



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

January 4, 2016

The Boston School Committee held its annual organizational meeting on January 4, 2016 at 5:45 p.m. at the Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building, School Committee Chamber, 2300 Washington Street, 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: Chair Michael D. O'Neill; Vice-Chair Hardin Coleman; Michael Loconto; Alexandra Oliver-Dávila; Jeri Robinson; Regina Robinson.

School Committee Members Absent: Dr. Miren Uriarte and student representative Savina Tapia.

CALL TO ORDER

Michael O'Neill called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance. He then welcomed new School Committee member Alexandra Oliver-Dávila who was sworn-in by Mayor Walsh a few moments earlier. Ms. Oliver-Dávila serves as executive director of Sociedad Latina, working to increase opportunities in education, workforce development, civic engagement and arts and culture for Boston's Latino youth and families. She is also the co-founder of the Boston Youth Service Network (BYSN), and a member of the Committee's Opportunity and Achievement Gaps Task Force. Mr. O'Neill also congratulated Dr. Miren Uriarte, who was reappointed to a four-year term by Mayor Walsh. Dr. Uriarte is traveling outside the US and will be sworn-in by Mayor Walsh later this month.

APPROVAL OF 2016 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Mr. Loconto requested moving the July 20th School Committee to an alternate Wednesday in July. Following a brief discussion, Mr. O'Neill recommended approving the calendar as presented, and tasked Ms. Sullivan with polling Committee members and the Superintendent regarding the possibility of changing the July date.

Approved – The School Committee approved by unanimous consent the 2016 meeting calendar.

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ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair: Mr. O'Neill called for nominations for the office of chair. Dr. Coleman nominated Mr. O'Neill. Ms. Regina Robinson seconded the nomination. The Committee voted by unanimous consent to close the nominations for chairperson. Mr. O'Neill accepted the nomination.

Approved – On roll call, the Committee voted unanimously to elect Mr. O'Neill chair of the Boston School Committee.

Vice Chair: Mr. O'Neill called for nominations for the office of vice-chair. Mr. Loconto nominated Dr. Hardin Coleman. Ms. Regina Robinson seconded the nomination. The Committee voted by unanimous consent to close the nominations for vice-chair.

Approved – On roll call, the Committee voted unanimously to elect Dr. Coleman vice-chair of the Boston School Committee.

Dr. Coleman thanked Mr. O'Neill and Superintendent Chang for their strong leadership and said that Boston Public Schools has the opportunity to close achievement and opportunity gaps.

Mr. O'Neill thanked his fellow Committee members for their show of confidence. He also thanked Superintendent Chang, his leadership team and Mayor Walsh for their support. He commented that last year, the Committee accomplished a great deal of which it can be proud, including the hiring of Superintendent Chang and the establishment of the Opportunity and Achievement Gaps Task Force. He closed by saying that the district is facing a number of important issues, including the challenging FY17 budget and the implementation of the Superintendent Chang's 100-Day Plan.

The Superintendent said he's looking forward to working with Committee in the upcoming year.

ADJOURN

At approximately 6 p.m., the School Committee voted by unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting.

Attest:



Elizabeth Sullivan
Executive Secretary