Minutes of the Meeting of the
Boston School Committee Nominating Panel
Tuesday, November 26, 2024, 4:30–6:49 p.m.
Meeting by remote participation via Zoom

Members Present:

William Thomas, Boston High School Heads Association, Panel Chair
Angelina Camacho, Boston Parent Organizing Network
Joanne Freeman, Citywide Parents Council
Dr. Mary Grant, designee of Commissioner of Higher Education
Jerry Howland, Mayoral Appointee
Charlie Kim, Special Education Parents Advisory Council
Susan Ou, Bilingual Master PAC
Sammy Nabulsi, Mayoral Appointtee
Natalie Rivkin McSwain, Mayoral Appointee
Rhoda Schneider, designee of Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education
Rachel Skerritt, Mayoral Appointee
Marty Walz, Interim President, Boston Municipal Research Bureau

Staff Assistance: Tali Robbins and Gaelle Nelfise, Office of Mayor Michelle Wu, City of Boston

1. **Introductions**

Will Thomas, Chair of the Boston School Committee Nominating Panel, called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m. and members introduced themselves.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

Members reviewed the minutes of the November 21, 2024 meeting. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Panel **voted** to approve the minutes. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

3. **Conduct interviews with shortlisted Applicants**

The Nominating Panel interviewed four candidates: Ross Wilson, Lisa Gonsalves, Michael O'Neill, and James Noonan.

4. **Deliberation and Vote**

Chair Thomas provided a Google Sheet for Panel members to indicate which candidates they would like to advance to the shortlist. Mr. Kim shared his perspective on the process and expressed a desire for clear guardrails for the Nominating Panel process. Mr. Howland shared his perspective on the difference between a nominating panel and a selection panel. Ms. Camacho shared the importance of providing the Mayor with sound recommendations. Ms. Grant shared her appreciation for the quality of the conversation on the Nominating Panel. Ms. Freeman shared her appreciation for the process and thanked the Panel for the opportunity to participate.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Panel **voted** by roll call (12 members voting in support; 1 member absent) to advance the following candidates to the Mayor for consideration: Lisa Gonsalves, Michael O'Neill, Ayele Shakur, and Ross Wilson.

5. Public Comment

Chair Thomas invited comments from members of the public attending the meeting.

Edith Bazile spoke regarding the importance of professional standards in the Nominating Panel process and consistent questions for all candidates.

Victoria Mitchell spoke favorably about the meeting.

6. Adjourn

There being no further business, on a motion duly made and seconded, the Panel **voted** unanimously to adjourn its meeting at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tali Robbins