



Serving Students by Bringing Educators Together

## STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

9:00am - Noon | Tuesday, May 17, 2016  
Boston Public Schools, Bolling Building

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact Steering Committee meeting held on May 17, 2016. For more information about any of the items listed below, please visit [www.BostonCompact.org](http://www.BostonCompact.org) or email [info@BostonCompact.org](mailto: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), **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)

Members Absent: **Jon Clark** (Co-Director, Brooke Charter Schools)

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

### WELCOME , CHECK-IN & AMEND/APPROVE MINUTES

Members each shared something in summer they look forward to.

With one typo correction, there was unanimous approval of the January minutes.

### DISCUSS RECENT PROGRESS

- The Teaching and Learning Subcommittee has planned student focus groups at four schools (Mildred Ave, BTU, Match Middle and Sacred Heart) where Black and/or Latino boys have high student growth and low suspensions. The focus groups are happening in May and June, with a hope to do deeper dive visits in 2016-17.
- The Partnerships Subcommittee is in the process of vetting applicants for the Black and Latino Boys School Partnership. The Subcommittee worked with the Collaborative Parent Leadership Action Network (CPLAN) to outline reflection questions for the family members attending the Coalition of Schools Educating Boys of Color (COSEBOC) convening this week. CPLAN received sponsorship from the Compact and the Boston Charter Alliance. Participating family members have



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agreed to (1) take detailed notes at workshops, (2) share their learnings and plans with educators in June, and (3) consider advocating/organizing another COSEBOC convening in Boston.

- Staff noted that our joint proposal with Teach Plus for a Boston Teacher Collaborative is under consideration. We should hear back in June. Staff recommends we solicit local support if we are not granted resources from this submission.
- Erica shared a draft case study, a “snapshot” of the Compact from a year ago. The intention of this piece is to help other cities that are early in their cross-sector work learn from Boston’s experience.
- The teacher team hosting a teacher-led conference on instruction for English language learners created a thank you video that the Committee watched.

### **CELEBRATE TRANSITIONS OF FOUNDING MEMBERS**

Three founding Boston Compact Steering Committee Members, Kim Rice (BPS), Diana Lam (Conservatory Lab) and Erica Brown (City on a Hill) are moving to new roles/retirement and therefore concluding their service on the Steering Committee. The group recognized their contributions to the collaborative work.

### **BUDGET REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT**

Staff noted three changes to the FY16 budget, namely funds to send a tri-sector delegation to COSEBOC, for the ECTC2 conference and for legal representation. The group reviewed the draft FY17 budget, which is largely supported by carryover funds. The Committee discussed the need to raise revenues for FY18 and two Members agreed to work with staff on a plan for revenue development. The question of the Compact’s comfort with funding sources who have particular philosophies was raised and Members suggested the need for further discussion as well as to “show and prove” how our goals, strategies and budget line-up, regardless of from where the funding comes.

### **CONSULT WITH OPPORTUNITY AGENDA RE AGGREGATE GOAL**

Kristin McSwain explained that the frame had shifted slightly from the January meeting to a citywide goal into which everything else rolls-up. She presented a straw-man college and career-ready goal and process for developing an actual goal for discussion. The Committee generally liked the approach of an overarching goal as well as including concrete life skills as part of a readiness measure. There was some discussion of the language of “furthering education” versus “college and career.” The Opportunity Agenda Board will decide whether to invest in a literature scan and research. Kristin will circle-back with leadership from each of the three sectors. The Committee expressed their hope that the next OA Report Card would include an aggregate goal, as the city will be recovering from a bruising charter cap debate in the fall.



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## COMPACT STRUCTURE AND SECTOR DELEGATIONS

Members discussed adjusting the Steering Committee and subcommittee structure with a new one better aligned to the work at hand. The Executive Committee will develop a proposal for consideration. The charter delegation shared their newly elected group of representatives to the Steering Committee, starting this summer. Kate Scott (Executive Director, Neighborhood House Charter School) and Kevin Taylor (Managing Director, KIPP) will join.

## PLAN FOR FY17

The Committee used a tuning protocol to look at planned activities against the 2015 Compact goals and discuss how well they were/not aligned. The group largely thought there was alignment, but perhaps more work than was feasible to accomplish. Questions around a plan B for teacher-led professional development were surfaced, along with requests to continue naming and talking through disagreements. This discussion underscored the value of revisiting the committee structure and strategies for the year ahead.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEXT STEPS

- Staff and BPS will compare schools in CCE study and those that surfaced in the Teaching and Learning Subcommittee's analysis.
- Members have ten days to provide feedback on the draft Boston Compact case study.
- Once the Boston Compact case study is approved, staff will post it on the Compact website.
- Staff to send the link from the ECTC2 team to the Committee.
- Staff to work with ECTC2 team to invite QTEL participants to the November conference, including potentially as presenters.
- Shannah, Makeeba and Rachel to work on a revenue plan.
- Kristin will follow-up with sector leaders about the aggregate goal.
- The Executive Committee will develop a proposal for modifying the Compact's structure.
- Erica and Karla will connect regarding the new definition of poverty and how to jointly address its shortcomings.