



Serving Students by Bringing Educators Together

**SCHOOL CLIMATES SURVEY MEETING**  
1:30 – 2:30p | Monday, July 24, 2017  
BPS Bolling Building

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact School Climates Survey meeting held on Monday, July 24, 2017 at the BPS Bolling Building. 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: **Donna Muncey** (Deputy Superintendent of Strategy, BPS), **Nicole Wagner** (Executive Director of Data and Accountability, BPS), **Julia Mejia** (Executive Director, CPLAN), **Angela Kiley** (Director of External Relations, Brooke Charter Schools), **Jake Stern** (Director of Performance Management, BPS)

Members Absent: **Monica Roberts** (Assistant Supt of Engagement, BPS), **Kathy Mears** (Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Archdiocese of Boston), **Lisa Harvey** (Deputy Director of Evaluation & Programs, Office of Engagement, BPS)

Others Present: **Rachel Weinstein** (Compact staff)

**QUICK BUSINESS**

Members approved the June meeting summary with two additions.

**UPDATES ON WORK PLAN TASKS**

Julia shared her outreach to local family engagement experts Michele Brooks and Karen Mapp.

Nicole was inspired to reach out to former colleagues in LAUSD to ask about the focus groups they did with parents.

Rachel shared school climate definitions from a few states.

**SCHOOL QUALITY FRAMEWORK DOMAINS**

Jake walked the committee through the BPS document outlining the domains about which the district surveys students, parents and teachers. He noted that the outcomes were the primary focus of community conversations.

Members discussed outcome 11 a bit, asking how parents were likely to define feeling included.

Potential questions that families in focus groups could discuss include:

- What does this outcome mean to you?
- How do you feel the survey questions do/not match the outcomes?
- How do you define [term]?
- Do these outcomes get at what you want to discover about schools?



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- What is missing?
- How do you want to hear about the results of the surveys?
- How could families hold schools accountable and support schools in taking action based on results?

### PROJECT PROCESS

Julia requested clarification about the outcomes of this process that families could reasonably expect. The group settled on (a) transparent, comparable climate data across schools and (b) an invitation for families to be engaged in the processes by which schools act upon climate data. However, Donna noted the challenge with doing surveys in the spring, which means there isn't actually actionable data until summer, when the school cohorts have shifted. The group refined the expectations parents could have to note that, in our first year, the data won't be available until summer, but we would like to move the climate surveys to the middle of the fall semester, so that the analysis and action teams/School Councils could work in schools Jan-June.

The Committee decided to proceed with the current timeline for schools to administer a shared set of questions in spring of 2018, in order to show the value of the comparable climate data. We are interested in moving future surveys, potentially as soon as November 2018, to the fall. Another idea to remember is that schools/sectors could do some optional sampling in the spring to see if families have felt interventions.

The group wanted Monica and Lisa (who were unable to make the meeting) to guide us on what system-level supports are needed to ensure a good standard of family engagement in each school. (*Question: Was this about structures for survey response or more broadly what structures schools should have for building a healthy climate?*) Angela spoke briefly about Brooke's results from this spring's climate survey. The schools had a roughly 70% response rate and notified the school community that they will be analyzing the data with families at the first parent council meeting in the fall.

### ACTION ITEMS

- o Julia will connect with Michele Brooks.
- o Nicole will email LAUSD family engagement team.
- o Rachel will get updated on what DESE is doing with climate surveys.
- o Rachel will send the committee the Illinois BOE definition of school climate.
- o Rachel will schedule two meetings with Monica and Julia to discuss focus group questions and the role of family leaders. We will invite parent leaders to the second meeting.
- o Julia will attend Councilor Pressley's focus group of parents and share what she hears.
- o Rachel will connect with Boston Schools Fund about their climate work.