



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REMOTE BOSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

January 4, 2021

The Boston School Committee held a remote annual organizational meeting on January 4, 2021 at 5 p.m. on Zoom. For more information about any of the items listed below, 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 Alexandra Oliver-Dávila; Vice Chairperson Michael O'Neill; Dr. Hardin Coleman; Dr. Lorna Rivera; Jeri Robinson; Quoc Tran; and student representative Khymani James.

School Committee Members Absent: None.

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED

Agenda

2021 Meeting Calendar

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Oliver-Dávila called the meeting to order. Ms. Sullivan called the roll. All members were present. Ms. Oliver-Dávila said that tonight's meeting was being streamed live on Zoom. It will be rebroadcast on Boston City TV. It will also be posted at bostonpublicschools.org/schoolcommittee and on YouTube. She announced that simultaneous interpretation services were available Spanish, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin, and American Sign Language (ASL); the interpreters introduced themselves and gave instructions in their native language on how to access simultaneous interpretation by changing the Zoom channel. Meeting documents were translated into all nine of the official BPS languages and publicly posted at www.bostonpublicschools.org/schoolcommittee prior to the start of the meeting.

Ms. Oliver-Dávila congratulated Mr. O'Neill on his reappointment to the Committee by Mayor Walsh for a new four-year term. Mr. O'Neill has been a member of the Committee since 2008. He served as Chair from 2013-2017 and currently serves as vice chair. He is also the Chair of the

Board of the Council of Great City Schools, and is a BPS graduate. Mr. O’Neill thanked Mayor Walsh, the School Committee Nominating Panel, and his fellow Committee members for their support.

2021 MEETING CALENDAR

Approved - On roll call, the School Committee unanimously approved the 2021 meeting calendar as presented.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Ms. Oliver-Dávila issued a call for nominations for the office of chairperson for 2021. Ms. Robinson nominated Ms. Oliver-Dávila. Dr. Coleman seconded the nomination.

Approved – On roll call, the Committee voted unanimously to close the nominations for chairperson.

Approved – On roll call, the Committee voted unanimously to elect Ms. Oliver-Dávila as chairperson of the Boston School Committee for calendar year 2021. Ms. Oliver-Dávila thanked the Committee for entrusting her with the privilege of leading the Committee.

Ms. Oliver-Dávila issued a call for nominations for the office of vice chairperson for 2021. Dr. Coleman nominated Mr. O’Neill. Dr. Rivera seconded the nomination.

Approved – On roll call, the Committee voted unanimously to close the nominations for vice chairperson.

Approved – By roll call, the Committee voted unanimously to elect Mr. O’Neill as vice chairperson of the Boston School Committee for calendar year 2021.

Ms. Oliver-Dávila thanked her colleagues for their trust and spoke about the anti-racist and student outcome-oriented work that is the current focus of the Committee. In December, the Committee participated in a professional development training led by Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, the author of, “How to be an Anti-Racist” and founding director of Boston University’s Center for Antiracist Research. The Committee is also working with A.J. Crabill, director of Governance for the Council of Great City Schools, to refocus on the core mission of improving student outcomes. Mr. Crabill facilitated a major portion of the Committee’s retreat on December 12th, and he will continue to support the Committee in the development of tools and metrics that will help maintain a singular focus on student achievement.

Mr. O’Neill congratulated Ms. Oliver-Dávila on her reelection as chair, and pledged to support her, adding that he was honored to serve BPS students and families in this leadership role. The Superintendent congratulated Ms. Oliver-Dávila and Mr. O’Neill on their leadership roles and praised the Committee for its commitment to students.

ADJOURN

At approximately 5:28 p.m., the Committee voted unanimously, by roll call, to adjourn the meeting.

Attest:



Elizabeth Sullivan
Executive Secretary