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
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
Inside/Outside Partnership

- Boston Public Schools
  - Office of Engagement
    - Network Support Team
      - Maria I. Ortiz, Network Liaison & BSAC Co-Coordinator
        - Caroline Lau, Student Engagement Specialist
      - BSAC Staff (1yr Service)
        - Micah Fellow
        - AmeriCorps VISTA
    - Working Group
      - 11 members
  - Boston Student Advisory Council
    - Steering Committee
  - BSAC Alumni

- YouthBuild USA
  - Education & Public Policy Department
    - Youth on Board
      - Associate Director, Rachel Gunther
        - Caitlin Donnelly, Program Assistant
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....
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
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
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
Thank You!