

4 Elected School Committee Proposals:

(Ideas to generate discussion)

Proposal 1

Seven members could be voted by and represent the following groups:

1. Citywide parent's council
2. BSAC (Boston Student Advisory Council) voted in by student members
3. Sped PACac (BPS Special Education Parents Advisory Council)
4. BTU PAC (Boston Teachers Union Parent Advisory Council)
5. DELLAC (District English Language Learner Advisory Committee)
6. A mental health professional who works or has worked at BPS in that capacity. That person would be voted in by current BPS mental health staff.
7. A member of the community interested in public education voted in by School governing board members or the community members of school governing boards.

Once a person becomes a school committee member they would not be required to remain part of the group that elected them, as that would be a large time commitment to have both positions. Also all members would have a vote, including the student member. This would need to be changed on a state level, but there is legal precedence in Maryland.

Proposal 2

The school committee would be structured like the city council but not include at large seats and voted in by a city election by **Boston residents**. Also each candidate would need to be a parent of a BPS student, a former BPS student, a community member who has advocated for public education, or a teacher. A student member would also be included and voted in by BSAC students.

Proposal 3

The school committee could be represented by candidates from the various districts in the city, like the city council but not include at large seats and be voted in by **ward members**. Also each candidate would need to be a parent of a BPS student, a former BPS student, a community member who has advocated for public education, or a teacher. A student member would also be included and voted in by BSAC students.

Proposal 4

The school committee would be a hybrid of Proposal 1 and 2.

There would be four city positions (that would represent the residents of two city districts) that would be voted in by city residents

Five members could be voted by and represent the following groups:

1. Citywide parent's council
2. BSAC (Boston Student Advisory Council) voted in by the student members
3. Sped PACac (BPS Special Education Parents Advisory Council)
4. BTU PAC (Boston Teachers Union Parent Advisory Council)
5. DELLAC (District English Language Learner Advisory Committee)

Funding Restrictions:

All 3 proposals would have the following funding restrictions:

1. no money for campaigns could come from businesses, including charter schools, and developers.
2. only individual personal contributions would be allowed, and at a maximum of \$50.00

Question:

- For elections what would be the guidelines for collecting signatures?

Interesting Facts:

- School Committees throughout the country have between 3 to 15 members.
- Some Maryland school district's let student members have a vote.

References

How to be an elected School Committee Member [Link](#)
ballotpedia [link](#)

Thoughts on the current model

- The process of appointing school committee members does not work, because potential members that will have dissenting votes are not even offered as options to the mayor when new school committee members are being considered for open positions.
- It is human nature to want to represent the person(s) who made your position possible.