



Boston Public Schools

**McCormack & BCLA  
Community Meeting**  
January 12, 2020

Dr. Brenda Cassellius, Superintendent

Mary Driscoll, Elementary School Superintendent

Nathan Kuder, Chief Financial Officer

# Welcoming Remarks

# Welcome & Agenda

## Agenda

**Opening Remarks**

**Welcome & Agenda Review**

**BuildBPS Update**

**Question & Answer**

**Closing Remarks**

# Welcome & Agenda

## Interpretation

### Interpretation Services

- Interpreters will introduce themselves in each language
- Participants can access simultaneous interpretation by clicking the world icon on the bottom of zoom (latest version required)
- Presenters will be mindful of speed and take pauses to let our interpreters keep up with the discussion

### How to Engage

- Use “Raise Hand” feature on Zoom to participate in the Question & Answer portion of the meeting
- Webinar style to enable interpretation so the chat function is unavailable

# BuildBPS Update

**Every child, in every classroom, in every school of the Boston Public Schools system has the same opportunity to achieve the greatness within them as anybody else.**



# Strategic Plan Commitments and Priorities

COMMITMENT 1 Eliminate Oppr. & Achievement Gaps	COMMITMENT 2 Accelerate Learning	COMMITMENT 3 Amplify all Voices	COMMITMENT 4 Expand Opportunity	COMMITMENT 5 Cultivate Trust	COMMITMENT 6 Activate Partnerships
1.1: policies, plans, and budgets align to OAG policy	2.1: secondary school redesign	3.1: engage youth voice in decision-making	4.1: fund all schools to meet the unique needs of high-need students	5.1: hire, support and retain diverse staff and address barriers to retaining staff of color	6.1: high-quality out-of-school time programming for all students
1.2: workforce diversity	2.2: inclusive learning opportunities	3.2: engage parent voice in district-level decision making	4.2: improve funding formulas for equitable distribution of resources	5.2: restructure central office to ensure child and family friendly services	6.2: partner with organizations on youth and skill development
1.3: curriculum bias review					
1.4: EL support and LOOK Act	2.3: well-rounded liberal arts education (arts, science, literacy, world language, P.E., health Ed., civics, athletics, and technology)	3.3: partner with families in school improvement and student learning	4.3: organizational effectiveness an excellence and define foundational academic and support services	5.3: support and hold school leaders accountable inclusive, CLSP, high-performing schools and teacher leadership	6.3: partner with organizations for student support, college readiness, dual enrollment, and early college during school day
1.5: CLSP and Ethnic Studies					
1.6: monitor OAG policy implementation - schools and central	2.4: implement universal pre-kindergarten	3.4: increase feedback systems for families to central office	<b>4.4: implement BuildBPS to ensure equitable pathways and connectors between schools</b>	5.4: BPS a place where educators and staff want to be employed	6.4: champion college and career awareness
1.7: code of conduct implementation disproportionality	2.5: rigorous and consistent elementary learning experiences	3.5: engage teachers, staff, families, and students in school site council	4.5: central office collaboration with partners	5.5: revamp central office operations: transportation, registration, nutrition services	6.5: engage key partners in decision-making to promote year round wrap around services
1.8: health and social contributors to opportunity gaps	2.6: reduce chronic absenteeism - joyful and engaging classrooms	3.6: publicly share implementation of district's engagement standards	4.6 WiFi services to BPS Families most in need, so we are all connected.	5.6 increase transparency and accountability with new data tools, dashboards, reporting.	6.6 Design and implement year-round opportunities with partners to promote opportunity.
1.9: support in low performing schools	2.7: safe and supportive learning spaces	3.7 engage families & community in decision making: texts, online, surveys, and calling.			
1.10: special needs student support/ inclusion/ disproportionality	2.8: comprehensive district-wide professional development plan				
1.11 1:1 technology for opportunity for remote learning to BPS students grades 3-12.	2.9 remote learning opportunities year-round o prevent learning loss and provide opportunities to accelerate learning.				

## Commitment 4, Priority 4:

Implement BuildBPS to ensure equitable pathways and connectors between schools

## BuildBPS has 5 categories of projects



**New Builds & Expansions**



**Real Estate Management**



**Renovations & Reconfigurations**



**District-Wide Investments**



**Capital Repairs**



# BuildBPS Update

## Shifting Timelines & Major BuildBPS Projects

### **COVID-19 disrupted our project timelines and caused delays across the board:**

- Active construction projects like My Way Cafe, BAA
- Horace Mann swing space identification
- Jackson Mann planning
- McCormack & BCLA Merger
- Announced closure of all middle schools
- Planned expansion of K-6 Elementary and 7-12 Secondary Schools

### **As a result, we've narrowed our focus prioritized 5 key projects we need to make progress on:**

- Horace Mann & Jackson Mann facilities
- Edwards School Closure
- McCormack-BCLA Merger
- 7-12 Expansion at Charlestown High School & adding 7th grade at East Boston High School
- Dual Language Expansion

# **BuildBPS Update for McCormack & BCLA**

# Recent Background

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- 11/14/2020: Last Community Meeting with BCLA & McCormack Communities
- 12/02/2020: School Committee Presentation on BuildBPS, including reconfiguration updates for BCLA & McCormack
- 12/16/2020: School Committee voted to close the McCormack Middle School and merge it with BCLA
- 12/22/20: Facilities subcommittee met with architects to share input on the design of science labs and life skills spaces
- Design Team continues to meet weekly, with some breaks for the holiday

# Design Team Members

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BCLA	McCormack	Central Office/UMass Facilitators
Milagros Gonzalez Patricia Minniti Natasha Srivastava Mary Grady Paula Grillo Alejandra Castro-Petmezis	Yvonne Vest Justine Grace Meliza Prieto Sarah Cook Alma Forbes Neema Avashia	Keith Hellmold Mary Driscoll Will Thomas  UMass Boston Associate Dean Laura Hayden

# Decisions Shared on 11/14

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- The new 7-12 will be an open enrollment school serving the same populations as are currently served by McCormack and BCLA
- SY20-21: School will operate on two campuses
  - Grades 7-9 at Columbia Point (McCormack)
  - Grades 10-12 at Hyde Park Complex (BCLA)
- SY22-23: All students in grades 7-12 will attend the Columbia Point campus
- Strong partnership with UMass Boston
- McCormack facility will add two science labs and a life skills room for SY21-22
- In discussion about other facility and outdoor field and spaces design / upgrades / renovations

# Decisions Made to Date

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- Student Supports Offered: the merged BCLA-McCormack school will continue to serve their current student strands:
  - General Education
  - Inclusion
  - Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) - Spanish
  - Emotional Impairment (EI)
  - Students with Limited or Interrupted Formal Education (SLIFE)
  - Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) for students with Autism

# Work in Process

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- **School Culture:** Design Team is working with Leading Learners Institute to craft the mission & vision of the new school to reflect shared values
- **School Leadership:** Selecting a Head of School for the new 7-12 school will be led by the two Secondary School Superintendents, Elia Bruggeman & Lindsa McIntyre, in partnership with the two school communities
- **Facility Renovations:** The Design Team and central office are collaborating on assessing the financial investment and priorities for renovating the McCormack building
- **Partnership with UMass:** The Design Team is working with Laura Hayden, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, to identify partnership opportunities

# Decisions Ahead

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- Grade Band: Have not yet determined if the BCLA-McCormack school will serve students in 6th grade in SY21-22
- School Times: Finalizing school hours and school start time
- School Status: Will the school be a pilot school or a traditional school in the long term?
  - The Pilot status of the school is currently under consideration
  - The Design Team has recommended converting the school to a traditional (non-Pilot) school, which is one of the options under consideration.



# School Choice Process

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- All current BCLA & McCormack students will be assigned to the new merged school for SY21-22
- If families want to change their preference, they can do so in the appropriate round in 2021:
  - Round 1 is 1/5 - 1/29 (grades K0, K1, 6, 7, 9)
  - Round 2 is 2/8 - 4/5 (all other grades)
- The new 7-12 school will be called "Boston Community Leadership Academy-McCormack" on all School Choice materials
- Additional Resources can be found at [www.bostonpublicschools.org/register](http://www.bostonpublicschools.org/register)



# Question & Answer Discussion

# Question & Answer

## Directions for Q&A

**To ask a question:**

**If you are using the Interpreters, please ask your question and we will make sure that it gets translated**

- Use “Raise Hand” function
- Community Engagement Team Member will call on you and unmute your microphone so you may speak
- Will call on folks in order

**BPS team will be capturing notes for follow up.**



# Closing Remarks

**Thank You!**



Columbia Point Campus



Columbia Point Campus