

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, BENJAMIN WEBER, DURKAN,
FITZGERALD, MEJIA, PEPÉN, SANTANA AND WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

HEARING ORDER TO EXPLORE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF HIGH-DOSAGE TUTORING AND OTHER ACADEMIC RECOVERY STRATEGIES

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated existing educational inequities, resulting in significant learning loss. However high-dosage tutoring has been highlighted by several studies as a promising intervention for academic recovery, showing potential for accelerating student recovery in mathematics and literacy through frequent, small-group, or one-on-one instruction; *and*

WHEREAS, Advocates of high-dosage tutoring point to its ability to provide individualized support, which some studies suggest can result in substantial learning gains, particularly when students receive at least three sessions per week; *and*

WHEREAS, There are concerns regarding scalability, sustainability, cost, and feasibility of high-dosage tutoring programs, with research indicating that the effectiveness of such programs diminishes as they expand to serve larger numbers of students; *and*

WHEREAS, While some cities, such as Chicago, have reported promising outcomes from high-dosage tutoring initiatives, other districts have found mixed results, leading to ongoing debates about the best models and methods for academic recovery interventions; *and*

WHEREAS, In Boston, high-dosage tutoring has been piloted on a small scale, and there is an opportunity to explore its potential for broader adoption; our office has partnered with a BPS school and a tutoring service on this exact matter; further study is needed to determine whether the benefits seen in smaller programs can be replicated at a district-wide level; *and*

WHEREAS, It is important to consider a range of evidence, including both the successes and challenges of high-dosage tutoring, as well as input from educators, students, and community members, to assess whether this intervention is a viable long-term solution for academic recovery in Boston Public Schools; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to explore the effectiveness and scalability of high-dosage tutoring and tutoring in general within Boston Public Schools, examining both the potential benefits and limitations of this approach, with the aim of determining whether and how such a program could be expanded to better support students who have experienced significant learning loss.