

Second Amendment to the March 10, 2020 Memorandum of Understanding between the Boston Public Schools and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

WHEREAS, the Governor has declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic and has ordered a state-wide closure of elementary and secondary schools through the 2019-2020 school year.

WHEREAS, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated March 10, 2020 between the Boston Public Schools (BPS) and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) permits the MOU to be amended by the agreement of the parties.

WHEREAS, BPS, DESE and the Boston Teachers Union (BTU) have engaged in productive discussions regarding matters related to the MOU, including those outlined in paragraph 19;

WHEREAS, BPS is focused on the immediate needs of the school district, students, and families in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and is fully engaged in planning for a successful re-opening of the district.

NOW, THEREFORE, BPS and DESE agree as follows:

1. BPS and DESE recognize that the priority initiatives identified in the MOU are critically important, and work relating to those initiatives will go forward to the extent feasible.
2. The implementation of the MOU provisions relating to BPS's measures of success will be delayed for one school year, and will be implemented as of the 2021-2022 school year.
3. During the 2020-2021 school year, DESE will provide the measures of support identified in the MOU, as follows:
 - (a) DESE will allocate up to \$4 million during fiscal year 2021, subject to appropriation, to support BPS's and DESE's work identified in the MOU.
 - (b) DESE will work with BPS to strengthen educator diversity and effectiveness.
 - (c) DESE will work with BPS to provide equitable access to student supports through enhanced partnerships.
 - (d) DESE will work with BPS to improve its facilities.
 - (e) DESE will work with BPS to improve teaching and learning, including developing or enhancing Early College programs for the high schools identified in Appendix B of the MOU, and providing demonstration lessons and holding family and community meetings in the spring of 2021 (March - May of 2021) in the lead up to the launch of the Kaleidoscope program for school year 2021-2022.
4. The 60-day planning period outlined in paragraph 19 of the MOU will commence on March 15, 2021.

5. DESE and BPS will communicate regularly, and at a minimum, BPS will brief DESE monthly regarding district planning and progress related to the initiatives outlined in the MOU.

Brenda Cassellius

Dr. Brenda Cassellius, Superintendent

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7/17/20

Date:

Jeffrey C. Riley, Commissioner

7/17/2020

Date