



# **BOSTON STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (BSAC)**

***Presentation to Boston School Committee***

***June 10, 2015***

# What is BSAC?

BSAC is a **body of student leaders** representing their respective high schools, which serves as the **voice of students** to the District.

Our job is to:

1. Represent our school at BSAC meetings
2. Keep schools informed of relevant city-wide issues
3. Work on policies/issues that BSAC develops throughout the year
4. Advise the School Committee



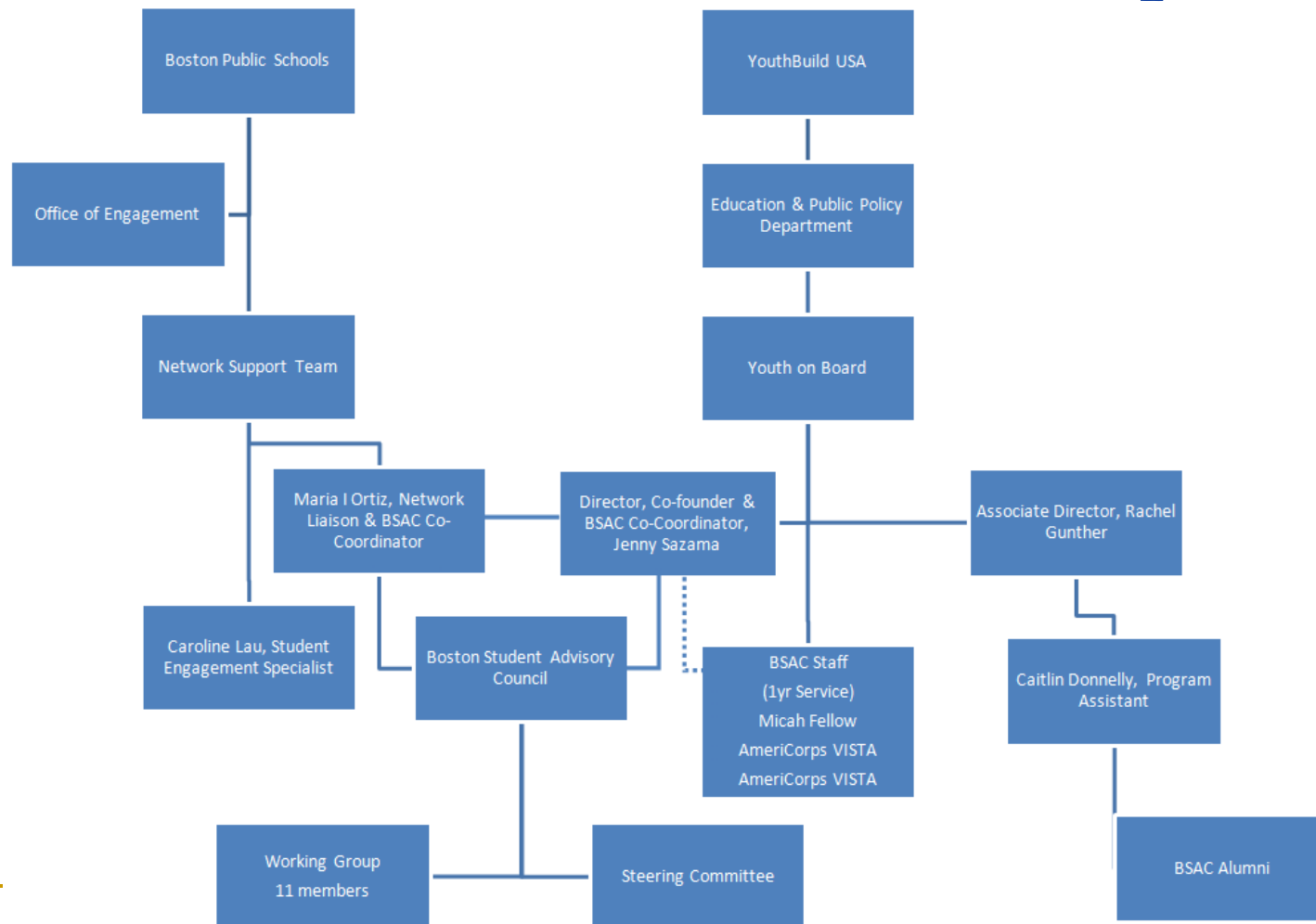
## MISSION

*BSAC advocates for and protects the voices of students in BPS by **empowering the student body** to express their opinions regarding education reform and ensuring that **students are included in decision and policy making** that impacts their lives and educational experiences.*

# Our Structure

- Working Group
    - Leadership team
    - 10-12 Students
  - Steering Committee
    - Reps from BPS High Schools
    - Attend meetings every other week
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# Inside/Outside Partnership





# **BSAC Campaigns SY 2014-15**

# Extended Learning Opportunities

- History
    - Alignment to Vision of BPS Graduate
    - Civics Curriculum - SR&R Campaign
    - Boston After School & Beyond
  - Worked closely with Kavita Venkatesh
  - Presented to the Headmasters
  - The work continues....
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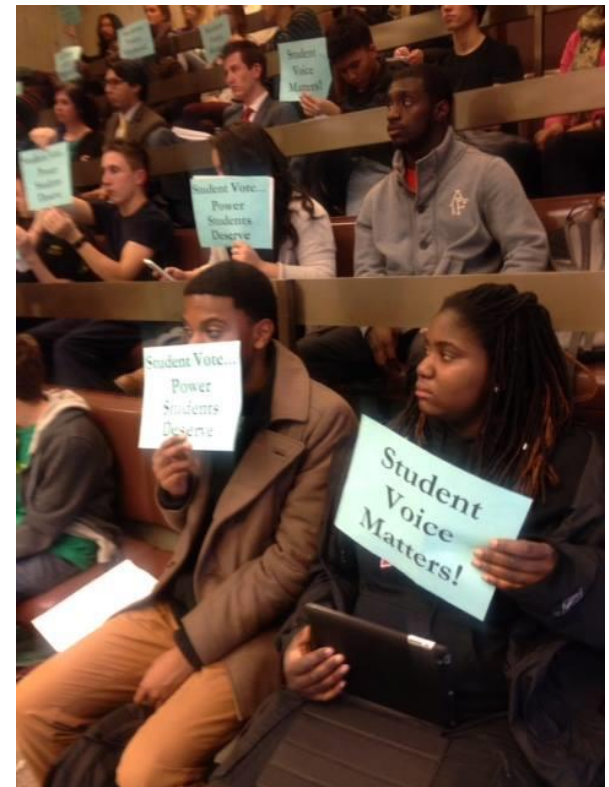
## Student Voice in Superintendent Search

- Youth Forum on the Superintendent Search
- Served on community panels with 4 finalists
- Dr. Chang's transition team



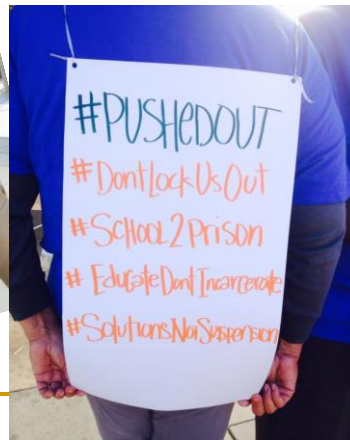
## Student Vote

- Change state statute through Home Rule Petition
- Goal: 2 students on Boston School Committee with voting rights
- City Council Hearing

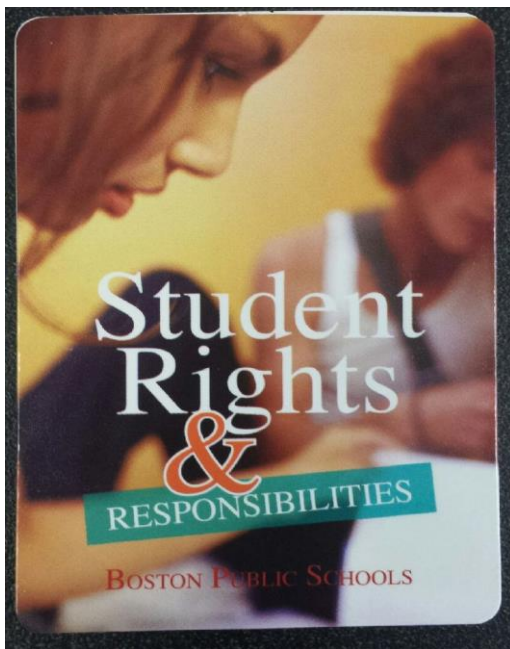


# School Discipline

- Code of Conduct Advisory Council (COCAC)
- Dignity in Schools Coalition
- Annual Listening Project
- Moratorium on Out-of-School Suspensions



# Student Rights & Responsibilities

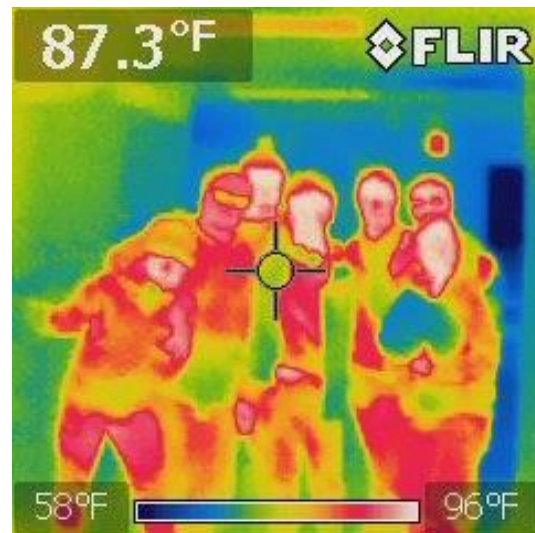


- SR&R cards
- School Campaigns
  - Reached over 500 high school students in 5 schools
- Phone Application
  - 930 Downloads to date

[www.bostonstudentrights.org](http://www.bostonstudentrights.org)

## Climate Justice

- Divestment from fossil fuels
- Climate Action Plan
- BPS energy efficiency



# Teacher Evaluation

- Student voice is best predictor of student outcomes!
- Student Feedback Working Group
- Working with the State
- Goals:
  - Every student fills out a survey for every teacher
  - The teacher receives the feedback from students
  - The student feedback portion of teacher evaluation should not be optional - needs to be more than just evidence!
- Challenge: District implementation

- Exemplary
- Proficient
- Needs Improvement
- Unsatisfactory

## Collaborative Role

- Youth Affordabili(T) Coalition
  - Youth Pass pilot
- Jobs for Justice
  - Youth Jobs
  - Raising the Minimum Wage
- Participatory Budgeting
- Go Boston 2030
- BTU Community Advisory Board
- Boston Education Justice Alliance (BEJA)



# Support Needed from School Committee

- Meet with us 2 times/year
  - Hold schools accountable
    - 2 students from each high school
    - 1 key liaison/adult staff from each school to support BSAC student
  - Fundraising
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*Thank  
You!*

