



Serving Students by Bringing Educators Together

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

10-11:30a | Friday, October 6, 2017

BPS Bolling Building, Room 2-12B

Presented are minutes from the School Transportation Committee held on Friday, October 6, 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), **Morgan McDaniel** (Office of Budget Management, City of Boston), **John Hanlon** (Chief Operations Officer, BPS), **Aliece Dutson** (Principal, Mission Grammar), **Mark Loring** (Director of Network Operations, Brooke Charter Schools)

Members Absent: **Turah Dorsey** (Chief of Education, City of Boston), **Ellen McDonough** (Manager of Intergovernmental Relations, BPS)

Others Present: **Kristin Carpenter** (Fellow, Boston Charter Alliance), **Rachel Weinstein** (Compact staff), **Elise Swinford** (Compact staff)

QUICK BUSINESS

Committee Members introduced themselves and welcomed Mark, Ali, Kristin and Elise. They approved the meeting summary from August with revision.

Will proposed that **Shanda Roberts** (Transportation Officer, BPS) be added to the committee.

EMERGENT ISSUES

Rachel outlined the potential cross-sector transportation goals for 2017-18, as gleaned from the charter sector's memo and previous cross-sector conversations.

The charter sector summarized their transportation concerns and the possible solutions.

John ranked and detailed the current goals in order of least to most solvable in the near future:

- School-to-bus communication: This is challenging due to the prohibition of cell phones by bus drivers. Charles Grandson is actively addressing these issues for the long term.
- Summer routes: BPS has a separate summer and fall route due to the bidding process. John believes the summer routes will improve with more advance enrollment data from the charters. He reiterated that there should be no difference in mindset between charter and BPS students for anyone involved.
- Student IDs: This is the most immediately solvable issue.

The charter sector emphasized their concerns about student safety based on concerns with school-to-bus communication, as well as the confusion during summer routes. The Catholic sector expressed concern about the student eligibility process, and expressed interest in a set route option that Catholic students could access.

ACTION ITEMS

- Transportation efforts will be delegated to subcommittees within the current Transportation Committee. Each subcommittee will drive one work stream. The work streams will be communications, student data, a reimbursement pilot, Catholic school student eligibility, and a process for when a non-BPS school wants to change drop-off or pick-up times. A group of operations professionals also will meet monthly to troubleshoot current challenges.