

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ED FLYNN, ERIN J. MURPHY, JULIA M. MEJIA, BREADON, COLETTA ZAPATA, CULPEPPER, FITZGERALD, LOUIJEUNE, PEPÉN, SANTANA, WEBER, AND WORRELL



**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS BOSTON PUBLIC
SCHOOLS (BPS) HEALTH SERVICES LEADERSHIP
QUALIFICATIONS**

WHEREAS: School nurses play a critical role in our schools - they are responsible for the health of children by assessing and treating illness and injuries, distributing medication, and promoting the overall health of the school community. School nurses are one of the most undervalued professions, and it's critical that they are respected with the same dignity and integrity as other nurses; *and*

WHEREAS: In recent weeks, many BPS school nurses have expressed concerns regarding the recent change to the qualifications for the Senior Director of Health Services position within Boston Public Schools, which no longer requires candidates to hold a registered nursing license; *and*

WHEREAS: Many school nurses have expressed concerns that this recent change in qualifications has a negative impact on their work environment, citing that being led by someone without a nursing license undermines the profession and raises legitimate concerns about the quality and integrity of health leadership within our schools; *and*

WHEREAS: Moreover, many are saying that this change could potentially have a direct impact on student care. School nurses play a critical role in ensuring that students with complex and significant healthcare needs can safely and fully participate in their education. This responsibility requires current, evidence-based clinical judgment and sound decision-making, supported by strong leadership from an experienced and highly educated nurse. Without that leadership, the consistency and quality of health services for our most vulnerable students may be put at risk; *and*

WHEREAS: At this time, it is critical for the Boston City Council to listen to BPS leadership on their decision to cut this critical qualification and the impact it has on our students and school nurse community; *and*

NOWHEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss the BPS health services leadership qualifications.

Filed in City Council: February 11, 2026