



COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCILORS ERIN MURPHY & ED FLYNN

RE: Docket #1101 – Hearing Order Filed on May 21, 2025 – Review of Hiring, Training, and Certification of BPS School Bus Drivers

Dear Colleagues,

As many of you have seen, recent reporting in *The Boston Globe* has renewed public concern about the safety and oversight of our school bus system. The article highlights a tragic and deeply disturbing incident that occurred in late April involving a Boston Public Schools bus, a young child, and multiple unanswered questions.

We've now learned that the driver involved had previously struck other vehicles, was operating with an expired certification, and had a documented history of safety concerns. Despite this, there has been no public update from the Suffolk District Attorney's Office, Boston Police, BPS, or the Mayor's Office.

On May 21st, we <u>filed a hearing order</u> calling for a full review of the hiring, training, and compliance certification processes for all BPS school bus drivers, who are contracted exclusively through Transdev, the City's school transportation vendor. As of today, no hearing date has been scheduled.

This delay is deeply concerning—especially considering that Transdev has failed to appear at the last two school bus safety hearings we have filed, despite being formally invited and asked to attend. This repeated absence reflects a troubling lack of accountability.

We cannot continue to operate a system that places children at risk without demanding greater transparency and oversight from the vendors we rely on. With another school year approaching, we need urgent action to restore public trust in our student transportation system.

We respectfully urge the Chair of the appropriate committee to take up this hearing order without further delay and ensure full participation from BPS, BPS Transportation, Transdev, and other relevant oversight agencies.

Sincerely,

Erin J. Murphy

Boston City Councilor, At-Large

Ed Flynn

Boston City Councilor, District 2

Ed Flynn