**Citywide Parent Council**

**Meeting Minutes**

**February 27, 2018**

**6:00-8:00 pm**

**Bolling Building**

1. Welcome Activity:
	1. Collaborative drawing activity
2. Group Norms Review
	1. Step Up, Step Back: think about how you take up space and leave space for others
	2. Suggestions:
		1. How to park ideas to discuss at the proper point
		2. Facilitator should manage that things are discussed at the proper time and manage timing of the meeting
		3. Ensure there is enough time to discuss the big ideas (consider altering the agenda when something important and/or urgent comes up
		4. Have the facilitator prioritize allowing someone to speak who hasn’t had a chance yet
3. District Committee Representative Reports
	1. School Quality Working Group: will send update later
	2. BPS Title 1 Committee: No report
	3. District Wellness Council
		1. Ellen Duffy and Ashley Mahanama reported on the first meeting they attended
		2. They were impressed with everything this committee is doing
		3. They have an 8 point priority program
			1. Cultural proficiency
			2. Food and nutrition
			3. Physical education and physical activity
			4. Sexual education
			5. Physical school environment
			6. A safe and supportive school
			7. Health services (nursing staff)
			8. Staff services (support the teachers)
		4. Every school is supposed to have a wellness council but not every school does; suggested CPC should advocate for every school setting up a council
		5. This committee depends on each individual school to implement the wellness plan
		6. They are forming subcommittees; also include outside partners and parents can also join
	4. Transportation Committee
		1. No meeting has been held since last year; as soon as one is scheduled, Gloria West will let us know
		2. City Council held a hearing on the BPS transportation budget on 2/27/18 (Ashley attended)
		3. Jackie Delisi suggested a group of parents putting together a letter regarding concerns surrounding transportation for CPC members to sign
4. Working Group Work Session
	1. Review list of priorities
	2. Decide on 1-3 specific things that your group would like to see in the budget
	3. Report back to the entire CPC your budget asks / priorities
		1. Access to Quality Schools
			1. Create description of what a quality school is
			2. A full time nurse in every school full time
			3. More funding social work and psychologists/councilors
			4. More money for City Connects
			5. Increased funding for custodial services
			6. Auditing consultantships that BPS has and make more local
			7. Transportation: revisiting charter/parochial school funding for transportation; don’t cut funding for transportation on our kids’ backs when it isn’t working as is
		2. Facilities
			1. Build BPS: transparency and representation on Build BPS going forward
			2. Bathrooms
		3. Instructional Quality
			1. Well qualified teacher in every classroom
			2. Provide science/STEM to every kid, every grade
			3. Art and music for every kid
			4. Full time nurse in every school
			5. Full time librarian in every school
			6. Update: came up with a list of questions about Extended Learning Time (ELT), Excellence For All (EFA), and Advanced Work Class (AWC)
				1. The three members of this subcommittee will meet with Mary Driscoll on 2/28/18 regarding these questions
		4. Internal CPC
			1. Find a way to bring education to this group regarding BPS so we can bring that back to our schools
				1. Have someone give a budget presentation in October/November each year to help us bring that knowledge back to our schools
			2. Advocate for renewed funding for CPC, including funding for childcare, food, translation, and assistance with facilitation
			3. Wondered what happened with a private donation of $10,000 that came to the CPC last year (who knows about this?)
			4. Wondered whether a budget or membership/outreach committee be useful down the road?
		5. Health and Wellness
			1. Parent engagement should become more of a priority
				1. Ensure there is a CPC rep from every school
				2. Make sure there is a health and wellness committee at each school
				3. Find a way to have childcare at the CPC meetings
			2. Physical activity in our schools
				1. Uneven: some schools offer a lot more physical activity opportunities than others
				2. Ensure that all kids get some kind of physical activity every day
				3. Offer at least have 5 minutes of yoga and meditation for all kids every day

Fund 1 full time coordinator for the district

Coordinate with yoga studios throughout the city to train the teachers

Offer a workshop during the summer when teachers are preparing for the fall

* + - * 1. Ensure security for our schools
1. Ask Annissa Essaibi-George to give us feedback on our budget asks before our next meeting (and we will check with her office to confirm whether or not she’ll be coming)
2. General Announcements and Discussion
	1. Parent University, March 10 (mini), May (larger one)
		1. Register at <https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/parentuniversity>
	2. Parent Essentials Class: helps break down BPS policies and roles parents play as teachers and advocates (Saturday mornings, March 17 – April 14, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm, 445 Warren Street, email Kaitlin Tengwall to register: ctengwall@bostonpublicschools.org)
	3. BPS Bell Times Changes
		1. CPC Executive Committee sent letter to superintendent, mayor, city council, and school committee saying that we had issues with the process and asking to be involved in the process going forward (will post to CPC Google Group)
		2. John Hanlon has met with a couple of CPC executive committee members about this and will meet with the entire executive committee at a date still to be determined
	4. Boston Parent Schoolyard News (Blog)
		1. Starting two series of articles on happy news about BPS: (1) great teachers; (2) great schools
		2. Need suggestions of people to write them (especially students)
		3. Email: schoolyardnews@gmail.com
	5. Fund Our Schools Campaign (petition posted to Google Group by Nora)
		1. How to find revenue to fund our schools
		2. Institutional nonprofits; asking them to pay their PILOT/taxes
3. Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 27, 2018, 6:00-8:00 pm, Madison Park Technical High School, 75 Malcolm X Blvd, Boston
4. Remaining 2018 Meeting Dates:
	1. March 27 – Madison Park Technical High School, 75 Malcolm X Boulevard, Roxbury, MA 02120
	2. April 24 – Madison Park Technical High School, 75 Malcolm X Boulevard, Roxbury, MA 02120
	3. May 22 – Bolling Building, 2300 Washington Street, Roxbury
	4. June 19 – Bolling Building, 2300 Washington Street, Roxbury