**Note about Enrollments and School Assignments**

Under the BPS’ funding system, called Weighted Student Funding (WSF), the health of a school is only guaranteed by full classes in every grade.

Furthermore, the home based school assignment plan that assigns students only assigns general education students by geography.

In many cases, Special Education (SPED) and English Language Learner (ELL) students are assigned to schools by policies worked out by the BPS Principal Leaders. In many cases, changes to school programs are made without any input by SSCs.

Address this decision-making problem with your SSC early.

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**2015/16 BPS Budget Timeline**

Watch the BPS Parents’ Budget Guide Video --> [www.youtube.com/watch?v=NlkLbUXEiM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NlkLbUXEiM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Site Councils</th>
<th>September - November, 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept.</td>
<td>Students arrive, move schools, enrollment settles. Speak to your School Site Council (SSC), Principal and BPS’ Principal Leaders about budget priorities early.*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>Early December, 2015 BPS sends budgets to Principals based on projected enrollments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>By Friday, January 8th, 2016 SSCs review, comment on entire budget. SSCs votes on supply budget. SSCs should attach comments to BPS.</td>
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<td>Jan.</td>
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<td>Feb.</td>
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<td>March</td>
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<td>May</td>
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<td>June</td>
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<td>July</td>
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2015/16 BPS Budget Timeline

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**School Committee**

- **Wednesday, February 3rd, 2016**
  School Committee (SC) presented with initial budget. Parents can speak.

- **February - March, 2016***
  SC holds public hearings. Amends parts of budget based on public input.

- **Wednesday, March 23rd, 2016**
  SC votes on budget.

  NOTE: if the SC rejects budget, first version of budget SC saw automatically sent to the City Council.

  If SC amends budget based on feedback, it’s in YOUR interest they vote Yes.

* **Tuesday, February 9th at 6 p.m.**
  Lilla G. Frederick Middle School, 270 Columbia Road, Dorchester

* **Wednesday, February 24th at 6 p.m.**
  Bruce Bolling Municipal Building, 2300 Washington Street, Roxbury

* **Monday, March 7th at 6 p.m.**
  The English High, 144 McBride Street, Jamaica Plain

* **Wednesday, March 16th at 5 p.m.**
  Bruce Bolling Municipal Building, 2300 Washington Street, Roxbury

Written feedback can also be given at budget@bostonpublicschools.org.
**2015/16 BPS BUDGET TIMELINE**

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**CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR’S OFFICE**

- **Sept.**
- **Oct.**
- **Nov.**
- **Dec.**
- **Jan.**
- **Feb.**
- **March**
- **April**
- **May**
- **June**
- **July**

**Wednesday, April 6th, 2016**
BPS budget received by City Council.

**April - June**
City Ways and Means & Education Committees hold hearings on BPS budget.
Councilors speak with Mayor’s Office about issues raised by public.

**Before June 30th, 2016**
BPS budget voted on by City Council

**July**

NOTE: City Council can only vote to keep the budget the same, or reduce it. It has no power to increase it. Only the Mayor can increase the budget. Join with other schools, and talk to Councilors and the Mayor.
2015/16 BPS BUDGET TIMELINE

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GOVERNOR, STATE HOUSE, AND STATE SENATE

September - December
Each MA dept. submits priorities to Governor
Governor weighs these against his/her own priorities

4th Wednesday in January (or within 5 weeks if new term)
Governor sends budget to House Ways and Means

January - April
House Ways and Means considers budget, House and Senate
Joint Ways and Means holds public hearings

End of April
House Ways and Means sends bill to full House for vote.
State Reps can help by adding individual amendments. House votes.

May - Beginning of August
Senate Ways and Means considers budget bill passed by House.
Senate Ways and Means sends bill to full Senate for vote.
State Senators can help by adding individual amendments. Senate Votes.

End of July
Governor signs or vetoes bill from Conference Committee that resolves differences in House and Senate bills. Senate & House can override veto.
2015/16 BPS BUDGET TIMELINE

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MORE RESOURCES

Video
Watch the BPS Parent Budget Guide Video:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIkLbUEXliM

PDF
PDF version of Budget Video:

Toolkit
Full parent toolkit to the BPS, including letter templates to legislators:
www.citywideparentcouncil.org/organizing-toolkits

CPC
Speak with your school’s Citywide Parent Council (CPC) rep.
For more details about the CPC, visit www.citywideparentcouncil.org
or follow on Twitter @CPC_BPS

BPS Budget Group
BPS Parent Budget Group
Email bpsparentsabc@gmail.com

QUEST
QUEST (Quality Education For Every Student) - a BPS parent group
Email qualityforeverystudent@gmail.com, or visit www.facebook.com/questbps