



Serving Students by Bringing Educators Together

TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE

3:30 – 4:30p | Monday, October 24th, 2016

Conference Call Meeting

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact Teaching and Learning Committee Conference Call meeting held on Monday, October 24th, 2016. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit www.BostonCompact.org or email info@BostonCompact.org.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: **Kate Scott** (Executive Director, Neighborhood House Charter School, Chair of Committee), **Monica Haldiman** (Principal, Sacred Heart of Roslindale), **Akshata Kadagathur** (Evaluation Associate Office of Data and Accountability/School-Community Partnerships | Boston Public Schools), **Craig Martin** (Principal, Perkins Elementary)

Members Absent: **Yeshi Gaskin** (Principal, Holmes Elementary School), **Karmala Sherwood** (Executive Director, Davis Leadership Academy), **Jemmel Billingslea** (Teaching Fellow, Nativity Prep), **Linda Nathan** (Executive Director, Center for Artistry and Scholarship), **Erin Cooley** (Senior Analyst, Office of Data and Accountability/School-Community Partnerships, Boston Public Schools)

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

The subcommittee approved minutes for September 27th meeting.

FOCUS GROUPS REPORT BACK

Akshata reported that the debriefing meeting for the principals of the schools visited would be on November 4th from 2:00 – 3:30 and she had prepared a draft agenda for the committee to review. Craig explained that they would be exploring what had been learned at each school and the general feedback gained from the focus groups. Rachel offered the Compact’s assistance and support for the meeting and confirmed that the committee would be continuing the work and may reach out to the participant schools about returning.

Craig pointed out that he and Akshata were not able to speak on the resources or the next steps of the Compact and that it would be helpful if a Compact staff member were present to answer any queries on recommendations. Rachel stated that, although the Compact could only be a minimal financial resource at present, any suggestions given would be entertained.



Serving Students by Bringing Educators Together

Monica pointed out that the resources being offered did not have to be financial, but could come from the information and contacts that the committee is currently researching on boys' groups.

Rachel stated that she would be at the meeting to answer these questions.

SCHOOL VISITS

Kate, Yeshi, Rachel and Natasha previously had a conference call to discuss moving forward with the school visits and the framework of the note-taking document to be taken on the visits.

Kate outlined that the visits would consist of classroom visits, exploring the other elements of the school culture, the school's special programs, the emotional and academic support offered to the Black and Latino students and conversations with faculty. During the visits, the committee would be surveying practices, not giving feedback on what is going on in the building.

Kate said that she would work on a one-page note-taking sheet to capture this information and share it with the committee.

On the call, Yeshi had offered an auxiliary list of questions that she had used during a previous walkthrough that would be helpful in this endeavor.

Monica encouraged the committee to keep it simple, as that would capture more information.

Rachel suggested that the committee first schedule four school visits – 2 District, 1 Charter and 1 Catholic; preferably schools from the Committee's earlier thought paper and the focus groups.

The Committee chose the following schools:

Mildred Avenue K-8 (district)

BTU School K-8 (district)

Sacred Heart (Catholic)

Brooke (Charter)

Note: Brooke was chosen over Match, as Match has a dissemination arm and is documenting its own practices. Similarly, Conservatory Lab is now under the umbrella of the Center for Artistry and Scholarship, which will share its findings.

Monica offered that Mission Grammar or Nativity Prep could be considered in place of Sacred Heart and volunteered to speak to Mission Grammar about it. Rachel suggested we stick with Sacred Heart for now, keeping those two schools in mind for future visits.



Serving Students by Bringing Educators Together

Kate informed the committee that if this round of visits goes well, a second round of visits might be considered. However, the committee is still trying to figure out exactly what the outcome of these visits needs to be.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MBK

Natasha had obtained names and contact information on successful boys' groups locally and nationally through preliminary research. Natasha and Rachel would make first contact with the organizations and individuals and conduct a series of fact finding, informal interviews. At the end of this preliminary round of calls, staff will report back to the Committee on initial findings and recommendations for moving forward.

Rachel had developed five questions to be used as a guide for the interviews and asked for the committee's feedback and suggestions on questions to be asked. The committee agreed that the questions and direction of inquiry were acceptable.

Akshata suggested that Donkor Minors from the BPS be included in the list of potential interviewees. She would provide his contact information.

ACTION ITEMS

- Compact staff will email the debriefing meeting draft agenda to all committee members.
- Kate will draft and send out a one-page form to be used on the school visits.
- Yeshi will provide the auxiliary questions for the school visit form.
- Compact Staff will contact boys' group leaders for preliminary interviews.
- Akshata will provide Donkor Minors information to the Compact staff.
- The next meeting will be Monday, November 21st from 3:00 – 3:45 on a conference call.