



BuildBPS Update

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Presentation to Boston School Committee
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McCormack Middle School

McCormack Middle School: Original BBPS Proposal Review

The BuildBPS plan calls for phasing out middle schools, due to declining enrollments and the additional transitions they create for families.

1. The McCormack is the first middle school under this plan to transition, closing after 2019-20.
2. When McCormack closes, its rising 7th and 8th graders will transition to Excel
3. Excel expands to a 7-12, with additional supports & renovations in summers 2019 & 2020.
4. K-5 feeders will be able to expand to K-6, including the Dever, Clap, Everett, Russell, Perkins, and Tynan.
5. Some expansions may require a merger to create a 2-site K-6 program.
6. The McCormack building will be fully renovated as a 7-12 high school, possibly opening in 2022-23.
7. Similar to the proposed process for other new school buildings, BPS would solicit plans from school teams to operate a 7-12 high school at this site.

*Originally presented to the Boston School Committee on October 17, 2018

McCormack Middle School: BBPS Proposal Update Highlights

1. As originally proposed, the McCormack Middle School building will close as a stand-alone 6-8 middle school following the 2019-20 SY. It will be renovated into a high school serving students in grades 7-12 opening in the fall of 2022.
2. McCormack school educators, in collaboration with Central Office staff, will identify a high school partner to join the planning team to develop the 7-12 high school that will return to the renovated facility in 2022.
 - a. This represents an evolution in planning since the October 17th recommendation to School Committee and is responsive to the feedback BPS has received from the McCormack community since that time.
 - b. This iterative process reflects an intentional effort to solicit feedback and use it to refine and improve the BuildBPS plan.
3. BPS is exploring transition space options for the 7th and 8th grades during renovation. Excel remains a possibility.

McCormack Middle School: BBPS Proposal Update Detail

7/8th grades re-location during SY 2020-21, 2021-22 (renovation years)

1. The McCormack building will be renovated into a new 7-12 high school beginning in the 2020 SY.
2. McCormack 7th and 8th grade students will be relocated to another building during school years 2020-21 and 2021-22. Continuity of McCormack staff and programs throughout this transition will be prioritized.
3. All McCormack students will stay together through the renovation period, including students enrolled in English learner and special education programs.
4. The renovated 7-12 high school will serve a diverse range of learners.

McCormack Middle School: BBPS Proposal Update Detail

High School Merger

1. BPS aims to provide McCormack students, families and staff and the future high school partner with an exciting opportunity to participate in the development and design of a new 7-12 high school as part of the BuildBPS process.
2. The HS partner will be selected by spring 2019. Criteria are currently under development.
3. Merger with an existing BPS high school partner is necessary in order for the McCormack proposal to receive preference for newly renovated building in 2022 (as a 7-12 high school).

Working with feeder K-5 schools on transition plan

1. K-5 feeders will be able to expand to K-6, based on school community input, including the Dever, Clap, Everett, Russell, Perkins, and Tynan.

7-12 High School Planning Process

BPS Central Office is currently working with McCormack Middle School educators on these workstreams.

- Two working groups have been created and convene weekly:
 - Central Office Working Group
 - Composed of members from various central office teams
 - Human Capital, Planning and Analysis, Enrollment, Opportunity Gaps, Finance
 - McCormack Working Group (Future of the School Planning Committee)
 - Instructional Leadership Team members
 - Teachers
 - Mary Driscoll / Andrea Zayas participate weekly
 - Central Office working group members participate occasionally

7-12 High School Planning Process

- **Winter 2018/19:**
 - Finalize space for 7/8th grade location starting SY 2020-2021, 2021-2022 (during renovation of McCormack building)
 - Develop the partner selection process, criteria and finalize the planning team
- **Spring 2019:**
 - High School partner identification
 - Final recommendations to School Committee
 - Submission for City of Boston capital planning process for design work

Urban Science Academy and West Roxbury Academy at the

West Roxbury Education Complex

WREC Original BBPS Proposal Review

1. BPS recommends closing the West Roxbury Education Complex facility at the end of June 2019.
 - a. Urban Science Academy and West Roxbury Academy would close with the facility.
 - b. Highly specialized programs would be moved intact to different schools.
2. The timeline of proposal was driven by the building condition.
3. The recommendation for USA and WRA closures was also made with consideration of the longstanding enrollment declines and academic challenges.

*Originally presented to the Boston School Committee on October 17, 2018

Historic Total Enrollment

Students Enrolled in WRA and USA - Last 5 Years	
School Year	Total Enrollment
SY1415	1056
SY1516	1027
SY1617	940
SY1718	875
SY1819	740

Historic Academic Performance

4-Year Graduation Rates	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Urban Science Academy	62.1	64.9	60.3	70	61.7	NA
West Roxbury Academy	75.4	65.5	64.1	73.6	63.7	NA

DESE Accountability Percentiles	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Urban Science Academy	16	14	8	5	9	17
West Roxbury Academy	NA	NA	3	4	4	3

West Roxbury Education Complex: BBPS Proposal Update Highlights

1. As originally presented the West Roxbury Education Complex is proposed to close at the end of SY2018-2019; and both USA and WRA are recommended for closure.
2. Highly specialized program strands will be moved intact and become permanent components of new school communities beginning in SY2019-2020
3. NEW: Space has been identified to house rising seniors from both schools until graduation in SY2019-2020. Options under review require changes to current building utilization and dialogue with existing school communities. We will provide an update on our progress on December 5, 2018.

West Roxbury Education Complex: BBPS Proposal Update Highlights

4. Rising sophomores and juniors would be prioritized in the school assignment process through registration in Round 1 instead of Round 2 beginning on January 3, 2019 for next school year.
5. Off track youth would be provided with individualized and prioritized placement options within the BPS portfolio of alternative schools.

This represents an evolution in planning since the October 17th recommendation to School Committee and is responsive to the priorities within the feedback received from the USA and WRA communities.

West Roxbury Education Complex: BBPS Proposal Update Detail

Community Engagement and Feedback

1. Members of the BuildBPS team convened and supported
 - a. 2 community forums
 - b. 20 meetings with groups and individual students
 - c. 12 meetings in various settings with members of the faculty, leadership and staff of the WREC

2. Feedback Themes
 - a. Keep the full school communities intact and ideally together with return rights to the new WREC facility
 - b. Seek BPS and non-BPS options for placement
 - c. Prioritize groupings of students and staff to be kept together, if both schools could not remain open
 - i. Students with disabilities
 - ii. Rising seniors
 - iii. Rising seniors & juniors

West Roxbury Education Complex: BBPS Proposal Update Detail

Follow up analysis of community generated suggestions and alternatives

Conducted interviews with school-based staff, visited school campuses, reviewed facility blueprints and historic construction documents, analyzed individual student records, and assessed school-based graduation requirements to consider the following possibilities:

1. Potential to move one or both schools
2. Prioritizing placement of highly specialized strands
3. Keeping seniors and/or juniors from both schools together through graduation
4. The impact of any transition on both current students at the WREC and those at any potential receiving sites

West Roxbury Education Complex: BBPS Proposal Update Detail

Transition Planning

1. Hold school community meetings to share updates including the opportunity to relocate the rising senior classes and specialized programs to alternate locations.
2. Finalize sites for the rising senior class and specialized program strands; convene a small working group of WREC teachers and staff to tour those sites.
 - a. We are looking at a diverse range of schools for the highly specialized program strands, including both open and selective enrollment high schools.
3. For rising sophomores and juniors, finalize a wide range of high school options ahead of the school registration process. Conduct individual student and family consultations to assist with the school choice process.

West Roxbury Education Complex: BBPS Proposal Update Detail

Transition Planning

4. In collaboration with the BTU, engage in impact bargaining regarding staff transitions.
5. Work with the WREC community to identify transition supports needed this school year and during the summer. Work with receiving schools on transition support for students in SY2019-2020.

Questions & Discussion