

## Opportunity to Serve on the Boston School Committee

*Qualified Candidates Needed: Deadline August 8th*

**Interested in shaping the future of the Boston Public Schools?** Consider applying to join the Boston School Committee, the governing body of Boston Public Schools (BPS). One seat is available as School Committee member Chantal Lima Barbosa is stepping down to pursue other opportunities. Ms. Lima Barbosa was first appointed by Mayor Michelle Wu in August 2023. If you are interested in serving on the School Committee we encourage you to apply [here](#).

**Role of the Boston School Committee** - The Boston School Committee plays a crucial role in making decisions that impact the direction and quality of K-12 public education in Boston. It works to create an inclusive and effective educational system that addresses the needs of students, families, and educators. Some of the essential functions of the School Committee include setting the district's objectives, approving and overseeing the implementation of the \$1.58B BPS [annual budget](#), allocating resources effectively to benefit students and improve learning environments, and selecting and evaluating the Superintendent. With BPS constituting Boston's largest single expenditure at 32.7% of the FY26 budget, maintaining strong fiscal oversight over the school budget is critical to the City's overall fiscal health.

Additionally, the School Committee initiates, approves and ratifies BPS collective bargaining agreements. The School Committee approved a renewed [three-year contract](#) with the Boston Teachers Union earlier this year that will have [significant cost and policy implications](#) for the City and will remain in effect until August 31, 2027. More information about the school committee's responsibilities can be found in our [Research Update](#) from last year.

**Requirements & Process** – The School Committee is composed of seven voting members [appointed](#) by the Mayor and one non-voting student representative. Applicants must be Boston residents and submit the [application form](#) with basic information and responses to a series of questions. The School Committee Nominating Panel will vet and publicly interview applicants via Zoom on August 13<sup>th</sup> and/or 14<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-6:00pm. The Nominating Panel consists of [13 members](#) from diverse backgrounds, including parents, business leaders, and educators. Following the interview process the panel will present three to five candidates to the Mayor, who will select one individual to serve on the School Committee for the remainder of the term expiring on January 1, 2028.

All applications should be emailed to [scnominatingpanel@bostonpublicschools.org](mailto:scnominatingpanel@bostonpublicschools.org). **Applications must be received by 11:59 pm on Friday, August 8th, 2025.**

### Boston School Committee Members July 2025

Name	Profession	First Appointed	Term Expires	First Appointed by
Jeri Robinson, Chair	Retired, Vice President of Early Childhood Initiatives at the Boston Children's Museum	November 2014	January 2027	Mayor Walsh
Michael O'Neill, Vice Chair	EVP, Zozimus Agency	July 2008	January 2029	Mayor Menino
Brandon Cardet-Hernandez	President, Mrs. Wordsmith	January 2022	January 2026	Mayor Wu
Dr. Stephen Alkins	DEI Officer, TERC Principal Investigator, REVISE Center	January 2022	January 2026	Mayor Wu
Rafaela Polanco Garcia	Director of Parent Engagement and Organizing, St. Stephen's Youth Programs	July 2021	January 2028	Mayor Janey
Quoc Tran	Retired, Secretariat Deputy Director, Office of Diversity and Civil Rights, MA Office of Health and Human Services	January 2019	January 2027	Mayor Walsh