

My name is Lisa Jeanne Graf, and I am an education advocate, from the Fenway neighborhood, independently providing testimony. This year at Boston School Committee Budget Meetings there was a consensus between families, the school committee and the superintendent to use any new funds that came from state aid for school nurses, social workers and psychologists.

In a letter from the Mayor to City Councilors on June 18 he wrote “Due to our continued advocacy at the State level, it is likely the City will see an increase in Charter School Reimbursement next year. We propose allocating a significant portion of that new funding to expand Universal Pre-Kindergarten by more than 80 new quality seats in FY19.”

With the Boston Public Schools Superintendent in the process of resigning, I think that it would be wise to respect the wishes of the school committee and families. That would give stability during an uncertain time and it would make the remaining stake holders feel like their voices were being heard. Thank you for considering this request.

Lisa Jeanne Graf

(Related to the packet on June 20, 2018, Regular City Council Meeting on pages 12 and 13)