



Serving Students by Bringing Educators Together

TEACHING AND LEARNING SUBCOMMITTEE

3:00 – 4:15p | Monday, January 30, 2017

Neighborhood House Charter School

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact Teaching and Learning Subcommittee meeting held on Monday, January 30, 2017 at the Neighborhood House Charter School. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit www.BostonCompact.org or email info@BostonCompact.org.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: **Kate Scott** (Executive Director, Neighborhood House Charter School, Chair of Subcommittee), **Monica Haldiman** (Principal, Sacred Heart Roslindale), **Akshata Kadagathur** (Evaluation Associate Office of Data and Accountability/School-Community Partnerships | Boston Public Schools), **Craig Martin** (Principal, Perkins Elementary)

Members Absent: **Yeshi Gaskin** (Principal, Holmes Elementary School), **Karmala Sherwood** (Executive Director, Davis Leadership Academy), **Linda Nathan** (Executive Director, Center for Artistry and Scholarship), **Donkor Minors** (Coordinator of Targeted Programs, Office of Opportunity & Achievement Gaps, BPS)

Others Present: **Rachel Weinstein** (Compact staff), **Natasha Maughan** (Compact staff)

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

The subcommittee approved minutes from the November 21 meeting.

SCHOOL VISITS

Kate commented on how impressed she was with each school (Brooke, Mildred Ave and Sacred Heart). The schools were all mission- and vision driven. The Subcommittee was looking for specific steps and best practices, but the reality was more abstract with a prevailing sense of calm, purpose, rigor and expectations.

Monica noted that it was important to have a set of strong operating norms that are well known.

Rachel suggested that instead of producing case studies on the visits, it might be better to write an article on the three schools. Kate stated that an op-ed to show the positives of each sector was a good idea, as the work of the Subcommittee should include more people who have an impact on the front line.



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Rachel has reached out to Maria Fenwick from Talk 2 Teachers – an organization that carries out teacher visits. There may be an opportunity for the subcommittee to collaborate with her organization.

Monica noted that we need to know what the desired outcome of these visits are before we collaborate with Talk 2 Teachers.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MBK

Natasha offered a summary of the interviews conducted and the recommendations that produced for the My Brother’s Keeper program.

Rachel commented that the implementation of the recommendations presented needs to be approached with the right leadership and with support from the schools, communities and social partners.

Akshata informed the committee that subcommittee member Donkor Minors is now the Manager Facilitator of ‘10 Boys’ groups, responsible for scheduling which schools will participate in the program as part of the school day.

Rachel reminded the committee that Rahn Dorsey had asked the subcommittee to produce the recommendations. Compact Staff will reconnect with him about potential next steps.

Monica inquired about the desired outcomes from this study beyond closing the achievement gap. She noted that with the grunt work completed, the next step is to lay the path.

Kate commented that the subcommittee is also seeking a way to expedite adoption of effective practices.

Rachel asked if there were any other structures that could be used to expose the findings to more people and suggested that she connect with Maria on possible next steps.

Craig suggested that the subcommittee organize a convening around LeLo Books, which is a company that produces culturally responsive materials for literacy groups at schools.

Akshata suggested that a young person could present to the teachers at such an event. It would also give more people a chance to see what is going on in other schools and to hear from students.



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OTHER ITEMS

Craig has implemented the High School Peer Program at his school to much success, partnering with Excel High School. The program services 30 children chosen as at risk for absenteeism. There has been success to date and Craig will meet with Harold Miller to keep the momentum going.

Rachel shared that the Compact is launching a partnership with Teach Plus and that the classes would be starting in the spring with classes at the Curley, Mission Grammar and Codman Academy.

Akshata suggested that we could try to observe a course or organize a group consisting of a teacher, student and family member from another school to speak on a subject during the course.

ACTION ITEMS

- Compact Staff to meet with Maria Fenwick to further discuss partnering with Talk 2 Teachers on teacher visits
- Compact staff to discuss with Rahn the next steps for the My Brother's Keeper research and recommendations
- Subcommittee to explore its future role and plans at next meeting