

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ERIN MURPHY, ED FLYNN, FITZGERALD, MEJIA,
WORRELL AND LOUIJEUNE



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS THE
PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS IN BOSTON
PUBLIC SCHOOLS SLATED FOR CLOSURE OR MERGER

WHEREAS, The Boston Public Schools (BPS) has recently proposed the closure and merger of several schools, including Excel High School, Dever Elementary School, and the Mary Lyon Pilot High School, as part of their Long-Term Facilities Plan; *and*

WHEREAS, Many of these schools have histories spanning well over a century and contain significant historical artifacts and memorabilia, such as plaques, photographs, documents, and memorials that reflect Boston's rich educational heritage; *and*

WHEREAS, The closure of these schools raises concerns about the preservation of these historical artifacts, which are vital to maintaining the community's historical fabric and honoring the legacy of Boston's educational institutions; *and*

WHEREAS, Councilor Flynn has highlighted the importance of preserving significant memorials, including the World War I Memorial at Excel High School, which honors veterans who served in both World Wars, underscoring the need for a comprehensive preservation plan; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston has a responsibility to ensure that the historical artifacts from schools undergoing closure or merger are carefully preserved, transported, and stored in a manner that prevents deterioration and allows for continued public access and educational use;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss the development of a comprehensive plan for identifying, preserving, transporting, and storing historical artifacts from Boston Public Schools affected by closures or mergers; and that the City Archivist, the Boston Public Schools administration, alumni associations, local historical societies, and other relevant stakeholders be invited to testify.

Filed on: January 15, 2025.