



Office of the Superintendent

Dr. Brenda Cassellius
2300 Washington Street
Roxbury, Massachusetts 02119

TO: Chairperson and Members, Boston School Committee
FROM: Dr. Brenda Cassellius, Superintendent, Boston Public Schools
DATE: June 10, 2020
SUBJECT: FY20 Superintendent Evaluation

Members of the School Committee:

I respectfully submit my first-year self-evaluation for your review and consideration. Dr. Coleman and I worked throughout the year and, at times, met with Mr. Loconto, School Committee Chairman, to clarify and align the objectives of my evaluation and process for review. As you recall from the January 29, 2020 school committee meeting, the school committee determined that, in this first year, I would not set goals outside of the broader context of the 5-year strategic planning and 3-year budgetary focus for this school year. Dr. Coleman and I presented on January 29, 2020, to introduce the evaluation process and met on January 8, 2020, and January 24, 2020, to finalize expectations and the timeline for the review.

Attached electronically, you will find my self-evaluation document with narrative and evidence (attached in links) to support the overall rating and also proposed goals for the 2020-2021 school year. This evaluation aligns with the state requirements for administrators and superintendents in the state of Massachusetts and captures the job description and priorities of the School Committee outlined in Boston Public Schools.

Certainly, this year has been like no other in my career. On March 17, we closed our doors due to the world-wide COVID-19 pandemic. We immediately started to reinvent public education as we know it, and to do so remotely. That alone has been a huge challenge as schools do so much more to meet the needs of the whole child. We quickly ramped up food distribution sites and delivery, as well as mental health support and academic programming. To date, BPS has served over 800,000 meals, with over 300,000 delivered door to door to students with disabilities. On May 25, the world changed again with the senseless murder of a Black man at the hands of a White police officer. With COVID-19 sharply revealing the disproportionate impact of long-standing inequities on Black and Brown people, and now with the murder of George Floyd, there's a renewed sense of urgency and call to action sweeping the nation to address the core equity and anti-racist work steeped within our strategic plan. Hopefully, that will be the wind beneath our wings to do even more courageous work on behalf of our students and their families.



In summary, I am immensely grateful for the School Committee's support this school year. I also want to recognize the incredible leadership and partnership of my executive team, central office staff, school leaders, teachers, and support staff. Finally, I am so appreciative of the gracious welcome I have received from the many partners, parents, and the broader Boston Public School community. With this support guiding our work, we have adopted a 5-year Strategic Plan, secured a three-year \$100M investment from the city and Mayor, and navigated the storms of school closure, while continuing to ensure our children and their families get what they need during this challenging time. We still have much work to do, and I have more to learn, but we are building a strong foundation in which to reach every child, so no one falls through the cracks.

I look forward to working with you over the next month to finalize my goals for next year and to continue the work ahead to a successful reopening of school this fall.

Brenda Cassellius

Dr. Brenda Cassellius
Superintendent

