



Serving Students by Bringing Educators Together

## STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

4:00 – 5:00 | Monday, November 21st, 2016

BPS Bolling Building

Presented are DRAFT minutes from the Boston Compact Steering Committee meeting held on November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016. 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: **Jon Clark** (Co-Director, Brooke Charter School), **Rahn Dorsey** (Chief of Education, City of Boston), **Kate Brandley** (Principal, St John Paul II – Neponset), **Dr. Makeeba McCreary** (Chief of Staff, Boston Public Schools), **Dr. Tommy Chang** (Superintendent, Boston Public Schools), **Dr. Karla Estrada** (Deputy Superintendent of Student Support Services, Boston Public Schools), **Kate Scott** (Executive Director, Neighborhood House Charter School), **Kevin Taylor** (Managing Director, Finance, Special Projects, KIPP Massachusetts), **Ali Dutson** (Principal, Mission Grammar School), **Monica Roberts** (Assistant Superintendent of Engagement, Boston Public Schools), **Kathy Mears** (Superintendent, Archdiocese of Boston), **Kevin Andrews** (ex-officio)

Members Absent: **Amy Ryan** (Associate Superintendent for Academics and Digital Learning, Archdiocese of Boston) **Shannah Varón**, (Executive Director, Boston Collegiate Charter School)

Others Present: **Rachel Weinstein** (Compact Staff), **Natasha Maughan** (Compact Staff)

### ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

There was unanimous approval of the July minutes.

### DEBRIEF OF ELECTION SEASON

Members acknowledged the challenges of being on different sides of the ballot question and expressed a continued commitment to collaboration in the interest of all students and families in the city. They noted that there is polarization around charter schools nationally.

### SHARED PRIORITIES

After a quick review of the Compact's purpose and history, the Committee discussed the half-dozen shared priorities surfaced when the sector leaders met earlier that month. Some Members and staff suggested that, while all priorities were legitimate, the Compact ought to focus intently on just a few to have significant impact. They also noted that educators, families and an active group of stakeholders will want to have a say in Compact initiatives.

#### SCHOOL QUALITY

The sector leaders appreciated that BPS, charters and Catholic schools are all considering revisions to their school climate surveys. Staff pointed out that we heard from our community meetings last year as well as more recently from some family activists a great interest in having comparable data beyond standardized test scores. There was agreement that this was an area worth prioritizing and meeting about soon.

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION

Sector leaders also acknowledged a shared interest in expanding inclusionary practices in all three sectors. Discussion included Supt. Chang referencing the cross-sector Special Education work between LAUSD and charters in Los Angeles and agreeing that he would present more details to the Committee in early 2017. Superintendent



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Kathy Mears also reflected on her success in Indiana, where Catholic schools were able to increase the number of students with special needs significantly.

#### ENROLLMENT

The public sectors remain committed to exploring a unified enrollment system. The Catholic schools would like to participate and hope to be considered in the future.

#### PROJECT-BASED CURRICULA

The sector leaders expressed interest in revamping vocational education into an innovative approach to sequencing and credentialing applied learning.

#### SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Kevin Andrews suggested that there needed to be more work around social emotional and mental health within schools and pushed the Committee to think more about engaging greater numbers of teachers.

#### COLLABORATION AMONGST TEACHERS

Compact staff reminded Committee Members that work was underway to secure funding for a partnership with Teach Plus that would deliver cross-sector, teacher-led professional development.

#### FACILITIES

School buildings were a topic at the sector leaders' meeting, but not at the Steering Committee meeting.

#### DECISIONS

Members agreed to focus on school quality (starting with climate surveys), special education (work to-be-defined) and enrollment. The Committee will continue to be champions of collaboration, hopefully including through a Boston Teachers Collaborative. (Staff note: Compact partners also have continued to work on Black and Latino young men and the diversity recruitment fair.)

#### ACTION ITEMS

- Staff will schedule a school climate survey meeting to discuss the possibility of common survey questions across sectors.
- Dr. Chang will present to the Committee on the experience of the Los Angeles Option 3 collaboration on special education funding.
- The next meeting will be **Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> 2017** at the BPS Bolling Building.