

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Boston School Committee Nominating Panel**
Wednesday, October 4, 2023, 5:00-6:05 p.m.
Meeting by remote participation via Zoom

Members Present:

William Thomas, Boston High School Heads Association, Panel Chair
Neema Avashia, Boston Teachers Union
Joanne Freeman, Citywide Parents Council
Jerry Howland, Mayoral Appointee
Charlie Kim, Special Education Parents Advisory Council
Rhoda Schneider (for Commissioner of Elementary & Secondary Education)
Rachel Skerritt, Mayoral Appointee

Staff Assistance: Sky Flores, Policy Assistant, Office of Mayor Michelle Wu, City of Boston

1. Call Meeting to Order

Will Thomas, Chair of the Boston School Committee Nominating Panel, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and members introduced themselves.

2. Elect Panel Chair

The Panel annually elects a Chair from among its members. Chair Thomas called for nominations. He was the only member nominated. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Panel **voted** to appoint Mr. Thomas as Chair. The vote, by roll call, was unanimous. Panel members thanked Mr. Thomas for his willingness to continue to serve in this role. He thanked the members.

3. Approval of Minutes

Members reviewed the minutes of the August 7 and August 8, 2023 meetings and made a minor correction. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Panel **voted** to approve the minutes of both meetings. The vote, by roll call, was unanimous.

4. School Committee Application and Process

Ms. Flores said the seats on the School Committee currently held by Chantal Lima Barbosa and Rafaela Polanco Garcia have terms that will conclude as of January. For each seat, the Panel must send 3-5 names to the Mayor by December 4, 2023. Ms. Flores also noted that the Nominating Panel, which includes four persons appointed by the Mayor, has two vacancies that the Mayor will fill soon. The Panel discussed the most recent version of the School Committee member application and agreed to meet again to decide if any changes are needed to the application or the timeline or process for deliberations. The Panel agreed to this tentative timeline:

- Applications due: November 9, 2023
- Panel deliberates on applications: November 13, 2023
- Panel interviews selected applicants: Week of November 27, 2023
- Panel submits nominations to the Mayor: On or before December 4, 2023

Ms. Flores said she would poll members to schedule dates for upcoming Panel meetings.

5. Public Comment

Chair Thomas invited members of the public attending the meeting to submit comments. No comments were submitted.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Panel **voted** unanimously to adjourn its meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhoda E. Schneider