

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS HENRY SANTANA, COLETTA ZAPATA, DURKAN,
FERNANDES ANDERSON, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN,
WEBER, WORRELL AND LOUIJEUNE



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FIVE

ORDER FOR THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL TO HOLD A SERIES OF POLICY BRIEFINGS WITH BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS LEADERSHIP

WHEREAS, Boston City Council Rule 35A defines Committee Policy Briefings in contrast to more formal Committee Hearings:

“Committee policy briefings refer to less formal sessions in which a chair of a committee invites representatives from the Administration, experts and others from the public to participate in an open discussion about a particular policy issue”; *and*

WHEREAS, The City Council has expressed a consistent need as a body for more frequent and deeper conversations with Boston Public Schools (BPS) senior leadership; *and*

WHEREAS, Committee Hearings are beneficial for the Council to receive information and provide for public testimony, but formal presentations and logistics for rounds of Councilor questions can inhibit more dynamic and free-flowing discussion; *and*

WHEREAS, The Committee on Education held a Policy Briefing with BPS leadership on November 18, 2024, and found the format to be effective for facilitating deeper discussion supplementing various hearings held by the Committee, and it is the recommendation of the Chair that the Committee continue this practice regularly.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

ORDERED: That the appropriate Boston City Council Committee host a series of policy briefings with BPS leadership. The briefings shall each be on one or two interconnected key topics related to BPS, shall limit BPS panelist participation to those most able to address the topic in depth, shall include the Superintendent of BPS whenever possible, and shall abstain from formal statements or question rounds in favor of allowing more time for open discussion. The briefings shall be duly publicly noticed and open to the public, and City Councilors, stakeholders, and interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed in Council: January 29, 2025