

Office of the Superintendent

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DATE: Nov. 16, 2016	TITLE OF PRESENTATION: Mattahunt Elementary School Proposal
Presentation Overview:	<p>Part 1: The Mattahunt Elementary School was designated a “Level 4 School Under Review” by the Commissioner. In order to ensure that every student at the school has a high quality learning experience, Boston Public Schools proposes to close the under-performing elementary school on June 30, 2017. 100% of the current students will be guaranteed a seat in a level 1-3 school based on their home-based assignment options. Families will receive personalized support during the school choice process. All Mattahunt students will be eligible to participate in Round 1 of the school choice process and be granted priority to ensure a seat in a higher performing school.</p> <p>Part II: On July 1, 2017, BPS will open a new school to serve early childhood grades K0-1. The new school will provide more targeted instructional and social-emotional support in the early grades for students. The school will specialize in trauma sensitive teaching and learning methods and serve as a model school that incorporates the pillars of the BPS Opportunity and Achievement Gap Policy. The school will be designed in collaboration with community-based partners to provide high quality wraparound services to the Mattapan and nearby communities.</p>
Statement of Vote:	<p>The Boston Public Schools Committee is being asked to vote on</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the Superintendent’s proposal to close the Mattahunt Elementary School; and 2. approve the opening of a new school in the facility that will serve students in grades K0-1.
Educational and Racial Equity Implications:	<p>Opening a school that serves students in grades K0-1 will support the closing of the Opportunity and Achievement Gap for students. The research on the impact of early childhood education shows that early childhood instruction has a significant impact on student achievement. 95% of young</p>

	<p>people in Mattapan and surrounding communities identify as black and Latino, many of whom fall into the achievement gap. Our children deserve a high quality educational foundation that will set them up for long-term success in school and in life.</p> <p>Current upper-grade students only have one opportunity to master the skills and concepts in their elementary years. Our children deserve a high quality learning experience. They will be afforded the opportunity to transition to higher-performing schools based on DESE level, allowing for more access to rigorous instruction that prepares students for success in school and in life.</p>
Policy Implications:	<p>This action meets the allowed changes school districts can enact in the best interest of students attending a school designated as a Level 4 Under Review school. Mattahunt has exhausted its three-year DESE timeline to implement its initial 2012-13 turnaround plan to show dramatic, sustainable growth in student achievement. Without this action, the DESE Commissioner can use his discretion to name Mattahunt Elementary School a Level 5 school, which would place the school in the control of the State of Massachusetts for next remediation steps.</p>
Budget Impact:	<p>As we work with the school community and school committee in developing the plan, we will be able to estimate the cost of the proposal we eventually submit. The eventual plan created with the school community will determine the actual cost. Currently, we are investing \$600,000 to account for the expiration of funds from the School Redesign Grant. Federal grants and community partners may help supplement the costs of the new school.</p>
Implications of Yes Vote:	<p>The Mattahunt Elementary School will close on June 30, 2017 and a new school serving grades K0-1 would open on July 1, 2017. Planning for the transition would move forward with local community and central office support.</p>
Implications of No Vote:	<p>The Mattahunt Elementary School would remain as a Level 4 Under Review school and is eligible to be designated as a Level 5 school at any time after mid-November 2016, which may trigger the loss of a BPS school to the State.</p>