



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE SESSION

March 27, 2019

The Boston School Committee held an executive session on March 27, 2019 at 5:15 p.m. at the Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building, 2300 Washington Street, Room 3-43, Roxbury, Massachusetts. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit www.bostonpublicschools.org, 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.

Boston Public Schools (BPS) Staff Present: Interim Superintendent Laura Perille, Chief of Staff Rob Consalvo, Legal Advisor Cathy Lizotte, Assistant Superintendent of Human Capital Emily Qazilbash, Managing Director of Long Term Planning Erika Giampietro, and Deputy Superintendent of Administration Dave Murphy.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Chairperson Loconto called the executive session to order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Loconto provided an overview of the district’s interest-based bargaining process with the Boston Teachers Union thus far. He explained that wages and inclusion are important issues for both parties. The parties are also discussing how best to roll out “Hub Schools,” which are schools with a broad spectrum of on-site services and resources for students and families, many of which are provided by partner organizations.

The parties have held approximately 60 bargaining sessions over the past 10 months and have been meeting 3-4 times a week since February break.

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Roxbury, MA 02119

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BPS' priorities include: scheduling flexibility, paraprofessional staffing autonomies, student assignment issues, excessing/layoff protocols, Suitable Professional Capacity (SPC) support, and financial viability.

Mr. Loconto explained that no public sector union can legally strike and that the current contract continues until the next one is settled. He said that for the most part, both parties agree on a set of principles around common interests but some issues remain unresolved.

Members asked clarifying questions about the contract and messaging, all of which were answered by BPS staff. Mr. Loconto said that the Committee will convene additional executive sessions over the next few months to keep members updated on the status of negotiations. He reminded members that the BTU's contract is with the School Committee and that the Committee delegates its bargaining authority to the district.

Mr. O'Neill, a member of the Committee since 2008, shared his institutional knowledge of the collective bargaining process with the newer Committee members.

Mr. O'Neill requested a brief update on unassigned tenured teachers who are in SPC. Ms. Qazilbash said that there are currently 52 teachers in SPC, which is down from previous years.

Mr. Loconto thanked the district's negotiation team for the many long hours they have dedicated to the negotiating process.

ADJOURN

At 6:15 p.m., the Committee voted by unanimous consent to adjourn the executive session. The Committee returned to public session.

Attest:



Elizabeth Sullivan
Executive Secretary