT CHECK-IN

Members updated their peers to say they are working to develop policy proposal details. Staff shared that they continue to meet with community-based organizations to solicit feedback for the proposal.

NEXT STEPS

- Staff will work with Teach Plus to develop a shared proposal and potential launch event.
- Staff will communicate to Generation Teach grant approval with contingency.
- The Executive Committee will meet with Kristin McSwain to advance thinking about an aggregate measure.