



Return, Recover & Reimagine Student Commission: August 12 2021



RETURN | RECOVER | REIMAGINE

Grounded in the community-driven strategic plan, BPS will invest these one-time federal relief funds to return well, recover strong and reimagine what's possible for our students





AGENDA

- I. ICEBREAKER ACTIVITY
- II. SUPERINTENDENT INTRODUCTION
- III. COMMISSION RECAP
- IV. SUPERINTENDENT DISCUSSION
- V. CLOSING REMARKS

Superintendent Dr. Brenda Cassellius



Dr. Brenda Cassellius has devoted her career to ensuring all children succeed and thrive. She has been Superintendent in Boston since July 2019 and has focused her leadership on ensuring students have equitable access to high quality instruction in welcoming and fun learning environments. Prior to coming to Boston, she served as the Commissioner of Education in Minnesota and has held leadership positions in Minneapolis, MN and Memphis, TN. Throughout her career, she has overseen work to narrow achievement gaps, raise high school graduation rates, expand early childhood education, and focus intently on student safety. Dr. Cassellius and her husband Jason are the proud parents of three children. Outside of work, she enjoys playing hockey, water skiing, spending time with family and friends

Respond at Pollev.com/charlespaige049

Text **CHARLESPAIGE049** to **37607** once to join, then text your message

What neighborhood do you live in?

Commission Recap



Commission Expectations

- Everyone speaks during group activities
- Students share out after break out groups
- Students respect each voice and idea
- Everyone participates in the activities
- Students build upon previous ideas/thoughts
- Students ask questions when they need clarification
- Students lead the majority of the discourse
- Student communicate when they're not able to attend the meetings

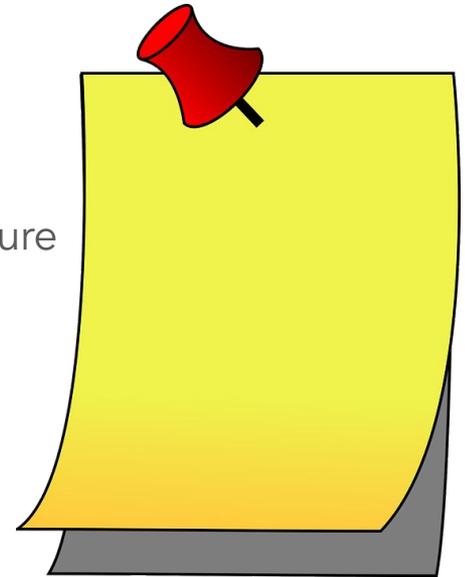


Commission Norms

- Treat others the same way that you would like to be treated
- Communicate with each other
- Teamwork
- Add on to ideas
- Share thoughts freely
- Be realistic
- Respect and listen to ideas
- Acknowledge and comprise with different opinions

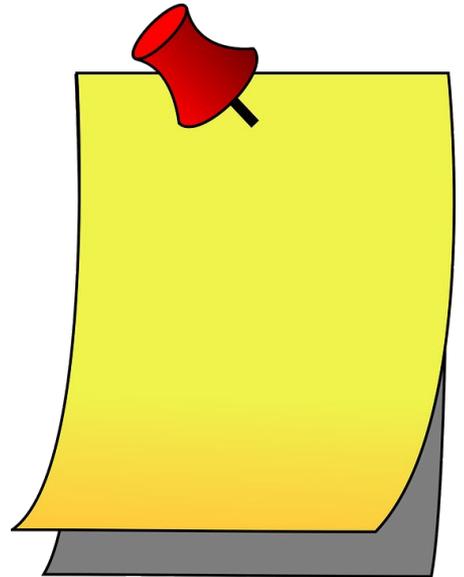
What does youth advocacy mean to you?

- Stepping up when there is an issue, speak up about those issues and then leading
- Making sure that your voice is heard
- Standing up for what you are passionate about
- Help guide the people who make decisions
- Building upon the past while also focusing on the present and future
- Advocating for yourself as well as the next generation
- Every voice is heard (student, teacher, staff etc...)
- Management of both social and academic life
- Putting yourself in a position to help others



Student Engagement

- Exam task force
- Opportunity gap force
- Liked direct/personal engagement
- Taking notes of students needs and reporting them to principals or other school staff members
- Teachers asking for feedback on lesson plans and presenting data to students
- A Teacher/student committee where teachers ask students for feedback regarding social issues on school grounds



Superintendent Discussion



Proposed Investments

- Working with local businesses
- More green energy
- Better food options
- Broader range of art classes
- Field trips
- Bathrooms
- Technology
- Civic Education
- Environmental education
- Programs that help students and parents discuss issues that are happening outside the classroom
- Diversifying extracurricular activities
- College counseling & AP classes
- Financial literacy
- Better sexual education classes
- Multicultural learning (Curriculum)

Discussion Prompts



1. Name:
2. School:
3. Grade:
4. Neighborhood:
5. What questions do you have for the Superintendent?
6. What investments would you like to see the district make?

Closing Statements



Superintendent Dr. Brenda Cassellius



With more than three decades as an educator, Dr. Brenda Cassellius has devoted her career to ensuring all children succeed and thrive. With an unrelenting commitment to ensuring every child receives an equitable, exceptional, and joyful education, her leadership is student-centered, supportive of educators, and grounded in collaboration and effective community partnerships. Since starting as superintendent of the Boston Public Schools in July 2019, Dr. Cassellius has already met and collaborated with hundreds of students, educators, parents, and community members to develop the district's strategic framework to deliver a high-quality education for every BPS student.

Most recently as Minnesota's commissioner of education, her work led to comprehensive education reforms that resulted in historic new state funding for schools, the enactment of all-day kindergarten, state-funded preschool for 25,000 children, and the highest high school graduation rates on record for all student groups.

Prior to serving as commissioner, Dr. Cassellius served as the superintendent of the East Metro Integration District, as associate superintendent in the Minneapolis Public School District leading a comprehensive high school redesign initiative, and as academic superintendent of middle schools in Memphis, Tennessee, where she was responsible for accelerated gains in middle school student outcomes, narrowed achievement gaps, and the end of corporal punishment.

Dr. Cassellius and her husband Jason are the proud parents of three children. Outside of work, she enjoys playing hockey, water skiing, spending time with family and friends, and exploring her new home of Boston.