Boston City Council
ED FLYNN
Councilor - District 2

Michelle Wu, Mayor of Boston
One City Hall Square, Suite 500
Boston, MA 02201

Mary Skipper, Superintendent
2300 Washington Street
Roxbury, MA 02119

June 30, 2026

Re: Supplemental Budget to Support Recently Laid Off Boston Public Schools (BPS) Employees

Dear Mayor Wu and Superintendent Skipper,

I'm writing to follow up on my June 26th letter requesting support in prioritizing reemployment opportunities for recently laid off Boston Public Schools (BPS) employees. Please note, while in District 2 over the weekend, I continued to discuss this issue of potentially hundreds of BPS staff losing their jobs with a number of BPS teachers, Boston Teachers Union (BTU) members, and retirees. Many of them continued to highlight that much of these layoffs will impact lower-income women from communities of color who work closely with Boston's most vulnerable families and students with disabilities.

They urged me to consider that while the City administration and the Council worked to preserve jobs for the Boston Transportation Department (BTD) and other offices, we did not make those same efforts when it came to the disproportionate layoffs of up to 400 BPS employees. They remain concerned about the impact this is having not only on these workers and their families during these particularly challenging times with the runaway cost of living in our city and country - but the unintended consequences and ripple effect to many of our most vulnerable families and students with disabilities beginning this fall due to this budget.

As a result, although I would prefer to utilize a combination of policies that fiscal watchdogs and I advocated for over the last several years, I believe it is wholly appropriate for the City of Boston to consider another supplemental budget from our reserve fund to reinstate the approximately 400 employees that will be impacted by these layoffs. I firmly believe that preserving these positions is an investment in our children, neighborhoods, public schools, and the success of our city. This is also about social, economic, and racial justice!

I respectfully request that the City of Boston administration and Boston City Council both act swiftly to restore these positions, and provide stability for the employees and families affected by these layoffs, before the start of the upcoming school year. We have a responsibility to use these resources when essential public services are at risk. Boston must remain a compassionate city that values working families and our students with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Ed Flynn

Ed Flynn
Boston City Councilor, U.S. Navy (Retired)