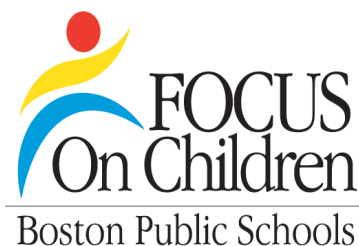

BPS FACTS

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Boston Public Schools at a Glance 2010–2011

OUR MISSION

As the birthplace of public education in this nation, the Boston Public Schools is committed to transforming the lives of all children through exemplary teaching in a world-class system of innovative, welcoming schools. We partner with the community, families, and students to develop in every learner the knowledge, skill, and character to excel in college, career, and life.

SCHOOLS & STUDENTS

There are **134 schools** in the BPS:

- 6 early learning centers (K–grade 1)
- 53 elementary schools (K–5)
- 23 elementary & middle schools (K–8)
- 10 middle schools (6–8)
- 2 middle & high schools (6–12)
- 29 high schools (9–12)
- 1 elementary through high school (K–12)
- 3 “exam” schools (7–12)
- 6 special education schools (K–12)
- 1 alternative (at-risk) program

Of these, 21 are pilot schools (1 early learning center, 4 elementary, 5 K–8, 2 middle, 2 middle/high, 7 high). In addition, 2 high schools are Horace Mann charter schools approved and funded by the BPS.

SY11 enrollment is 57,050 (an increase of about 450 from SY10), including:

- 27,420 students in pre-kindergarten–grade 5
- 11,580 students in grades 6–8
- 18,050 students in grades 9–12

Student demographics:

- 41% Hispanic 9% Asian
- 36% Black 1% Other/multiracial
- 13% White

- 74% of BPS students are eligible to receive **free & reduced-price meals** in school.
- 45% are eligible to receive **food stamps**.

Students who don’t attend the BPS¹:

Of the **75,100** (est.) school-age children living in Boston, about **18,040** (24%) do not attend Boston public schools. They are:

- 46% Black 4% Asian
- 37% White <1% Other
- 13% Hispanic

Of these students:

- 5,790 go to parochial schools
- 3,770 go to private schools
- 3,080 go to suburban schools through METCO
- 4,730 go to public charter schools
- 470 are placed by the BPS Special Education Dept. in non-BPS schools and programs
- 200 are home schooled

ACCELERATION AGENDA

Supt. Carol Johnson’s Acceleration Agenda is our ambitious, five-year strategic plan to improve academic quality, increase graduation rates and close achievement gaps. Targets by 2014 include:

- Reading by the end of Grade 1
- Reading to learn in Grade 3
- Skillful, analytical writing in Grades 4–12
- Algebra 1 in Grade 8
- English Language Learners acquire academic language mastery and fluency
- Significant academic growth for students with disabilities
- “On-track” to graduate by the end of Grade 10
- College-ready and success-bound

Please see bostonpublicschools.org/agenda for additional goals and information.

STAFF

The 2010–2011 BPS budget (general fund) includes **8,035** staff positions (FTE), a decrease of 292 positions (3.5%) from 2009–2010. Here is a comparison of budgeted positions:

FY10	FY11	
4,231	4,220	teachers
2,297	2,251	other school-based staff
6,528	6,471	total school-based staff
1,799	1,564	central staff

Demographics: Black White Hisp. Asian Other
Teachers (SY11) 23% 62% 10% 5% <1%
Principals (SY11) 47% 35% 16% 2% <1%

Qualifications of BPS Teachers (SY10):

98.8% are licensed in their teaching assignment
96.2% of core academic classes are taught by teachers who are highly qualified

THE SEVEN ESSENTIALS

To ensure that all students achieve academic proficiency, instruction in the BPS is organized around **Seven Essentials for Whole School Improvement**:

1. Use effective and culturally relevant instructional practices and create a collaborative school climate that improves student learning, promotes student engagement, and builds on prior knowledge and experiences
2. Examine student work and data to drive instruction and professional development
3. Invest in professional development to improve instruction
4. Share leadership to sustain instructional improvement
5. Focus resources to support instructional improvement and improved student learning
6. Partner with families and the community to support student learning
7. Maintain high levels of effectiveness, efficiency, and equity in our operations

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The Boston Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, disability, gender, religion, national origin, or sexual orientation, and does not tolerate any form of discrimination, intimidation, threat, coercion, and/or harassment that insults the dignity of others by interfering with their freedom to learn or work.

BOSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The BPS is governed by a 7-member **School Committee**, appointed by the Mayor from among nominees recommended by a broad-based Nominating Committee. Members serve 4-year terms. Current members, appointed by Mayor Thomas M. Menino, and term expiration dates are:

Rev. Dr. Gregory G. Groover Sr., *Chair* 1/5/15
Marchelle Raynor, *Vice-chair* 1/2/12
John F. Barros 1/6/14
Alfreda J. Harris 1/5/15
Claudio Martinez 1/2/12
Michael D. O’Neill 1/7/13
Mary Tamer 1/6/14

In 1989, in a non-binding referendum, residents voted to replace the 13-member elected School Committee with an appointed committee. In 1991, the state legislature approved Boston’s home rule petition establishing the 7-member, Mayor-appointed committee. The appointed committee took office in January 1992. In a 1996 referendum, residents voted overwhelmingly to retain the appointed committee.

¹As of 3/10/11

SPECIAL EDUCATION

About **10,950** students ages 3-21 with disabilities (19% of total enrollment) are enrolled in special education programs in BPS schools, including:

- 56% with mild to moderate special needs who spend at least 60% of the school day in general education classrooms
- 44% with more severe special needs who spend at least 60% of the school day in "substantially separate" classrooms

In addition, 460 students are enrolled in out-of-district (private) placements, and 300 non-BPS students receive some special education services in BPS schools.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Among BPS students:

24,950 (45%) speak a language other than English as their first language.

16,960 (30%) are Limited English Proficient (LEP) or English Language Learners (ELL)

10,440 (61%) of ELL students were born in the US

All ELL students receive English language support from highly qualified teachers of English. Approximate ELL enrollment by program, grades K-12, is:

7,000 language-specific Sheltered English Instruction (SEI) programs

9,140 general education SEI programs

640 two-way programs: Students whose first language is Spanish and whose first language is English learn together in both languages

330 high intensity literacy programs for students with interrupted formal education (SIFE)

ELL students speak **73** different languages as their home language. The top nine first languages spoken are Spanish, Haitian creole, Cape Verdean creole, Chinese, Vietnamese, Portuguese, Somali, French, and Arabic.

BPS students come from more than **140** different countries, from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe.

CLASS SIZE & STUDENT/TEACHER RATIO

Class size limits are set in the contract with the Boston Teachers' Union.

As reported by the Mass. Dept. of Education, the BPS's FY2010 ratio of all students to all teachers was 13.3 to 1. The Mass. ratio was 13.7 to 1.

Reg. Ed.	Contract Max.	Actual Average
K1-Gr. 2	22	21
Gr. 3-5	25	22
Gr. 6-8	28	22
Gr. 9-12	31	22

HISTORY: FIRST IN AMERICA

- Boston Latin School: first public school, 1635
- Mather: first public elementary school, 1639
- BPS: first public school system, 1647
- English High: first public high school, 1821
- Horace Mann School for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing: first public day school for the deaf, 1869

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT & OUTCOMES

Mass. Comprehensive Assessment System

(MCAS). On the **2010** statewide tests, the % of students who performed at *Proficient* and *Above Prof./Advanced* levels and % change from 2009 were:

Grade	Test	BPS %	Change	State %	Change
3	Read	37%	+6%	63%	+6%
3	Math	42%	+9%	65%	+5%
4	ELA	30%	0%	54%	+1%
4	Math	8%	+1%	48%	0%
5	ELA	40%	+2%	63%	0%
5	Math	39%	+6%	55%	+1%
5	Science	21%	+3%	53%	+4%
6	ELA	44%	+1%	69%	+3%
6	Math	38%	+5%	59%	+2%
7	ELA	48%	0%	72%	+2%
7	Math	28%	0%	53%	+4%
8	ELA	59%	+2%	78%	0%
8	Math	37%	+9%	51%	+3%
8	Science	10%	0%	40%	+1%
10	ELA	60%	-4%	78%	+3%
10	Math	60%	-2%	75%	0%
10	Science	36%	+2%	65%	+4%

MCAS Competency Determination (CD). As

of October 2008, 89% of the BPS Class of 2009 had passed MCAS in English language arts (ELA) and math; and 44% of the Class of 2010 had passed ELA, math, and science/technology.

SAT Results. Average scores on the SAT Reasoning test for the Class of **2010** were:

	BPS	Mass.	US
Critical reading	434	512	501
Mathematics	460	526	516
Writing	433	509	492

Dropout Rates, Grades 9-12:

% of students who dropped out in one year:

SY08: 7.2% SY09: 6.4% SY10: 5.7%

% starting grade 9 who dropped out over next 5 years:

2003/07: 25.7% 2004/08: 24.4% 2005/09: 20.7%

Class of 2009 & 2010 4-year graduation rate:

Outcome	2009 ▲	2010 ▽
Graduated in 4 years	61.4%	63.2%
Still in school	15.3%	17.4%
Non-grad completers	1.3%	1.0%
GED	2.5%	2.3%
Dropped out	19.3%	15.9%
Permanently excluded	.3%	.2%

▲ N = 5,040. Students who entered grade 9 in fall of 2005 + transfers in - transfers out and deaths.

▽ N = 4,885. Students who entered grade 9 in fall of 2006 + transfers in - transfers out and deaths.

After high school. In a survey of the Class of 2010 about post-graduation plans, students reported the following:

Plan	% of District	% of State
4-Year Private College	31%	32%
4-Year Public College	20%	28%
2-Year Private College	18%	21%
2-Year Public College	18%	21%
Other Post-Secondary	1%	3%
Work	3%	7%
Military	1%	2%
Other	0%	1%
Unknown	24%	6%

SCHOOL CHOICE

Elementary and middle schools are organized in three geographic zones. Students can apply to schools in their zone of residence and to schools outside their zone of residence that are in their "walk zone." School assignments are based on choice, certain priorities, and availability of seats. All high schools are citywide. Fifty percent of a school's seats are set aside for applicants with "walk zone" priority. Remaining seats are open to all applicants.

In 1999, the BPS eliminated race-based assignments, a policy that had been in place since 1974.

BUDGET, SALARIES & PER PUPIL COSTS

FY2011 Gen. Fund: \$821,382,404 (+.4% from FY10)

Program	Budget	% change
Instruction	\$493,713,402	
Regular education	\$267,667,498	1.1%
Career & tech. ed.	\$4,982,185	2.3%
Special education	\$174,852,867	6.2%
English lang. learning	\$45,287,929	23.0%
Adult ed.	\$645,471	3.8%
Summer session	\$277,452	0.0%
Support Services	\$334,430,545	
Student/school support services	\$47,835,064	-10.4%
Safety	\$4,525,742	8.1%
Physical plant	\$54,994,076	-15.5%
Transportation	\$77,527,287	.1%
General admin.	\$24,317,979	-3.4%
Employee benefits	\$125,230,397	3.8%

FY2011 External Funds (est.): \$156,238,348

Includes **formula** grants (e.g. No Child Left Behind), **reimbursement** grants (National School Lunch, Impact Aid), and **competitive** grants (e.g. National Science Foundation).

FY2011 Average Salaries:

Central administrators	\$135,503
Principals & headmasters ▲:	
0-500	\$105,000
501-800	\$110,000
801-1,200	\$115,000
1,200+	\$120,000
Guidance counselors	\$87,095
Nurses	\$86,055
Teachers (regular education)	\$80,055
Secretaries/clerical staff	\$46,215
Custodians	\$47,727
Substitute teachers, <i>per diem</i>	\$124-\$251

▲ Based on enrollment

FY2010 Per Pupil Expenditure (% change from FY2009):

Regular ed.	ELL ed.	Mod sped (.3)	Sub sep sped (.4)	Private sped (.5)
\$11,525 (-2%)	\$13,241 (-4%)	\$19,118 (+11%)	\$30,007 (+14%)	\$46,414 (-22%)

The average **FY2010** per pupil expenditure was about \$14,524 (-15% from FY2009).