



Serving Students by Bringing Educators Together

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

11:00 – 1:00 | Monday, July 11, 2016

Boston Collegiate Charter School
215 Sydney St, Dorchester

Presented are DRAFT minutes from the Boston Compact Steering Committee meeting held on July 11, 2016. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit www.BostonCompact.org or email info@BostonCompact.org.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: **Jon Clark** (Co-Director, Brooke Charter School), **Rahn Dorsey** (Chief of Education, City of Boston), **Ross Wilson** (Managing Partner of Innovation, Boston Public Schools), **Shannah Varón**, (Executive Director, Boston Collegiate Charter School), **Kate Brandley** (Principal, St John Paul II – Neponset), **Makeeba McCreary** (Chief of Staff, Boston Public Schools), **Amy Ryan** (Associate Superintendent for Academics and Digital Learning, Archdiocese of Boston)

Members Absent: **Karla Estrada** (Deputy Superintendent of Student Support Services, Boston Public Schools), **Kate Scott** (Executive Director, Neighborhood House Charter School), **Kevin Taylor** (Managing Director, Finance, Special Projects, KIPP Massachusetts), **Ali Dutson** (Principal, Mission Grammar School),

Others Present: **Rachel Weinstein** (Compact Staff), **Natasha Maughan** (Compact Staff), **Mary Tamer** (Boston Charter Alliance Staff)

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

There was a unanimous approval of the May minutes.

AGENDA ITEMS

PROGRESS AND UPDATES

- The Boston Teacher Collaborative proposal was not awarded a grant from the Gates Foundation RFP, however Paul Toner (new ED of Teach Plus) and Rachel have been meeting with other potential funders. Both organizations are committed to this initiative. If funding is secured within the next couple of weeks, the BTC can go ahead for September, however it looks more likely to start in 2017.
- The Teaching & Learning Subcommittee conducted student focus groups among Black and Latino males at four schools. The groups collected valuable insight into the students and Natasha has drafted an article about the groups. The Compact have also been tweeting key quotes from the study in order to allow raise the visibility of the work (please retweet!). To follow up on the initial study, the Teaching and Learning Subcommittee plans to return to at least one school in each sector in the fall for further observation and data, with the aim to compile and disseminate the findings. It was understood that plans are in development and suggested that we look into protocols CCE used in their BPS case studies.
- In order to understand and potentially leverage the many efforts focused on improving school culture and discipline, the Boston Charter Alliance has asked representatives from the Compact's Teaching and Learning Subcommittee to participate in a meeting this week to share what they've been doing.



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- A few Steering Committee Members attended CPLAN's report back on the COSEBOC convening in New York. The members were glad to see that family members were inspired and empowered by the convening. They pointed out that the CPLAN group brought a great energy and we should find ways to keep them involved.
- The ad hoc unified enrollment subcommittee continues to develop recommendations and language for how students with disabilities and English language learners will be enrolled in schools. The Committee anticipates a difficult autumn for this effort and the Compact generally, as district-charter tensions beyond the collaborative table are rising with from the charter cap ballot campaigns.
- The Committee and staff are excited to launch the new school partnership focused on Black and Latino boys. The triad consists of the King, Codman Academy and St. John Paul – Neponset campus, all of whom are interested in professional development around cultural proficiency as well as tackling how boys are digesting negative stereotypes of males of color. At SJP, Kate has been promoted to Regional Director and Nick Cuomo is the new Principal. Nick will be the liaison for the partnership. Thabiti Brown has been promoted from Principal to Executive Director of Codman and will be the point-person for the partnership. Khita Pottinger, Principal, will be the lead for the King School. The three leaders will have an initial lunch this month to kick-off their partnership.

ADJUSTING THE COMPACT'S STRUCTURE

- The Committee discussed a draft new structure. The suggested outline of the new structure would be:
 - Executive Committee – This group would meet monthly and oversee committees as well as daily operations
 - Council of Schools – This would include inviting all schools in Boston to meetings three times annually. It would be led by four chairs, one each from district, charter, religious and independent schools.
 - Policy Committee – Enrollment and other policies would live in this committee that would meet every six weeks or so and as needed.
 - The Teaching & Learning Committee would continue in its current form, meeting monthly during the school year.
- There was a consensus that all subcommittees should report back to the Executive Committee as they would be meeting more frequently than the others.
- The proposed shifts include opening many meetings to the public and we will continue to work on making the Compact more transparent.
- It was mentioned that the bylaws would need to be re-drafted as there would be quite a few changes.
- Before voting on this proposal, we will solicit input from Members who were absent at this meeting.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S DECISION

- The Attorney General's Office has ruled that, in its current structure the Boston Compact is not subject to the Open Meetings Law of the state. As we consider structural adjustments, we will consult with the AGO to be sure we comply with the OML and any other relevant requirements.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- As a reminder, the Compact did not fund Generation Teach this summer. However, staff will participate in the site visit. Jon will email information about a Generation Teach dinner with the fellows to the Committee.

ACTION ITEMS

- Staff will reach out to CCE to learn about their protocols for case studies regarding Black and Latino Boys.
- Staff and Co-Chairs will follow-up with Members who were absent to get their input on structural adjustments proposed.
- Staff and the Committee will continue to look for ways in to partner with family groups.
- Staff will explore drafting an article and/or convening educators around how we provide all students with rigorous academics, given Dr. Chang's Excellence for All initiative, the elimination of Math tracking at SJP and other related efforts.
- Staff will recommend/draft convenings and stories about the Compact's instructional and school culture efforts for greater visibility (e.g. Black and Latino boys, restructuring, rigor for all) to promote the partnership voice. Rahn will look into an opportunity to collaborate with My Brother's Keeper.
- The school leaders from the Black and Latino Boys partnership will select an external support for their work. Staff will recommend COSEBOC for their consideration.