

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Boston School Committee Nominating Panel**
Monday, November 18, 2019, 3:10-6:00 p.m.
Boston City Hall, Room 603

Members Present:

Laurie Ciardi, Chairperson, Mayoral appointee
Tony Barros, Mayoral appointee
Angelina Camacho, Boston Parents Organizing Network
Michelle Cannon, Special Education Parent Advisory Council
Jerry Howland, Mayoral appointee
Michael Maguire, Boston Teachers Union
Nancy Minucci, Citywide Parent Council
John Riordan, Boston Municipal Research Bureau
Valerie Roberson, Roxbury Community College
Rhoda Schneider (for MA Commissioner of Elementary & Secondary Education)
William Thomas, Boston Public Schools, Principal, Charlestown High School

1. Call Meeting to Order

Laurie Ciardi, Chairperson of the Boston School Committee Nominating Panel, called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. The main items of business were to interview applicants for two seats on the Boston School Committee and then deliberate and decide on a list of 3-5 nominees to present to the Mayor for each seat. The seats are currently held by Alexandra Oliver-Davila and Lorna Rivera, whose terms will conclude at the end of 2019. The statute requires the Panel to submit 3-5 names to the Mayor for each vacant seat by the first Monday in December (December 2, 2019).

2. Approval of Minutes

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Panel **voted** unanimously to accept the minutes of the meeting of October 2, 2019.

3. Review List of Applicants to Interview

The Panel agreed at the October 2 meeting to interview all applicants if ten or fewer applications were received by the November 12 deadline. Eight applications were received by the deadline. Ms. Ciardi informed the Panel that one applicant has since withdrawn and another applicant has declined an interview.

4. Interview Applicants

The Panel interviewed six applicants for the two open School Committee seats.

5. Deliberation

Following the interviews, Ms. Ciardi reminded the Panel that the City Law Department advised in November 2015 that when more than one seat is open: (1) the Panel must submit a list of 3-5 names for each seat, consistent with the statute, and (2) the Panel may include the same names (one, some, or all) on each list, if it so chooses.

The Panel discussed the applicants and deliberated on a list for each seat. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Panel **voted** to submit the following names to Mayor Walsh for him to consider for appointment to the two open School Committee seats (each for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2020):

Seat # 1

Tiye Cort
Uzochi Erlingsson
Alexandra Oliver-Davila
Lorna Rivera

Seat # 2

Tiye Cort
Uzochi Erlingsson
Alexandra Oliver-Davila
Lorna Rivera

The vote was 9-2-0. Ms. Camacho and Mr. Thomas voted in opposition. Ms. Ciardi will prepare the letter of transmittal to the Mayor and will notify all the applicants of their status.

6. New Business

The Panel discussed ideas for encouraging more people to apply for School Committee seats and there was consensus that:

- the City and the Panel should get word out earlier (e.g., early fall) about upcoming vacancies;
- the Panel should set an earlier application deadline (this year it was November 12) and then extend the deadline if necessary; and
- the City should use the Neighborhood Services team, and Panel members should use their networks, to spread the word about opportunities to apply.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Panel thanked Ms. Ciardi for her work as Chair and **voted** unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhoda E. Schneider