

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairperson and Members  
Boston School Committee

FROM: Nathan Kuder  
Chief Financial Officer



SUBJECT: Grants for Approval

DATE: April 7, 2021

Attached please find the grants for approval by the School Committee on April 7, 2021. Full copies of the grant proposals are available for your review and have been filed with the Office of the Secretary to the School Committee.



**GRANTS FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVAL**  
**April 7, 2021**

<b>Amount</b>	<b>FY</b>	<b>Grant Name</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Fund Manager</b>	<b>Focus Area(s)</b>	<b>Sites</b>
\$34,425	2021	Civics Teaching and Learning Grant	New	Angela Hedley-Mitchell	Curriculum and Instruction	Districtwide
<b>\$34,425</b>	<b>Total</b>					

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM – BPS21626

Grant Name: Civics Teaching and Learning Grant  
Status: New  
Grant Type: Competitive  
Start & End Dates: March 11, 2021 - June 30, 2021  
Funding Source: State  
Grantor Contact: Contact Name: Cecelia Spencer  
Address: 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148-4906  
Phone: (781) 338-6243  
Email: cecelia.spencer@doe.mass.edu

Lead BPS Department and/or School(s): BPS History & Social Studies Department

BPS Fund Manager: Angela E. Hedley-Mitchell, Program Director

Department Head/School Leader: Christine Landry, Assistant Superintendent

Annual Award Amount: \$34,425

Total Award Amount (if grant period more than a year):

Carry-forward option: Yes

Approximate # of students (or teachers, central office staff) served: 50 teachers and central office staff

Sites: Districtwide

Key External Partners: Facing History & Ourselves, EMK Institute for the US Senate

### **Grant Description**

The purpose of this state grant program is to support civics teaching and learning through the implementation of student-led civics projects, high-quality professional development, and civics learning experiences. The BPS History & Social Studies Department proposed a multifaceted approach to deepen civic learning by focusing on civic teacher leaders, a high school summit, and facilitation of an end of year district-wide civics showcase.

### **Expense Categories this Grant Pays For**

- ~65% will be allocated to stipends for civic teacher leaders representing across grades K-12
- ~ 20% will be used for teacher substitute coverage
- ~ 8% will be used for contracts with Facing History and EMK Institute for the US Senate
- ~ 7% will be used for civics showcase event and transportation

### **Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-bound (SMART) Goals**

Boston Public Schools History/Social Studies department is proposing a multifaceted approach to deepening civic learning and increase access to equitable instruction focused on civic knowledge, skills, and dispositions across K-12:

- Prioritizing the 33 transformation schools in the support of civics initiatives.

**Goal #1:** Recruit at least 55 teachers to participate in a cohort of civic teacher leaders by March 31, 2020. Teachers should equally represent across grade K-12 and at least 40% of BPS schools.

**Indicator:** Attendance at the civic teacher leader meetings

**Goal #2 :** By April 30, 2020, recruit at least 50 teachers to take part in the high school history summit. Teachers should represent at least 75% of high schools to increase representation of school and student communities.

**Indicator:** Attendance at the high school history summit

**Goal #3:** Facilitate eighth-grade civics showcase for BPS students by June 10, 2020. Student participants should represent at least 75% of schools containing an eighth-grade cohort.

**Indicator:** Student participation in showcase

**Please specify how this grant aligns with the district's 20/25 Strategic Vision's Commitment (s) and Priority(s). Please List them below:**

Engaging students in comprehensive civics education is essential to developing civically engaged students, to empower them to make civic decisions and become participants in the democratic process. The Civics Teaching and Learning Grant provides teachers with opportunities to engage in professional learning to strengthen students' opportunities within current curricula to engage with civic content and civic discussions. The civics professional learning grant will also support teacher implementation of the state-required civics action project.

The grant aligns with the district's 20-25 Strategic Plan commitment of accelerating learning and amplifying all voices. The grant will provide teachers with resources and curriculum through partner organizations to provide culturally and linguistically affirming methodology to exploring civics. Engaging teachers in professional learning and the development of a civics educator group; will build teacher networks to share practices and content, providing students a civics education built upon district collaboration. The grant also allows for the opportunity for students to present their civic action projects to the BPS and the greater community through a civics showcase. The showcase will give students the opportunity to amplify their voices by sharing a civic issue for which student action was taken.