

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

10-11:30a | Thursday, August 10, 2017

BPS Bolling Building, Room 6-61

Presented are minutes from the School Transportation Committee held on Thursday, August 10, 2017. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit www.BostonCompact.org or email info@BostonCompact.org.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: **Charles Grandson** (Deputy Chief Operations Officer, BPS), **Shannah Varón** (Executive Director, Boston Collegiate Charter School and Chair, Boston Charter Alliance), **Will Eger** (Strategic Projects Manager – Finance, BPS), **Erica Brown** (Chief of Policy & Practice, Massachusetts Charter Public School Association), **Kevin Taylor** (Chief Operations Officer, KIPP MA), **Ellen McDonough** (Manager of Intergovernmental Relations, BPS), **Morgan McDaniel** (Office of Budget Management, City of Boston), **Turah Dorsey** (Chief of Education, City of Boston)

Members Absent: **Makeeba McCreary** (Managing Director & Senior Advisor, BPS), **Marianne Regan** (Office of Budget Management, City of Boston), **Edward Pesce** (Office of Budget Management, City of Boston), **John Hanlon** (Chief Operations Officer, BPS), **Erika Giampietro** (Special Assistant to the Superintendent, BPS),

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

QUICK BUSINESS

Committee Members introduced themselves and welcomed Charles as well as happily acknowledging Shannah's return (post maternity leave) to the committee. They approved the meeting summary from June and reviewed the committee membership.

Will provided an update on the reorganization of the BPS transportation team.

EMERGENT ISSUES

Most of the meeting was spent addressing timely transportation challenges. The committee discussed existing issues at two charter schools and shared updates on jointly developed BPS-charter solutions found at two other charters. Erica shared that, because of conversation in this committee, three charter schools might no longer purchase their own MBTA passes for students and seek reimbursement. Instead, they will try work through BPS.

Members talked about how problematic enrollment data escalates the cost of transportation. For example, students who have registered with multiple schools have been therefore routed to multiple schools. There are roughly 25K students who take school buses each year. BPS has already had to enter and withdraw 30K students from the transportation system. Despite enrollment changing dramatically in August and September, BPS can make only minor changes during these months. Significant routing changes happen in October.

ACTION ITEMS

- Charter school leaders will compare the lists they receive from BPS transportation with their lists of students needing busing, letting Shanda Roberts know if there are students who need to be added *or come off* routes, as well as addresses and any needed accommodations.