



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S SCHOOL QUALITY WORK GROUP MEETING

November 8, 2018

The Boston School Committee's School Quality Work Group II held a meeting on November 8, 2018 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at the Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building, 2300 Washington Street, room 4-43, 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

Members Present: Craig Lankhorst (OAG Task Force, Retired BPS school leader), Marinell Rousmaniere (Acting CEO EdVestors), Alexis Gonzalez (BSAC representative)

Members Absent: Celina Miranda (ED Hyde Square Task Force), Edith Bazile (BEAM), Frank Ramirez (CEO East Boston Ecumenical Community Council), Geralde Gabeau (ED Immigrant Family Services Institute), Giles Li (ED Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center), Hardin Coleman (SQWG II Chair, Vice-Chair Boston School Committee, BU/Wheelock professor), Josh Weiss (BPS parent, software engineer), Lisa Lazare (Outreach Director Educators for Excellence), Paul Tritter (Director of Professional Learning BTU), Franklin Peralta (DELAC representative, BPS parent, Campaign Organizer English for New Bostonians), Michelle Cannon (SPEC PAC representative, BPS parent), Monakatellia Ford (BPS school leader- Winship), Matt Holzer (BPS school leader- BGA), William Thomas (BPS school leader- Charlestown High), Efrain Toledano (BPS school leader- Tobin K-8),

Staff Present: Colin Rose (Chair, Assistant Superintendent, Office of Opportunity Gaps); Lisa Harvey (Dep. Dir. of Evaluation and Programs, OOE); Donna Muncey (Deputy Superintendent of School Support); Mary Dillman (Exec. Director, ODA); Jacob Stern (Dir. of Performance Management, ODA); Rebecca Brown (Data Liaison to Community Partners, ODA); Eric Hankowitz (Dir. of Applications Development, OIIT); Blair Dawkins (Eval. Coordinator, OOE)

Staff Absent: Barry Kaufman (Director of Assignment, WS, OOE), Maria Estrada (BSAC Student Engagement Manager, OOE), Mark Racine (Director of Technology), Mary Driscoll (Associate Superintendent, Elementary and Middle Schools), Monica Roberts (Chief Engagement Officer, OOE), Sam Zuckert (Systems Manager, Engagement/Welcome Services)

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DOCUMENTS PRESENTED

Agenda

SQF Tier Implementation Options

Sixth Grade Choice Baskets School Committee Presentation

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Colin Rose called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

SQF Tiers

- Jake provided overview of the history of SQF and outlined the current status of SQF
- Jake presented the two options that the internal group is choosing from to recommend to the Superintendent.
- Jake expressed interest in taking the policy back to School Committee for review.
- Schools were not updated that their tiers may be changing.
- Marinell expressed concern that updating tiers would create a sense from parents that there is too much variability in school choice list construction.
- Alexis mentioned the value that updating the HS tiers completely would have for families and ensure that families had the most accurate information to make informed decisions on where to send their children to school.
- Craig mentioned the need to measure the potential additional costs to transportation that could result from updating tiers.
- The committee agreed that there needs to be a communication strategy going forward so schools and families know when to expect changes and how those changes could impact their choice options.

SQF Tiers SY19-20 Choice Season Recommendation: The goal is to increase transparency for families and school leaders, but no consensus was reached on how to update the tiers. The majority of attendees felt that it was important to update the tiers, either this year or next year and favored a full update over a soft landing.

HS Tiers

- Jake outlined the issue of publishing high school tiers on the front page of DiscoverBPS.

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- Alexis mentioned that families are already familiar with the district's tier system and publishing tiers for high schools will help families make more informed choices.
- Concern around the timing of the tier updates for high schools due to potential upcoming school closers.
- If there is a willingness to conduct targeted outreach to headmasters,

HS Tier Recommendation: No consensus, the majority expressed an interest in exploring how to roll out publicizing high school tiers going forward but there was a sense that we should maintain the same practice of imbedding tiers in the details and not publishing on the front page.

Home Based Assignment Plan Equity Analysis Update

- Lisa provided a summary of the School Committee presentation on the sixth grade choice baskets.
 - o Choice baskets for all grades K1-8 will be reprogrammed to include a double check to ensure that all students receive the minimum guaranteed number of quality schools.1

Membership

- Dr. Hardin Coleman has suggested scheduling monthly SQWGII meetings and in order to schedule those we need to establish membership for the year.
- Lisa will collect suggestions for new members and will reach out to past members to find out whether they are still interested in participating.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

ADJOURN

At approximately 7:05p.m. the School Quality Work Group II voted by unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting.

Attest:

Name

Signature

Title