



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSION ON EXAM SCHOOLS
ADMISSIONS**

July 7, 2021

The Boston School Committee held a remote community listening session on July 7, 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

Boston School Committee Members Present: Chairperson Jeri Robinson; Vice Chairperson Michael D. O'Neill (arrived after roll call); and Ernani DeAraujo.

Boston School Committee Members Absent: Hardin Coleman; Quoc Tran; and student representative Xyra Mercer.

BPS Staff Present: Monica Hogan, Senior Executive Director of the Office of Data and Accountability.

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED

[Agenda](#)

[Exam School Task Force Recommendation & Data Analysis](#)

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Robinson called the meeting to order and welcomed the members and attendees. Ms. Parvex called the roll. Chairperson Jeri Robinson and Ernani DeAraujo were present. Vice Chairperson Michael D. O'Neill arrived after roll call. Dr. Hardin Coleman, student representative Xyra Mercer; and Quoc Tran were absent.

Ms. Robinson announced that simultaneous interpretation services were available in Spanish, Haitian Creole, Cabo Verdean, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin, Portuguese, Somali, and

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Arabic; the interpreters introduced themselves and gave instructions in their native language on how to access simultaneous interpretation by changing the Zoom channel.

Ms. Robinson invited Dr. Cassellius to give an overview of the Exam School Admissions Task Force's recommendation. Dr. Cassellius started by giving a summary of the Task Force's charge and proceeded to explain the eligibility criteria and the two invitation proposals. Ms. Hogan presented the simulations for the two invitation proposals: 20% citywide straight rank, 80% ranked by tiers; and for the 100% straight rank by tiers.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

- Boston City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, Hyde Park resident, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Emmanuelle Bogomolni, West Roxbury resident, Boston Latin School (BLS) student, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Hannah Oh, Dorchester resident, BLS student, testified against the extra points for high poverty schools.
- Christina Wong, Brighton resident, BLS student, testified against the recommendations.
- Audrey Martinez-Gudapakkam, Roslindale resident, Winship Elementary School parent, testified in favor of resources for professional development for teachers and staff.
- Mike Heichman, Dorchester resident, Boston Education Justice Alliance (BEJA), testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Travis Marshall, Roslindale resident, BPS parent and Quality Education for Every Student (QUEST member, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Lisa Green, North End resident, BLS parent and Boston Coalition for Education Equity, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Darragh Murphy, Dorchester resident, Equitable and Transparent Boston Parent Coalition For Academic Excellence, testified against a vote on the proposed admissions plan/in favor of pausing the process.
- Stuart Wang, West Roxbury resident, parent, testified against the recommendations.
- Sarah Zaphiris, West Roxbury resident, BLS parent, testified about the complexities of the proposed admissions plan.
- Sharon Hinton, Hyde Park resident, Black Teachers Matter, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Sunny Pai, Jamaica Plain resident, parent, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Yufang Rong, West Roxbury resident, BPS parent, testified against the proposed admissions proposal.
- Steve Yang, West Roxbury resident, parent, testified against the proposed admissions proposal.

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- Shery Keleher, Charlestown resident, BLS and Warren-Prescott parent, testified against the proposed admissions proposal.
- Marie Mercurio, Jamaica Plain resident, BPS parent, testified against the proposed admissions proposal.
- Lucia Colombaro, Dorchester resident, BLS alumna, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Lisa Jeanne Graf, Fenway resident, BPS parent, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Dan French, Jamaica Plain resident, Citizens for Public Schools, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Jess Madden-Fuoco, Hyde Park resident, Hernandez parent, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Alicia Wedderburn, Dorchester resident, BLS parent, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Elena White, Jamaica Plain resident, Curley school parent, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Andrew Berg, Dorchester resident, BPS parent, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Krista Magnuson, Jamaica Plain resident, Boston Coalition for Education Equity, JP Progressives, and a BPS parent, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Yuhong Jia, West Roxbury resident, BLS parent, testified against the recommendations.
- Anna Ross, Dorchester resident, BPS parent, testified in support of a recommendation including students with disabilities.
- Rachel Miselman, BLS alumna, testified against the recommendations.
- Zena Lum, South End resident, BLA parent and Exam School Task Force member, testified regarding her view on the final recommendations.
- Wenming Ge, West Roxbury resident, BPS parent, testified against the recommendations.
- Rachel Poliner, West Roxbury resident, BPS grandparent and Progressive West Roxbury/Roslindale, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Thomas Hayes, Jamaica Plain resident, BPS parent and teacher, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Lingsheng Dong, West Roxbury resident, BPS parent, testified against the recommendations.
- Fengping Li, Brighton resident, BPS parent, testified against the recommendations.
- Sharon Kunz, Roslindale resident, BPS parent, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Karen Maziarz, Walpole resident, BPS teacher, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Virginia Berman, Roslindale resident, BLS parent, testified in support of 100 percent of

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seats being allocated by tier.

- Jackie DeLisi, Roslindale resident, BLA and BLS parent, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Yanxi Fang, West Roxbury resident, BLS alum, testified in support of the 20%-80% proposal.
- Suleika Soto, South End resident, BPS parent and BEJA member, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Jennifer Roberts Keddy, Roslindale resident, BPS parent, testified in support of 100 percent of seats being allocated by tier.
- Jen DiManno, Charlestown resident, BLS parent, testified in support of the 20%-80% recommendation.
- Jenny Xie, Brighton resident, Josiah Quincy School parent, testified against the recommendations.
- Shirley Chen Weng, Brighton resident, BPS parent, testified against the recommendations.
- William Wong, Brighton resident, parent, testified against the recommendations.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Ms. Robison thanked all the speakers and reminded the public that the School Committee would vote on the recommendation at the July 14th meeting.

ADJOURN

At approximately 7:55 p.m., the Committee voted unanimously, by roll call, to adjourn the listening session.

Attest:



Lena Parvex
Administrative Assistant