

To: Boston School Committee

From: Dr. Donna Muncey, Deputy Superintendent of Strategy

Subject: Boston Adult Technical High School support for students over age 22

Date: January 19, 2018

The Boston Public Schools recognize the unique role of Boston Adult Technical Academy within the school district. Historically the school was designed to serve English Language Learners and overage students and to provide an academic program that would ensure readiness for and a path towards graduation.

The school was designed to serve an age range from 19-22; at age 22 students were intended to transfer to adult programs within the city if they were not eligible to graduate. As stated in Superintendent's Circular AMT-5, students are expected to make a transition to adult education programs at age 22.

Currently BATA serves exclusively a population of students who are at or over nineteen (19) years of age, predominantly English Language Learners.

Of the students who are past or approaching the age 22 enrollment limit, a cohort are within 6 months of graduation. In order to facilitate their learning and foster completion for many of these ELL students, we seek a one-year exception to the age 22 mandatory transfer policy so that BATA may continue academic program services to students who are over 22 for this academic year.

The district is developing a referral process and plan for transitioning overage students to community based programs and adult education programs for future years. In addition, the school will develop a transition plan and explore adult placement options for all students who are not able to meet graduation requirements this year. This is a one-year measure and after this year the school will establish a one-year plan for all students who reach their twenty-first birthdays and are enrolled in the school, in accordance with Superintendent's Circular AMT-5.