

TO: Boston School Committee
FROM: Delavern Stanislaus, Chief of Capital Planning
CC: Mary Skipper, Superintendent
Sam Depina, Deputy Superintendent of Operations
Rebecca Grainger, Senior Advisor to the Mayor on Youth and Schools
DATE: April 26, 2023
RE: Opening Memo | Proposal for the merger of the Pauline A. Shaw Elementary School and the Charles H. Taylor Elementary School; and the merger of the John D. Philbrick School and the Charles Sumner School

We are proposing to merge the Pauline A. Shaw School and Charles H. Taylor School beginning in SY24-25 and the John D. Philbrick and Charles Sumner School beginning in SY25-26.

This proposal is divided into three sections. The Shaw, Taylor, Philbrick, and Sumner school communities are playing an important role in the future of BPS as they lay the foundation for the shifting landscape of the District. In Section One, we describe how mergers and reconfigurations address some of the District's long-standing challenges and take advantage of our greatest opportunities.

We also describe the developing system of support for schools going through reconfigurations and detail the journey, timeline, and buckets of work the schools will undergo to become a joined school. We have included the commitments we are making to support this work along the way. We will continue to build and refine a process for authentic community and family engagement, learning from this process, capturing what works well, and discarding what doesn't so it can serve as a roadmap for the future as we engage in the deep strategic work of strengthening and supporting our District.

The subsequent second and third sections describe the specific details of each merger proposal: Section Two describes the Shaw-Taylor, and Section Three describes the Philbrick-Sumner.