



School Equity Roundtables: Federal Relief Funding Planning Meeting 1 (May-June 2021)



RETURN | RECOVER | REIMAGINE

Grounded in the community-driven strategic plan, BPS will invest these one-time federal relief (ESSER) funds to return well, recover strong and reimagine what's possible for our students





I. INTRODUCTION

II. OUR CHARGE

III. DISCUSSION

IV. NEXT STEPS

AGENDA

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION (10 minutes)

I. OUR CHARGE (10 minutes)

I. DISCUSSION (35 minutes for 1 hour meeting; 65 minutes for 1.5 hours)

I. NEXT STEPS ([School Equity Roundtable Agenda and Feedback Form](#))



I. INTRODUCTION

II. OUR CHARGE

III. DISCUSSION

IV. NEXT STEPS

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. School Leader's Welcome
- B. Role of School Equity Roundtables
- C. Introductions, norms, processes and agreements
- D. The BPS Strategic Plan is the foundation of our work

Welcome

Role of the School Equity Roundtable

- **May - June 2021** all schools will conduct at least one Equity Roundtable on federal relief funding.
 - ◆ **Purpose:** Identify equitable ways to return, recover and reimagine at the district and school level.
 - ◆ **Desired Outcomes:**
 - **Begin or continue informing the school plan (with the latest understanding of how the new federal investment will support schools) upon funding we expect to receive Fall 2021.**
 - **Inform the district federal relief fund application to DESE that will be submitted July 2021.**
- **September - October 2021** will be the next Equity Roundtable (we will then know the outcome of our grant application and take next steps).

Introductions

Introductions, process, norms and Agreements

- **Introductions** (*suggestion: use the chat or whip around, depending on number of participants*)
- **Process** (*suggestion: we will first make sure everyone has the information they need to fully participate, then open up discussion for a listening session*)
- **Norms** (*suggested norms follow--what else?*)
 1. Be Present
 2. Speak from your own experience, use “I” statements
 3. Start Assume good intentions: we are all well-intentioned, good people who want to see all children succeed
 4. 1,2,3, then me
 5. Lean into discomfort
 6. Be okay with not knowing everything and non-closure at meeting one
 7. Be active listeners - listen to get understanding
- **Districtwide Agreements:** *see the values, mission, vision and theory of action in the BPS Strategic Plan (next page)*

Our Shared Agreements in the BPS Strategic Plan*



Boston Public Schools
20/25 Strategic Plan

VALUES

“JUICE”: JOY, UNITY, INCLUSION,
COLLABORATION, AND EQUITY

MISSION

EVERY CHILD IN EVERY CLASSROOM IN EVERY
SCHOOL RECEIVES WHAT THEY NEED.

VISION

A NATION-LEADING, STUDENT-CENTERED
PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PROVIDING
AN EQUITABLE, AND EXCELLENT, WELL-
ROUNDED EDUCATION, THAT PREPARES
EVERY STUDENT FOR SUCCESS IN COLLEGE,
CAREER, AND LIFE.

theory of action

IF we give every student what they need,
earn the trust and true partnership
of families, community members,
and stakeholders through authentic
engagement and shared leadership,
deliver excellent service to students
and families, and provide educators and
staff with professional development and
clear expectations...

THEN we will become a high-performing,
nation-leading district that closes gaps and
improves life outcomes for each student.

*Derived from the Superintendent's 100 Day Listening Tour May-Fall 2019



I. INTRODUCTION

II. OUR CHARGE

III. DISCUSSION

IV. NEXT STEPS

II. OUR CHARGE

- A. \$400 Million Federal Funding over 3 years
- B. 4 District Guardrails to know
- C. Request: Feedback on District Guardrails 3 and 4
- D. Launching our School Equity Roundtable discussion.

Description of the federal relief funding

\$400M

BPS is applying for nearly \$400 million from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) and the Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief fund (ESSER) over the next three years.



We are planning for three years of funding

Plan for **Sustainability** starting Year One

Explicitly **connect district and school plans**; leverage for impactful change



Plan, reflect and adjust across three years

Ensure **school-community engagement**



Guardrail 1

Boston Public School Guidelines

- **The BPS Strategic Plan is our foundation**
- **% for return and recovery committed costs, such as remote learning and compensatory services**
- **% for innovation**
- **% for accountability and increasing equity and impact**
- **% to ensure BPS infrastructure supports current needs**

Guardrail 2

Federal and State Guidelines

- **20%** must be spent on Recovery (summer school, etc)
- **Over \$10,000** must be spent on mental health
- Capital investments must support return and academic recovery, BUT approval in advanced is required
- Funds cannot be used to pay for executive salaries or to pay unions / associations
- We CAN invest in Title I/II/III/IV categories of activities



Guardrail 3 (to be refined): Allotments

- **Strategic Centrally-Deployed District-wide investments: X%**

Allotments will be driven by the goals in the BPS Strategic Plan in our Return, Recover and Reimagine Phase of implementation. Quarterly monitoring will ensure implementation, impact, and transparency.

- **School Plan related investments: X%**

Direct school investments will be formula-based and determined by Quality School Plans, engagement of the school community including School Equity Roundtables, and a collaborative budget process to ensure equitable academic and other supports for students.

- **Regional and School Innovation investments: X%**

Innovation will promote replication and scaling of best practices and those that support “reimagining” education and support for students in evidence-based ways.

- **Community Partnership investments: X%**

Regional and school partnership grants will promote community-based, student and family-serving approaches to provide an ecosystem of care for young people and the adults nurturing their development.

Guardrail 4 (to be refined): Focus Areas



High Quality Pathways
Childhood to career

Equitable Access
Opportunity & Enrichment

Multilingual Learning
Innovative ELL practices

Strengthen Core

Inclusion
Least restrictive environments plus

School Environments
Build BPS and beyond

Community
Invest in children & families

STUDENTS supported for success inside and outside the classroom and school

EDUCATORS, leaders, staff who reflect the diversity of our students and have the capacity, knowledge and tools to support all students

CONTENT based in high-quality curriculum supporting excellence in Literacy, Math, Science, and other areas of teaching & learning



I. INTRODUCTION

II. OUR CHARGE

III. DISCUSSION

IV. NEXT STEPS

IV. DISCUSSION

Questions for discussion

1. What **DATA** do we need to review to inform the school plan and investments, that we have not yet reviewed to make effective and equitable decisions?
2. **WHO** is not in the room whose perspective needs to inform our planning?
3. How can we **RECOVER** so that all our students have the opportunity to achieve at the highest level?
4. How can we **REIMAGINE** our approach to supporting students and families to serving ALL students better than ever before?



I. INTRODUCTION

II. OUR CHARGE

III. DISCUSSION

IV. NEXT STEPS

IV. NEXT STEPS



Next Steps

August- September 2021 all schools are conducting at least one more Equity Roundtable on federal relief funding and planning


- **Purpose:** to get feedback on “final” school plan, with a focus on leveraging new opportunities afforded by ESSER.
- **Desired Outcome:** to refine school requests for using funding to support equitable recovery and reimagining how we might better support students, families and the staff who serve them.

Stay up to date at bostonpublicschools.org/FederalReliefFunds21



District-wide Next Steps

- Join us in the conversation: <https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/Page/8648>



The screenshot shows the Boston Public Schools website. At the top is a blue navigation bar with the BPS logo and the text "BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS". To the right of the logo are menu items: "ABOUT BPS", "SCHOOLS", "DEPARTMENTS", "ENROLL", "SCHOOL COMMITTEE", and "CAREERS". Below the navigation bar is a breadcrumb trail: "Home | About BPS | Budget".

The main content area is titled "BUDGET". On the left is a dark blue sidebar with white text listing menu items: "Budget Office", "FY2022 BPS Budget Basics", "FY2022 Budget Development", "Past Budget Developments+", and "2021 BPS Federal Relief Funding".

The main content area features a large banner. The left side of the banner shows a young girl with dark hair, wearing a grey hoodie, smiling. The right side of the banner has a blue background with the BPS logo and the text "Federal Relief Funding" in orange.

Below the banner, the text reads: "BPS is expecting **\$400M** via the **Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund**." This is followed by two paragraphs of text explaining the district's strategy for using the funds and the formation of a Commission to advise on investment.

At the bottom of the page is a blue footer bar containing icons and text for "Website Accessibility", "Site Map", "Back to Top", "Translate", and "Sign In".