

Boston School Committee Nominees Head to the Mayor's Desk

On August 13th and 14th, the School Committee Nominating Panel interviewed 6 applicants out of an initial pool of 17 candidates to fill the School Committee seat made available when member Chantal Lima Barbosa stepped down in July. An additional applicant, Ross Wilson, was considered based on his application but was not available for an interview. The Nominating Panel, which consists of [13 members](#) from diverse backgrounds, questioned applicants on topics including improving student outcomes, budgetary processes, and school closures. Following the interview process, the Nominating Panel selected 5 nominees to be presented to the Mayor. The Mayor has up to 15 days following the presentation of the names to appoint a new School Committee member. **The Mayor will select one of these candidates to serve the remainder of the term expiring January 1, 2028:**

Boston School Committee Nominees August 2025

Name	Profession
Lisa Gonsalves	Professor and Department Chair of Curriculum and Instruction at UMass Boston
Eva Scapicchio	Director of Career Services at YouthBuild Boston
Rachell Skerritt	Chief Strategy Officer at Attuned Education Partners Former Head of School at Boston Latin School
Shanda Williams	Vice President of Operations at 4MATIV Technologies Former Transportation Officer and Assistant Director at BPS
Ross Wilson	Executive Director at the Shah Family Foundation Former Deputy Superintendent at BPS

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. The School Committee is composed of seven voting members [appointed](#) by the Mayor and one non-voting student representative. 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 Boston Public Schools \$1.58B [annual budget](#), allocating resources effectively to benefit students and improve learning environments, and selecting and evaluating the Superintendent. With Boston Public Schools constituting Boston's largest single expenditure at 32.7% of the FY26 budget, maintaining strong fiscal oversight over the BPS 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.