Minutes of the Meeting of the Boston School Committee Nominating Panel
Monday, August 11, 2025, 4:00pm
Meeting by remote participation via Zoom

Members present:

Will Thomas, Chair – Boston High School Heads Association
Neema Avashia – Boston Teachers Union
Angelina Camacho – Boston Parent Organizing Network
Jerry Howland – Mayoral appointee
Midori Morikawa – designee of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce
Lauren Woo – designee of the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education
Susan Ou – Bilingual Master PAC

1. Approval of Minutes

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:07pm and offered Panel members time to review the minutes from the July 16, 2025 meeting. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Panel **voted** to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Review Applications and Select Candidates for Interviews

Chair Thomas shared that the Panel received 17 applications by the deadline on August 8, 2025. Each Panel member indicated which of the applicants they wanted to move into the interview phase.

Lauren Woo indicated that one of the top applicants was a current BPS employee, which may pose a conflict of interest. Chair Thomas clarified that the Nominating Panel's

charge was to screen the candidates, and allow the candidate to discuss and cure any potential conflict of interest with the Mayor's Office in the next phase of consideration.

Panel members discussed each applicant and decided to invite the following candidates to interview: Bruce Bolling, Jr., Lisa Gonsalves, Mushen Kieta, Eva Rose Scapicchio, Rachel Skerritt, Shanda Williams, and Ross Wilson.

Panel members discussed asking a small number of interview questions consistently across all candidates, with the flexibility to tailor certain questions to each candidate. Panel members agreed to briefly discuss questions at the next meeting, before beginning interviews.

Susan Ou asked when this term expires. Tali Robbins confirmed that the term expires on January 1, 2028.

3. Public Comment

Victoria Mitchell commented that the nominating process was fast and that the candidate pool was strong. Ms. Cheryl Buckman commented and urged the Panel to select potential School Committee candidates with the lived experience, the integrity, and the moral courage to represent all of Boston's children.

4. Adjournment

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Nominating Panel voted to adjourn at 4:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tali Robbins