



Serving Students by Bringing Educators Together

School Climate Committee
10:30-12p, Wednesday, January 10, 2018
Boston Public Schools, Room 5-30

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact School Climate Survey meeting held on January 10, 2018. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit www.BostonCompact.org or email info@BostonCompact.org.

PARTICIPANTS

Family Members: Brit Johnson (St. Patrick's), Tayla Andre (Edward Brooke), Lesa Antoine (Mission Grammar)

Committee Members: Julia Mejia (CPLAN, Executive Dir.), Nicole Wagner Lam (BPS, Dir. of Office of Data and Accountability), Lisa Harvey (BPS Deputy Dir. of Evaluation and Programs), Spencer Blasdale (Executive Dir., Academy of the Pacific Rim), Yully Cha (Executive Dir., Bridge Boston)

Members Absent: Annie Cervin (RCAB Dir. of Data), Monica Roberts (BPS, Assist. Supt. of Engagement)

Others Present: Elise Swinford (Boston Compact staff), Rachel Weinstein (Boston Compact staff), Brittany Williams (BPS Intern), Blair (BPS Intern), Karla Jenkins (Director of Engagement/ School Support)

FOCUS GROUPS

Tayla Andre reflected on the challenges of administering focus groups to non-native English speakers and those with limited literacy. Tayla raised the possibility of offering Facebook Live sessions and rethinking the time limit for taking the survey. **Brit Johnson** reviewed social media opportunities. **Lesa Antoine** emphasized the benefit of the focus groups humanizing the survey, suggesting further personal interaction in administering final climate surveys.

SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY FORMAT AND TEXT

Nicole Wagner Lam suggested asking for survey feedback on the survey itself, and discussed with **Brit** the possibility of setting up roundtables with reps from each sectors to help family members take the survey.

CPLAN members expressed questions about the content of the survey. Reps from BPS and BCA expressed commitment to questions of cultural competency and suggested that, given the upcoming deadlines for final survey copy, the group do more research on cultural competency to ensure we the data on that issue is valid in the future. **Nicole** suggested engaging a third-party researcher who would review the results of the climate survey for validity before they are publicized, and suggest we frame this years survey as a pilot. **Spencer Blasdale** suggested scheduling a small group to work on synthesizing feedback from today's meeting and finalizing the survey text.

Brittany Williams noted that, regarding the question of discipline, the language of "policies and practices" is necessary to emphasize both the rules as well as the application of disciplinary action. **Blair** reaffirmed the importance of flexibility in the process of developing the final questions.

ACTION ITEMS

- Elise will schedule a small working group to finalize the survey text as soon as possible.
- BPS will work with Colin Rose to investigate language around cultural competency.