

Consider Serving on the Boston School Committee

Applications now due on Monday, November 30

Now is the time to act if you are interested in public education and want to play a leadership role in improving the Boston Public School System (BPS). Two openings on the seven-member Boston School Committee have been created as the terms of current members Elizabeth Reilinger and Helen Dájer will expire on the first Monday of January 2010 and both have indicated that they will not seek another term.

Elizabeth Reilinger has served on the School Committee for 16 years and for 10 of those years (1998-2008) she served as Chairperson. Helen Dájer has served on the School Committee since February 2005 and is a Boston Public School parent.

Significant improvements in educational achievement have been made in the Boston schools over the past 10 years but challenges with the achievement gap, drop-out rate, college preparedness and improving the quality of all schools still remain.

Given the issues facing the BPS, the School Committee would benefit from the addition of a strong parental advocate and an individual with high-level management and operational experience. Both should be committed to instituting reform measures in school policy and in contracts with teachers and school-based administrators that tackle

the problems of chronic underperforming schools. In the upcoming year, both new members will work with the Superintendent and the other Committee members in an environment of limited resource growth to create a plan that will meet the educational needs of Boston's students.

The Boston School Committee Nominating Panel is accepting applications for Boston residents interested in serving on the School Committee for a four-year term. Applications must be received by Ms. Nancy Lo, Chair of the Nominating Panel by the deadline of **1:00 P.M. on Monday, November 30, 2009.**

Applicants must be residents of the City of Boston. Interested candidates wishing to apply have three options to obtain an application form:

- Call 617-961-3434
- [Download an application form](#)
- Email Nancy.Lo@cityofboston.gov

Mayor Menino will appoint the School Committee members from a list of candidates presented by the 13-member Nominating Panel. The Panel is composed of individuals representing parents, teachers, principals, business and higher education.