

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

9:45-11:15a | Wednesday, January 23, 2019 Bolling Building, Room 5-43

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact Transportation Committee meeting held on January 23, 2019. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit www.BostonCompact.org or email info@BostonCompact.org.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: **Peter Crossan** (Fleet and Compliance Mgr, BPS), **Mark Loring** (Dir. of Network Ops, Brooke Schools), **Shanda Roberts** (Assist. Dir. of Ops, BPS), **Roudcha Serizier** (Transportation Officer, BPS), **Delavern Stanislaus** (Dir. of Transportation, BPS), **Angela Zhang** (BPS Transportation)

Members Absent: **Tchad Cort** (Transportation Officer, BPS), **Ali Dutson** (Principal, Mission Grammar), **Will Eger** (Strategic Projects Mgr Finance, BPS), **John Hanlon** (COO, BPS), **Ellen McDonough** (Mgr of Intergovernmental Relations, BPS), **Kevin Taylor** (ED, City on a Hill), **Shannah Varón** (E.D., Boston Collegiate & Chair, BCA)

Others Present: Elise Swinford (Compact staff), Rachel Weinstein (Compact staff), Jack Yessayan (BPS Technology)

ADMINISTRATION ACTIONS

November minutes were approved.

UPDATES

Work streams

Improving communication: **Delavern Stanislaus** is in the process of documenting requests for what charter ops would like to see in the handbook, so far including contact info, calendar, roles, M7 pass info, stop change form, waiver requests, and standard operating procedures. It is in final steps of editing. **Del** will share when it is ready (maybe by next month's meeting) and then unveil it in the spring/ summer.

Data de-duplication: **Mark Loring** noted his understanding that there were still major issues with the quality of data last year despite de-duplication efforts. Though charters will still de-duplicate enrollment data for their own benefit, clarification is needed as to how many rounds of de-duplication are useful to BPS as weighed against receiving that data earlier. **Jack Yessayan** noted that BPS Technology would prefer to have the data earlier. Mark proposed beginning the process after the first charter enrollment round and de-duplicating this year, then reviewing the process over the past three years to determine if it leads to improvements.

Enrollment timelines: BPS reported that they are starting the process on 2019 routing with Dynamic Ideas, beginning with a practice round in March, then the first real round will occur after they receive round one and some round two data. Dynamic Ideas needs clean, complete data no later than May 15th. It takes five weeks for BPS to get the data ready for Dynamic Ideas, so BPS prefers to get charter data by March 29, leaving two weeks to clean data and hear from late schools. BPS will notify charters by March 1 of any changes to this timeline.

DESE data assistance: DESE is unable to help with the charter/ BPS data exchange because DESE does not collect certain student data. DESE charter school office will send a statement to BCA.

Catholic school transportation: Angela Zhang reported that the legal team is currently reviewing the proposal.

EMERGENT ISSUES

Mark asked if there is a way to notify charter families of late busses. This might be possible through the ASPEN system, and **Angela** will add this to the next agenda with the IT task force.

Peter Crossan noted the upcoming construction on the North Washington Street Bridge and how it might affect the 471 Charlestown residents who attend schools outside Charlestown. The largest impact will be in November when they switch to temporary bridge.

Peter noted the improved service to students needing wheelchair accessible busses. Five students using wheelchairs have received bus transportation to five different charter schools, which is an improvement in service. It is helpful to know which routes require a wheelchair-accessible bus as early as possible so BPS can accommodate this need. **Peter** further observed that it would be helpful to know in advance which schools use attendants to ensure sufficient seating on busses. **Roudcha Serizier** remarked that attendants are often added based on need throughout the year, but will find out if other schools know in advance.

ACTION ITEMS

Angela will follow up with Ali Dutson this week about the Catholic school pilot program.

The charter schools will perform one de-duplication round and send enrollment data to BPS by March 29.

Roudcha will find out if other schools know if they will use attendants in advance.