



Boston Public Schools Superintendent's Transition

Office of the Superintendent

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June 27, 2019

Dear BPS Team:

I want to thank all of you who have extended such an incredibly warm welcome to me over the past six weeks. I can't wait to meet each and every one of you soon.

The Boston Public Schools (BPS) has so much to be proud of, and I look forward to highlighting and celebrating our successes with all of you. Despite this, we also know there is so much work still to be done. It will take all of us, in every school - from the nurse's office to the superintendent's office and from the food line to the bus line - pulling together to get our kids what they need to succeed.

Today, I am letting you know (before I release it officially) the talented and diverse leaders I've selected to support you and our district services. As we embark on this journey together, we know that it will take all of us working in collaboration to ensure our students are succeeding.

We have greatly benefited from the foundation laid by the people who've preceded us. Specifically, this job would be immeasurably harder were it not for the tremendous leadership of Interim Superintendent Laura Perille over the past year. Her gracious partnership during the transition exemplifies a deep and abiding commitment to BPS students, families and staff. Thank you, Laura, for everything.

The singular focus of my 30-year career in education has been achieving equitable outcomes for every child, no matter their race, economic circumstance or neighborhood. I believe deeply that the path forward to progress depends on doing this work together. A mentor of mine was fond of saying "none of us are as smart as all of us," meaning that our best chance of improving outcomes for the people counting on us is to bring them together over tough issues, no matter how hard the conversations may be, or how messy the process to achieve a meeting of minds. I always say that getting to consensus requires that we allow the best ideas to float to the top: only then will we discover what's achievable. When we lean in together with a shared commitment to do better, we'll foster trust, innovation and an environment in which people feel heard, respected and that they truly matter. An environment that will bring us joy and feed us, even during our most challenging days.

With that, I am thrilled to announce my [executive leadership team](#) - an impassioned, diverse team of individuals who have devoted their lives to children and educators. A press release will be issued shortly, but I wanted to share the news with you first since we will all be partners in this work. In the weeks ahead there may be additional staff announcements, and like today, we plan to inform you about them before we announce them to the broader Boston community whenever possible.

Over the last several weeks I have visited several schools and plan to visit all of them by the end of my first 100 days as superintendent. This week, our fabulous custodial and facilities crews are kicking off a summer of extra TLC in our schools that includes deep cleaning and

painting. To staff who have had to do a little extra work to clear the decks to make way for this initial refresh, thank you. Your work means you and your students will be coming back in the fall to classrooms that are cleaner, fresher and more inviting places to learn and work.

In the weeks ahead, I will be sharing more about my plans for our first several months together, including plans for an extensive community engagement initiative and work we'll do to make our BPS home more like a family. But for now, let me end by saying a big thank you to each and every one of you who make up the BPS team. Your dedication to public education and public service is one of the primary reasons I am so happy to be here with you! Your tireless work on behalf of children, families and educators truly matters, and I am so proud to call you my colleagues and Boston my home.

With gratitude, I am #BPSProud!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda Canellina".

Brenda