



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REMOTE BOSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE SESSION

September 16 , 2020

The Boston School Committee held a remote executive session on Zoom on September 16, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. For more information about any of the items listed below, please visit www.bostonpublicschools.org/schoolcommittee, email feedback@bostonpublicschools.org or call the Boston School Committee Office at (617) 635-9014.

ATTENDANCE

School Committee Members Present: Chairperson Michael Loconto; Vice Chairperson Alexandra Oliver-Dávila; Dr. Hardin Coleman; Michael O’Neill; Dr. Lorna Rivera; Jeri Robinson; and Quoc Tran.

School Committee Members Absent: None.

BPS Staff Present: Superintendent Brenda Cassellius; Senior Advisor Tammy Pust; Senior Advisor Rob Consalvo; and Director of Labor Relations Jeremiah Hasson.

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED

Agenda

Memorandum of Agreement between the Boston Teachers Union, Local 66 AFT-Massachusetts and the School Committee of the City of Boston related to the Reopening of Schools for the 2020-2021 School Year during the on-going COVID-19 Pandemic

PowerPoint: BPS and MOU, September 16, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Loconto called the executive session to order. All members were present.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Director of Labor Relations Jeremiah Hasson presented an overview of a tentative Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Boston Public Schools and Boston Teachers Union, Local 66

AFT-Massachusetts, and the School Committee of the City of Boston related to the Reopening of Schools for the 2020-2021 School Year during the on-going COVID-19 Pandemic.

Highlights of the tentative agreement include:

- Existing Collective Bargaining Agreement controls except as changed
- Personal Protective Equipment (masks) provided, physical distancing, and sanitation protocols
- September 18, 2020: all teachers in buildings
- Building walkthroughs by Health & Safety teams (September 17, 2020, and tours for all teachers (September 18, 2020)
- All teachers work remotely until students report (beginning October 1, 2020)
- Teachers teach from buildings when students report on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays (Wednesdays teachers can choose to work remotely)
- Recommendations from Task Force regarding remote schedules
- BPS perform COVID testing on 5% of teachers, randomly selected
- Regular leaves and reasonable accommodations will be provided by the district
- Child care for K-12 age kids if stay in room/supervised

The MOA provides for a safe and responsible phased-in return to learning for SY 2020-21:

- September 21: All students begin remote learning
- Thursday, October 1: Students prioritized for in-person learning begin hybrid
- Thursday, October 15 (B) & Monday, October 19 (A): Grades K0, K1, K2 return
- Thursday, October 22 (B) & Monday, October 26 (A): Grades 1 - 3 return
- Thursday, November 5 (B) & Monday, November 9 (A): Grades 4 - 8 (secondary schools start grades 6 - 8) return
- Monday, November 16 (A) & Thursday, November 19 (B): Grades 9 - 12 return

Committee members asked questions about how and where remote instruction would be taught, and which students would receive priority for in-person learning up to four days a week (students with disabilities in public day schools; students with disabilities in substantially separate classrooms; students with disabilities in inclusion classrooms with high needs, as defined by the student's Individualized Education Plan; students with limited or interrupted formal education (SLIFE); English Learners in English Language Development Programs Levels 1 & 2; students Experiencing Homelessness; and students in the care of the Department of Children and Families). The Superintendent, Senior Advisor Tammy Pust, and Director of Labor Relations Jeremiah Hasson responded to all questions. Committee members expressed support for the MOA and thanked the Superintendent and her senior team for the many hours they dedicated to reaching the agreement. Mr. Loconto said that the district is compiling a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about reopening for School Year 2020-21 which will be posted at bostonpublicschools.org/reopening.

ADJOURN

At approximately 5:10 p.m., the Committee voted unanimously, by roll call, to adjourn the executive session. The Committee returned to public session.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Elizabeth Sullivan", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Elizabeth Sullivan
Executive Secretary