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



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FIVE

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE RELOCATION OF MURIEL SNOWDEN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL TO A MODERN, FULLY EQUIPPED FACILITY THAT PROVIDES STUDENTS AND TEACHERS WITH THE RESOURCES NEEDED FOR A WORLD-CLASS EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

- WHEREAS, Snowden International School at Copley, one of Boston's most esteemed public schools, provides students with a rigorous international curriculum that prepares them to thrive in a globally interconnected world, fostering excellence in academic achievement, cultural awareness, and language proficiency; and
- **WHEREAS**, Despite consistently performing at levels comparable to other prestigious Boston exam schools, the students and educators at Snowden are subjected to substandard learning and working conditions that undermine their success, innovation, and holistic development; and
- WHEREAS, The current Snowden school building is wholly inadequate, depriving students of basic educational resources and creating barriers to equitable learning opportunities, as exemplified by a complete lack of an on-site gymnasium, forcing students to walk multiple blocks to the YWCA for physical education, compromising both their safety and valuable instructional time; and
- **WHEREAS**, A basement cafeteria that doubles as a classroom, providing an unhealthy, overcrowded, and insufficient environment for meals and learning activities; *and*
- **WHEREAS**, Absence of modern science labs, depriving students of essential hands-on world class STEM learning experiences that are critical for college and career readiness in science and technology fields; *and*
- WHEREAS, Insufficient arts and / or recreational facilities, requiring students to walk to a nearby church for these vital enrichment classes, thereby disconnecting them from the integrated learning environment that holistic education demands; and Inadequately small classrooms, stifling creativity, student engagement, and collaborative instruction; and
- **WHEREAS**, Inadequately small classrooms, stifling creativity, student engagement, and collaborative instruction; *and*

- WHEREAS, The failure to invest in suitable facilities for Snowden students perpetuates systemic inequities, disproportionately affecting students of color, low-income families, and future leaders from historically underserved communities, who deserve environments that foster their full potential; and
- WHEREAS, The hardworking teachers at Snowden International School, dedicated to shaping globally minded citizens, are denied the professional dignity and resources that a 21st-century teaching environment demands, thereby compromising morale and instructional quality; and
- **WHEREAS**, Boston prides itself on being a national leader in education, yet allowing Snowden's students to endure these conditions contradicts the city's stated commitment to educational equity and excellence; and
- WHEREAS, Equitable investment in school infrastructure is a direct investment in the future of Boston's youth, and relocating Snowden to a modern, properly resourced facility would eliminate these injustices and ensure students receive the full benefits of their educational experience; NOW THEREFORE BE IT
- **RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council strongly calls upon the Administration and Boston Public Schools to prioritize, without delay, the relocation of Snowden International School to a facility that provides: A dedicated, on-site gymnasium for physical education and extracurricular sports. State-of-the-art science laboratories to facilitate hands-on STEM learning and innovation. A purpose-built cafeteria and common spaces that support safe, healthy dining and student interaction. Arts and performance spaces to foster creativity and cultural expression. Spacious, modern classrooms that enhance learning, collaboration, and student engagement; **AND BE IT FURTHER**
- **RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council demands a detailed public timeline and financial commitment from the City of Boston and Boston Public Schools for achieving these necessary investments; **AND BE IT FURTHER**
- **RESOLVED:** That this resolution be sent to the Mayor of Boston, the Superintendent of Boston Public Schools, the Boston School Committee, and the entire Snowden International School community as a clear and urgent call for action to honor the city's promise of quality education for all.

Filed: January 29, 2025