

Required for all Boston School Committee proposals and other presentations as appropriate.

<p>Title of Proposal or Presentation: East Boston K-6 Acceleration</p>	<p>Date: November 20, 2019</p>
<p>Summary of Proposal or Presentation:</p>	<p>On June 12, 2019, School Committee approved a broad plan to realign the district’s schools to a K-6/7-12 and K-8/9-12 model, and gradually phase out stand-alone middle schools.</p> <p>On May 22, 2019, the School Committee was presented with a K-6 conversion plan: 11 K-5 schools across the city would begin serving students in grades K-6 in SY19-20, and 5 K-5 schools in East Boston would begin serving students in grades K-6 in SY20-21. Today, we are proposing to accelerate the timeline for the conversion of the 5 East Boston schools to take place in SY19-20 (rather than SY20-21).</p> <p>As part of this proposal, the Edwards Middle School (currently 6-8) will not enroll a 6th grade next year.</p>
<p>Equity Implications (please include impacts on people of color, Special Education students, English learners, and other traditionally marginalized populations as appropriate):</p>	<p>East Boston K-5 Schools have a much higher proportion of English learners (62% vs. 32%) and Latino students (75% vs. 43%) than the district average. They are slightly lower than the district in terms of students with disabilities (16% vs. 20%) and their students’ Opportunity Index scores (0.47 vs. 0.50). As these schools expand from K-5 to K-6, East Boston students will benefit by experiencing fewer transitions.</p> <p>The Edwards currently serves a high number of students with disabilities (37% vs. 20% district-wide), more Latino students (67% vs. 43%), and fewer White (8% vs. 14%) and Black students (16% vs. 30%). All students currently at the Edwards will have the opportunity to remain at the Edwards and we do not plan on reducing supports for these students.</p> <p>However, deciding not to admit a 6th grade class will likely</p>



	<p>have negative impacts on the overall learning experience of rising 7th and 8th grade students by affecting the climate of the school, such as decreased student and staff morale.</p>
<p>Key Highlights or Considerations:</p>	<p>Overall, this proposal represents the acceleration of a previous announcement regarding configuration shifts. BPS is committed to the School Committee approved vision of reconfiguring grade pathways and accelerating that process aims to minimize the overall period of disruption and uncertainty for students, families, communities, and staff.</p>
<p>Has an equity analysis been conducted at any stage of preparation of the proposal or presentation? If so, please share information about the participants and process.</p>	<p>The plan to first begin with the phased in reconfiguration of the K-6, 7-12 pathway aims to limit transitions and improve academic outcomes for all students.</p> <p>This decision accelerates the implementation timeline for this group of schools, and therefore for the district as a whole.</p> <p>The decision to accelerate the transition of East Boston schools to K-6 prioritizes a large population of English learners and Latinx students in benefitting from this shift. However, the primary driver for this decision is based on the readiness of these particular schools and school communities for this transition.</p>
<p>Budget Impact (if any):</p>	<p>This year the district expects to provide increased sustainability allocations to support schools adding a 6th grade and for impacted middle schools. We estimate this could cost a total of \$800K to \$1.5M. We plan to phase out the sustainability allocation for these schools in FY21.</p>
<p>Implications of a Yes Vote:</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Implications of a No Vote:</p>	<p>N/A</p>

