

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ENRIQUE J. PEPÉN



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS THE STATUS OF HVAC UPDATES IN THE BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, Boston Public Schools has made considerable advances over the past five years in installing air conditioning and renovating heating systems in school buildings across the district; *and*

WHEREAS, The average age of Boston Public Schools buildings is over eighty years old, requiring significant repairs and updates to install appropriate air conditioning, cooling capacity, and heating; *and*

WHEREAS, As of the 2025-2026 school year, eight buildings remain without full-building air conditioning due to older infrastructure and electrical limitations. These buildings have cooling centers for students, and Boston Public Schools is working with the school communities to find temporary solutions; *and*

WHEREAS, The average temperature across the eight schools is 78.95 degrees with some facilities reaching over 90 degrees in certain classrooms; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston Public Schools has invested in HVAC renovations for climate control in recent years with three schools expected to have new installations by January 2027; *and*

WHEREAS, Extreme temperature in school environments impacts a student's ability to learn and focus and a teacher's ability to provide instruction and has long term effects on educational outcome. Our students, teachers, and staff in the Boston Public Schools have the right to learn and work in comfortable, temperate environments; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston and Boston Public Schools must work together to find solutions to extreme temperatures in schools; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing on the status of HVAC updates in Boston Public School facilities. Boston Public Schools officials, administration officials, and community members will be invited to testify.

Filed on: July 8th, 2026