



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE P.A. SHAW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

- WHEREAS,** In Boston Public Schools (BPS) across the district, there are educators, students, administrators, and family members who demonstrate the strongest values of quality public education, including a commitment to community engagement, racial equity, social justice, and to being a neighborhood resource for education; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The Pauline Agassiz (P.A.) Shaw Elementary School, a K0-3 feeder school located in Dorchester, demonstrates each of these values thanks to the hard work and persistent advocacy of educators, family members, and the community at-large; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The amazing work of the educators and administrators of the P.A. Shaw school as demonstrated at recent School Committee meetings where many students spoke about how much they have been able to learn since attending the Shaw; *and*
- WHEREAS,** One student in particular spoke about how they had not learned to read before enrolling at the Shaw, but is now able to read thanks to the work of her family members and educators; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Despite BuildBPS plans to expand the Shaw to K-5, the School Committee has gone back on that plan, recently deciding to close one of the two third grade classrooms in the school; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Although the administration has assured the family members, educators, and the neighborhood that the school will not be closed, it is unclear whether BPS will honor that commitment; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Schools like the Shaw, which demonstrate education excellence, should be looked on as schools to be nurtured, developed, and expanded; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Advocates for the Shaw are currently in the process of pushing for a fourth grade option at the Shaw as a demonstration from BPS of their willingness to recognize and expand on the work being done at the school; *and*
- WHEREAS,** School closures, transfers, and grade reconfigurations have a major impact on the mental health of students; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Allowing schools that demonstrate educational excellence to expand would help allow students to grow and develop in one space; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The Boston City Council has an obligation to ensure that every student has access to local, quality public education in schools like the Shaw; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council recognizes the tremendous work of the family members, students, and educators of the P.A. Shaw Elementary School in creating an exemplary school environment; ***AND BE IT FURTHER***

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council urges the School Committee to support the community's push for a fourth grade option at the P.A. Shaw Elementary School, and eventually for a fifth and sixth grade so the Shaw comes into alignment with the current BPS grade configuration for elementary schools.

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