

#### Office of the Superintendent

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To: Boston School Committee
From: Mary Skipper, Superintendent

Date: October 8, 2025

Subject: Exam School Admissions Policy Recommendation - Weighting of Assessment

and GPA within Composite Score

At the Sentember 25 School Committee meeting. I brought forward a recommendation for

At the September 25 School Committee meeting, I brought forward a recommendation for changes to the exam school admissions policy. These recommendations included the following:

- Remove all school-based points
- Reduce the number of housing points from 15 to 10
- Add a citywide round that will allocate the first 20% of invitations at each school to the highest ranking students
- Maintain the socioeconomic tier structure where tiers are sized by population

During the discussion at the September 25 meeting, committee members requested that the district explore the weighting of assessment and GPA within the composite score at a 50% assessment and 50% GPA ratio. The current ratio is 30% assessment and 70% GPA. This memo summarizes the data relative to this request.

Simulations were run using data from the last three application cycles: SY23-24, SY24-25 and SY25-26. The following tables summarize the simulation results across four scenarios:

Applicant Pool	SY23-24	SY24-25	SY25-26	
Results of Actual Policy in place	100% 8 tier, 10 points, MAP / GPA (30-70)	100% 8 tier, tier differential, MAP / GPA (30-70)	100% 4 tier, tier differential, MAP / GPA (30-70)	
Simulation of Current Policy	100% 4 tier, 10 points, MAP / GPA (30-70)	100% 4 tier, tier differential, MAP / GPA (3		
Simulation of Superintendent's 9/25 Policy Recommendation (30% Assessment, 70% GPA)	20% citywide, 80% 4 tier, 10 points, MAP / GPA (30-70)		tier, no school points, PA (30-70)	
Simulation of Superintendent's 9/25 Policy Recommendation (50% Assessment, 50% GPA)	20% citywide, 80%	4 tier, no school points,	MAP / GPA (50-50)	

When considering individual changes across simulations, the majority of 7th grade applicants do not experience a change in invitation status. For example, when comparing the Policy Recommendation (30-70) to Policy Recommendation (50-50), 91% (SY24-25) and 92%



(SY25-26) of applicants received the same invitation or did not receive any invitation in both scenarios.

		24-25			25-26	
Change Category	Current Policy to Policy Recommendation (30-70)	Current Policy to Policy Recommendation (50-50)	Policy Recommendation (30-70) to Policy Recommendation (50-50)	Current Policy to Policy Recommendation (30-70)	Current Policy to Policy Recommendation (50-50)	Policy Recommendation (30-70) to Policy Recommendation (50-50)
Total Applicants	1348	1348	1348	1490	1490	1490
Invited - No Change	804	794	883	825	807	896
Invited to Different School	107	114	60	104	113	54
No Invite to Invite	65	68	33	51	60	30
Invite to No Invite	65	68	33	51	60	30
Not Invited - No Change	307	304	339	459	450	480
Invited - No Change	60%	59%	66%	55%	54%	60%
Invited to Different School	8%	8%	4%	7%	8%	4%
No Invite to Invite	5%	5%	2%	3%	4%	2%
Invite to No Invite	5%	5%	2%	3%	4%	2%
Not Invited - No Change	23%	23%	25%	31%	30%	32%
No Change to Invitation Status	82%	81%	91%	86%	84%	92%

Note: Simulations using the SY23-24 applicant pool are not included here because they incorporated 10 school-based points and 15 housing-based points, and are therefore not directly comparable to the simulations run using the SY24-25 and SY25-26 applicant pools.

# **Composite Scores**

The below tables include the <u>minimum</u> and <u>average</u> composite score for each school using the SY24-25 and SY25-26 applicant pools.

		SY25-26											
	Actual	al Results Current Pol		t Policy	Policy Recommendation (30-70)		Policy Recommendation (50-50)						
School	Min	Avg	Min	Avg	Min	Avg	Min	Avg					
BLA	82.8	92.7	82.8	92.7	76.3	87.9	70.5	84.5					
BLS	92.8	101	92.8	101	87.2	96.6	83	95.1					
ОВ	82.7	94	82.7	94	77.8	88.5	72.6	85.5					

		SY24-25											
	Actual	Results	sults Current Policy		Pol Recomm (30-	endation	Policy Recommendation (50-50)						
School	Min	Avg	Min			Avg	Min	Avg					
BLA	65.6	90.5	72.7	91.2	69.9	87.5	62.3	83.7					
BLS	80.5	98.5	84.5	99.1	82.7	95.3	78.1	93.7					
ОВ	63.7	88.8	72.7	89.9	70.9	85.1	63.3	81.1					

Note: Simulations using the SY23-24 applicant pool are not included here because they incorporated 10 school-based points and 15 housing-based points, and are therefore not directly comparable to the simulations run using the SY24-25 and SY25-26 applicant pools.

The below tables include the <u>maximum</u> score for students who did not receive an invitation to any school across each of the simulated options.

		SY2	5-26								
		Policy Policy									
			Recommendation	Recommendation							
	Actual	al Current Policy (30-70) (50-50)									
Not Invited	96.9	96.9 93.5 92.7									

		SY2	4-25							
		Policy Policy								
			Recommendation	Recommendation						
	Actual	<b>Current Policy</b> (30-70) (50-50)								
Not Invited	98.8	97.4	95	91.7						

Note: Simulations using the SY23-24 applicant pool are not included here because they incorporated 10 school-based points and 15 housing-based points, and are therefore not directly comparable to the simulations run using the SY24-25 and SY25-26 applicant pools.

#### Simulation Results by Student Group

The following tables show the simulation results disaggregated by student group: multilingual learners (MLs), Former English Learners (EL), students with disabilities (SWD) and economically disadvantaged students. The numbers represent the number of 7th grade invitations that student group received and the percentage represents the percent of all invitations sent that went to that student group.

SY25-26 Applicant Cycle

Student		Actual	ıl Results		t Policy	Policy Recommendation (30-70)		Recomm	licy endation -50)
Group	Applicants	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
MLs	68	13	1.3%	13	1.3%	11	1.1%	10	1.0%
Former EL	421	294	30.0%	294	30.0%	278	28.4%	271	27.7%
SWD	98	24	2.4%	24	2.4%	30	3.1%	31	3.2%
Economically Disadvantaged	713	419	42.8%	419	42.8%	395	40.3%	390	39.8%

Note: Actual Results and Current Policy in SY25-26 are the same.

SY24-25 Applicant Cycle

Student		Actual Results		Current	Policy	Policy Recommendation (30-70)		Pol Recomm (50-	endation
Group	Applicants	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
MLs	83	36	3.7%	33	3.4%	24	2.5%	19	1.9%
Former EL	367	301	30.8%	295	30.2%	270	27.7%	272	27.9%
SWD	86	38	3.9%	39	4.0%	37	3.8%	36	3.7%
Economically									
Disadvantaged	538	391	40.1%	383	39.2%	346	35.5%	344	35.2%

SY23-24 Applicant Cycle

Student		Actual	Actual Results Curren		: Policy	Policy Recommendation (30-70)		Pol Recomm (50-	endation
Group	Applicants	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
MLs	78	55	5.5%	54	5.4%	37	3.7%	31	3.1%
Former EL	337	282	28.2%	286	28.6%	272	27.2%	267	26.7%
SWD	94	56	5.6%	59	5.9%	43	4.3%	44	4.4%
Economically Disadvantaged	589	482	48.2%	481	48.1%	443	44.3%	423	42.3%

Note: Simulations using SY23-24 data include 10 school-based points and 15 housing-based points for the simulation of the current policy and Policy Recommendation (30-70).

# Simulation Results by Race

The following tables show the simulation results disaggregated by race. The numbers represent the number of 7th grade invitations that student group received and the percentage represents the percent of all invitations sent that went to that student group.

SY25-26 Applicant Cycle

				Policy Policy Recommen				-		
		Actual	Results	Current	Policy	(30-	(30-70)		(50-50)	
Race	Applicants	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Asian	237	195	19.9%	195	19.9%	192	19.6%	193	19.7%	
Black	280	150	15.3%	150	15.3%	146	14.9%	148	15.1%	
Hispanic	454	252	25.7%	252	25.7%	235	24.0%	230	23.5%	
Other	101	72	7.3%	72	7.3%	76	7.8%	74	7.6%	
White	418	311	31.7%	311	31.7%	331	33.8%	335	34.2%	

Note: Actual Results and Current Policy in SY25-26 are the same.

SY24-25 Applicant Cycle

						Policy Recommendation			endation
Dana	Annlinente	Actual R		Current		(30-7		(50-	
Race	Applicants	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Asian	220	191	19.6%	191	19.6%	194	19.9%	195	20.0%
Black	273	212	21.7%	193	19.8%	186	19.1%	180	18.4%
Hispanic	366	255	26.1%	247	25.3%	212	21.7%	214	21.9%
Other	101	72	7.4%	78	8.0%	84	8.6%	85	8.7%
White	388	246	25.2%	267	27.4%	300	30.7%	302	30.9%

SY23-24 Applicant Cycle

0120 2+ / tpp	nount Oyolo								
							су	Policy	
						Recommendation		Recomm	endation
		Actual F	Results	Current	Policy	(30-7	70)	(50-50)	
Race	Applicants	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Asian	224	185	18.5%	185	18.5%	191	19.1%	192	19.2%
Black	300	229	22.9%	228	22.8%	207	20.7%	205	20.5%
Hispanic	366	285	28.5%	288	28.8%	261	26.1%	254	25.4%
Other	78	57	5.7%	60	6.0%	59	5.9%	58	5.8%
White	387	244	24.4%	239	23.9%	282	28.2%	291	29.1%

Note: Simulations using SY23-24 data include 10 school-based points and 15 school-based points for the simulation of the current policy and Policy Recommendation (30-70).

# Simulation Results by School Type

The following tables show the simulation results disaggregated by school type. The numbers represent the number of 7th grade invitations that students from that school type received and the percentage represents the percent of all invitations sent that went to students from that school type.

SY25-26 Applicant Cycle

School Type	Applicants	Actual	Current Policy	Policy Recommendation (30-70)	Policy Recommendation (50-50)
BPS	1171	760	760	749	741
Charter	139	94	94	87	93
Private/Parochial					
/METCO/Other	180	126	126	144	146
Percent BPS	78.6%	77.6%	77.6%	76.4%	75.6%

Note: Actual Results and Current Policy in SY25-26 are the same.

SY24-25 Applicant Cycle

School Type	Applicants	Actual	Current Policy	Policy Recommendation (30-70)	Policy Recommendation (50-50)
BPS	1031	775	771	747	739
Charter	143	100	93	93	101
Private/Parochial					
/METCO/Other	168	101	112	136	136
Percent BPS	76.8%	79.4%	79.0%	76.5%	75.7%

#### SY23-24 Applicant Cycle

School Type	Applicants	Actual	Current Policy	Policy Recommendation (30-70)	Policy Recommendation (50-50)
BPS	1031	803	806	786	765
Charter	127	91	90	89	85
Private/Parochial					
/METCO/Other	150	106	104	125	150
Percent BPS	78.8%	80.3%	80.6%	78.6%	76.5%

Note: Simulations using SY23-24 data include 10 school-based points and 15 school-based points for the simulation of the current policy and Policy Recommendation (30-70).

# Simulation Results by Zip Code

The following tables show the simulation results disaggregated by zip code. The numbers represent the number of 7th grade invitations that students from that zip code received and the percentage represents the percent of applicants in that zip code that received an invitation.

SY25-26 Applicant Cycle

<u>3125-20 Appi</u>	l carre o	<del>)                                    </del>					Po	licy	Pol	licy
							Recommendation			
			Actual Results		Current Policy		(30-70)		(50-50)	
Neighborhood	Zip	Applicants	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Beacon Hill	02108	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	
North End -										
Waterfront	02109	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	
Downtown -										
Waterfront	02110		<10		<10		<10		<10	
Chinatown	02111	27	25	93%	25	93%	24	89%	24	89%
North End	02113	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	
West End	02114	11	10	91%	10	91%	11	100%	10	91%
Fenway	02115	24	21	88%	21	88%	18	75%	19	79%
Back Bay	02116	13	12	92%	12	92%	11	85%	13	100%
South End	02118	42	34	81%	34	81%	32	76%	33	79%
Roxbury	02119	82	55	67%	55	67%	47	57%	49	60%
Mission Hill	02120	12	<10		<10		<10		<10	
Grove Hall	02121	91	58	64%	58	64%	42	46%	45	49%
Coastal Dorchester	02122	100	63	63%	63	63%	58	58%	57	57%
Southern Dorchester	02124	125	73	58%	73	58%	72	58%	72	58%
Northern Dorchester	02125	99	61	62%	61	62%	57	58%	58	59%
Mattapan	02126	50	27	54%	27	54%	27	54%	27	54%
South Boston	02127	54	26	48%	26	48%	32	59%	30	56%
East Boston	02128	127	85	67%	85	67%	84	66%	83	65%
Charlestown	02129	66	47	71%	47	71%	52	79%	50	76%
Jamaica Plain	02130	102	73	72%	73	72%	83	81%	80	78%
Roslindale	02131	103	65	63%	65	63%	73	71%	71	69%
West Roxbury	02132	105	63	60%	63	60%	77	73%	74	70%
Allston	02134	22	15	68%	15	68%	15	68%	16	73%
Brighton	02135	86	67	78%	67	78%	69	80%	63	73%
Hyde Park	02136	104	58	56%	58	56%	55	53%	64	62%
Lower Allston	02163	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	
Seaport	02210	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	
West Fens	02215	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	
Chestnut Hill	02467	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	

SY24-25 Applicant Cycle

SY24-25 Applicant Cycle Policy Policy										
							Recommendation		Recommendation	
			Actual Results		Current Policy		(30-70)		(50-50)	
Neighborhood	Zip	Applicants	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Beacon Hill	02108	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	
North End -										
Waterfront	02109	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	
Downtown -										
Waterfront	02110	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	
Chinatown	02111	26	19	73%	20	77%	19	73%	20	77%
North End	02113	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	
West End	02114	13	11	85%	11	85%	12	92%	12	92%
Fenway	02115	12	12	100%	12	100%	11	92%	10	83%
Back Bay	02116	16	12	75%	13	81%	14	88%	14	88%
South End	02118	51	46	90%	45	88%	43	84%	42	82%
Roxbury	02119	72	64	89%	60	83%	53	74%	55	76%
Mission Hill	02120	21	20	95%	19	90%	18	86%	18	86%
Grove Hall	02121	74	65	88%	67	91%	54	73%	56	76%
Coastal Dorchester	02122	81	60	74%	65	80%	62	77%	62	77%
Southern Dorchester	02124	122	96	79%	84	69%	82	67%	79	65%
Northern Dorchester	02125	70	58	83%	57	81%	53	76%	54	77%
Mattapan	02126	49	41	84%	32	65%	33	67%	31	63%
South Boston	02127	46	25	54%	27	59%	33	72%	31	67%
East Boston	02128	96	79	82%	76	79%	68	71%	68	71%
Charlestown	02129	71	47	66%	53	75%	58	82%	59	83%
Jamaica Plain	02130	101	69	68%	75	74%	79	78%	79	78%
Roslindale	02131	115	68	59%	71	62%	78	68%	74	64%
West Roxbury	02132	96	38	40%	47	49%	61	64%	64	67%
Allston	02134	19	14	74%	15	79%	15	79%	15	79%
Brighton	02135	79	59	75%	57	72%	56	71%	56	71%
Hyde Park	02136	87	52	60%	47	54%	50	57%	52	60%
Lower Allston	02163	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	
Seaport	02210	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	
West Fens	02215	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	
Chestnut Hill	02467	<10	<10		<10		<10		<10	

SY23-24 Applicant Cycle

ilcant C	<u> </u>					Pol	icv	Pol	icv	
						Recommendation		Recommendation		
		Actual	Actual Results C		Current Policy		(30-70)		(50-50)	
Zip	Applicants	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
02108	<10	<10		<10	<u> </u>	<10		<10		
02109	<10	<10		<10	<u> </u>	<10		<10		
00440	10	-110		-110		140		140		
	<del>                                     </del>		200/		0.50/		000/		000/	
			82%		85%		88%		88%	
_					<u> </u>			_	<u> </u>	
					ļ'			<10	<u> </u>	
02115	22	22	100%	22	100%		91%	20	91%	
02116	22	12	55%	14	64%	17	77%	17	77%	
02118	51	39	76%	39	76%	33	65%	34	67%	
02119	76	69	91%	71	93%	63	83%	63	83%	
02120	25	22	88%	24	96%	23	92%	21	84%	
02121	72	71	99%	67	93%	58	81%	59	82%	
02122	79	72	91%	74	94%	68	86%	67	85%	
02124	143	110	77%	106	74%	102	71%	96	67%	
33405		10	700/	10	220/		700/	10	220/	
	-								66%	
									69%	
	+	25				28		27	60%	
02128	<del> </del>	81	89%	84	92%		81%	76	84%	
02129	76	48	63%	46	61%	54	71%	57	75%	
02130	89	66	74%	68	76%	76	85%	71	80%	
02131	96	63	66%	63	66%	69	72%	69	72%	
02132	121	51	42%	44	36%	68	56%	81	67%	
02134	14	11	79%	11	79%	11	79%	11	79%	
02135	49	34	69%	34	69%	32	65%	34	69%	
02136	98	61	62%	67	68%	67	68%	62	63%	
02163	<del>                                     </del>	<10		<10		<10		<10		
02210	<del>                                     </del>	<10		<10		<10		<10		
02215	-	<10		<10		<10		<10		
	<b>Zip</b> 02108 02109 02110 02111 02113 02114 02115 02116 02118 02120 02121 02122 02124 02125 02126 02127 02128 02129 02130 02131 02132 02130 02131 02132 02136 02135 02136	02108         <10	Zip         Applicants         #           02108         <10	Zip         Applicants         #         %           02108         <10	Zip         Applicants         #         %         #           02108         <10	Zip         Applicants         #         %         #         %           02108         <10	Zip         Applicants         #         %         #         *         10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10	Zip         Applicants         #         %         10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10         <10	Polity   Polity	

Note: Simulations using SY23-24 data include 10 school-based points and 15 school-based points for the simulation of the current policy and Policy Recommendation (30-70).