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## SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 10, 2018 | 10:30a-12p

Bruce C. Bolling Building 5-30

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact School Climate Survey Committee meeting held on April 10, 2018. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit [www.BostonCompact.org](http://www.BostonCompact.org) or email [info@BostonCompact.org](mailto:info@BostonCompact.org).

### ATTENDANCE

Members Present: **Spencer Blasdale** (Exec. Director, Academy of the Pacific Rim), **Cassandra Cumberlander** (CPLAN), **Blair Dawkins** (Evaluations & Programs staff, BPS), **Brit Johnson** (CPLAN), **Julia Mejia** (Exec. Director, CPLAN), **Monica Roberts** (Assistant Superintendent of Engagement, BPS) **Jake Stearn** (Office of Data & Accountability, BPS)

Members Absent: **Lisa Harvey** (Deputy Director of Evaluation and Programs, BPS), **Annie Smith** (Dir. of Data, RCAB)

Others Present: **Elise Swinford** (Compact staff), **Rachel Weinstein** (Compact staff)

### ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

February and March meeting minutes approved.

### UPDATES

CPLAN:

Brit noted that the May 27<sup>th</sup> St. Patrick's potluck will be the end date for survey work there. She also has a daughter at Cristo Rey and has been in contact with the new principal.

Cassandra reported that social media lead by Tayla is going well. Tara and Tiffany are doing outreach at the Winthrop via an ice cream social. KIPP Mattapan work (Jasmine) is just beginning. Young Achievers (Sharita) is working to schedule an event. Dearborn has been difficult to navigate, but Jeanine has been in communication through guidance counselors; Roxbury Prep is reaching out to new parents. Elsa is working hard in East Boston High. Karla is using paper surveys with incarcerated family members. Tayla is focused on changing minds/ attitudes about the survey.

Julia noted that BPS communications in Spanish came out later than English via email. There is an issue with BPS communications not being entirely translated into Spanish.

Participation:

Spencer suggested that we all share participation numbers to check in. Elise will check with Alison about Panorama

combined survey participation with May 1<sup>st</sup> as the next marker.

Julia noted that Brit will be doing PSAs via social media about doing surveys in other languages. Elise will collect information from Jake (BPS) and Brit/ Julia for CPLAN about their social media campaigns.

Third party researcher:

Blair updated the committee on Rachel's and her scoring methods which included on general fit, geography, and technical knowledge. Mathematica (Jane Choi) is the frontrunner, even though she is located in California (she can make one trip to Boston w/o budget change). Dr. Jane Choi from Mathematica will be our choice.

Rachel noted that we need to get all of the survey data to Dr. Choi in the same format, and suggested we use BPS' format as the model. This will include school-level data that can be coded. Jake noted that we can submit the data over an FTP server for secure transfer.

#### EMERGENT ISSUES

Future survey work:

Rachel requested feedback on the climate survey work calendar. Elise questioned the likelihood of sufficient bandwidth across the partnering groups to do a student survey next year. Julia suggested involving students as consultants with an end toward grooming them for future work on a student survey. Monica underscored the need to think about capacity across sectors on student survey. Julia noted this could be an opportunity to create youth cross-sector advisory board for a student survey. The consensus was that it's now too early to initiate a student survey, so we'll wait until summer to get data and revisit this.

Sharing survey results:

Monica noted that data must be used in a meaningful way, and that we keep our commitments about sharing survey results. Cassandra underscored the need to set an understanding that system change is slow and difficult so we're not called out in a negative way. Spencer also noted the need to temper expectations based on the possibility of low participation and unreliable questions. Cassandra and Julia emphasized the importance of including parents/ community in solutions and discussion.

Next year:

Julia stressed that next year, we need more time and more resources to get out into the community. Cassandra expressed concern about the window to complete the survey, and suggested an agreed upon window across the sectors.

Julia suggested doing summer cross-sector relationship building in anticipation of the results: we could identify a limited set of schools who will participate, then get parent reps together to disseminate to school parents. Monica suggested offering training to these parents on facilitating conversations on school climate data. Jake suggested that the researcher meet with our committee and then the broader school reps group. Brit clarified the timeline of the committee getting results in September, then principals, then principals sharing with parent councils in October. Monica called for a commitment to a cross-sector conversation about school climate, even if the data doesn't feel strong enough this year to share. Spencer noted that this was a commitment he believed the charter sector could make.

Monica identified the Fall Parent University in September as an opportunity where parents could do a presentation on cross-sector parent involvement and help unveil the results of the survey. Julia and Spencer second that idea.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

Elise will get in touch with Alison about what formatting data and about the Panorama combined survey participation with May 1<sup>st</sup> as the next marker.

Elise will collect social media campaign information from Jake (BPS) and Brit/ Julia for CPLAN.

Rachel will contract Dr. Jane Choi from Mathematica as our third-party researcher.