



## OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REMOTE BOSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

May 11, 2022

The Boston School Committee held a remote meeting on May 11, 2022 at 5 p.m. on Zoom. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit [www.bostonpublicschools.org/schoolcommittee](http://www.bostonpublicschools.org/schoolcommittee), email [feedback@bostonpublicschools.org](mailto:feedback@bostonpublicschools.org) or call the Boston School Committee Office at (617) 635-9014.

### ATTENDANCE

School Committee Members Present: Chairperson Jeri Robinson; Stephen Alkins (departed shortly after roll call); Brandon Cardet-Hernandez; Rafaela Polanco Garcia; and Alternative Student Representative Tiffany Luo.

School Committee Members Absent: Vice Chairperson Michael D. O'Neill; Lorena Lopera; Quoc Tran; and Student Representative Xyra Mercer.

### DOCUMENTS PRESENTED

[Agenda](#)

[Meeting Minutes: May 5, 2022](#)

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Jeri Robinson called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance. Ms. Sullivan called the roll. Mr. O'Neill, Ms. Lopera, Mr. Tran, and Ms. Mercer were absent. All other members were present. Ms. Robinson welcomed Alternative Student Representative Tiffany Luo, who sat in for Xyra Mercer.

Ms. Robinson 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](http://bostonpublicschools.org/schoolcommittee) and on YouTube. She announced that simultaneous interpretation services were available in Spanish, Haitian Creole, Cabo Verdean, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin and American Sign Language (ASL). The interpreters introduced themselves and gave instructions in their native language on how to access simultaneous

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interpretation by changing the Zoom channel. Translated meeting documents were posted at [www.bostonpublicschools.org/schoolcommittee](http://www.bostonpublicschools.org/schoolcommittee) prior to the start of the meeting.

Chair Robinson announced that the Committee would not have a quorum for the duration of the meeting, as several members are dealing with health issues or other personal matters that arose at the last minute. She proposed convening a hearing for the limited purpose of accepting the minutes, listening to public comment, and adjourning the meeting.

**ACTION ITEM**

**Approved** - On roll call, the Committee unanimously approved a motion to convene a hearing for the limited purpose of approving the May 5, 2022 School Committee meeting minutes, listening to public comment, and adjourning the meeting.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following people testified in support of the grade expansion of the P.A. Shaw Elementary School:

- Boston City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, Hyde Park resident
- Skyla Nichols, Mattapan resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Crystal Jenkins, Mattapan resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Andrew Robinson, Mattapan resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Shakura Roberson, Mattapan resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Emersyn Wise, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Brenda Ramsey, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School parent
- Maitte Paulino, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Bridget Reyes, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Felito Diaz, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School parent
- Keicha Gedeon, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Brandon Michel, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Armani Cruz Andujar, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Navon Anderson, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Jahmai Sullivan, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Janaye Merveille, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Glason DeSouto Sanches, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School student
- Claudia Fernandes, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School parent
- Michelle Dilesio, Brighton resident
- Elissa Jordan, Roslindale resident
- Matt Anderson, Somerville resident and Greater Boston Interfaith Organization member
- Carla Johnson, Roxbury resident and Shaw Elementary School teacher
- Morgan Keohane, Brockton resident and Shaw Elementary School teacher
- Illene Carver, Dorchester resident and Shaw Elementary School teacher
- Sharnia Dottin, Cambridge resident and Shaw Elementary School teacher
- Sabine Ferdinand, Stoughton resident and Shaw Elementary School teacher

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- Chantei Alves, Roslindale resident and Shaw Elementary School teacher
- Cecily Graham, Hyde Park resident and Boston City Councilor Julia Mejia staff member, read a resolution in support of the Shaw School.

The following people testified in support of the Boston Teachers Union Collective Bargaining Proposals:

- Jessica Tang, Boston Teachers Union President and Roxbury resident
- Konny Cueto, South End resident and Blackstone Elementary School parent
- Sugey Scannell, Roslindale resident and Hurley K-8 parent
- Maria Mejia, Roxbury resident and Blackstone Elementary School parent
- Claude James, Roxbury resident and Madison Park Technical Vocational High School paraprofessional
- Rosalinda Midence, Roslindale resident and Boston Day and Evening Academy teacher
- Cassandra Samuel, Dorchester resident and Curley K-8 teacher
- Abdi Ali, East Boston resident and Eastie AntiRacism Community Coalition member
- Gabriela Cartagena, East Boston resident and Vida Urbana community organizer
- Tanaya Hall-Queen, Weymouth resident and Umana Academy paraprofessional

The following people testified regarding the future permanent location of the Horace Mann School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing:

- Muna Abanoor, Roxbury resident and Horace Mann student
- Gemanique Viall, Medway resident and Horace Mann teacher

Michael Heichman, Dorchester resident and Boston Education Justice Alliance member, testified against the possibility of state receivership

Sharon Hinton, Hyde Park resident and advocate, testified regarding numerous educational issues

Edith Bazile, Hyde Park resident and advocate, testified regarding teacher staffing

**ADJOURN**

**Approved** - At approximately 7:29 p.m. Chair Robionson announced that the meeting was adjourned in accordance with the Committee's earlier vote.

Attest:



Elizabeth Sullivan  
Executive Secretary