

Offered by City Councilors Annissa Essaibi-George and Matt O'Malley



CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING BUILDBPS

WHEREAS: In 2017 Mayor Walsh announced the release of BuildBPS, a ten year facilities plan to help improve Boston Public Schools' (BPS) buildings and create 21st century educational spaces for our students; and

WHEREAS: BuildBPS is a \$1 billion investment in our schools, with a promise of investing \$13 million from the 21st Century Schools Fund into new school furniture and technology to promote innovative learning and teaching methodologies; and

WHEREAS: Mayor Walsh issued an Executive Order on December 11, 2019 articulating that new municipal building construction will target a Zero Net Carbon onsite or Energy Positive standard so the City of Boston may reach its goal to be carbon-neutral by 2050; and

WHEREAS: BuildBPS will provide new school buildings as well as system wide renovations that ought to meet these Zero Net Carbon goals sooner than 2050; and

WHEREAS: The future of many of our schools remain uncertain, creating a sense of insecurity for many of our families, teachers, and school administrators because of the potential merging, closing, and/or reconfiguration of schools; and

WHEREAS: Furthermore, climate change is a crisis for all of us, but particularly our youth and planet, requiring us to act with care and forethought for the environment; and

WHEREAS: A reasonable response to this crisis is to ensure any renovations, rebuilds, and new construction for BPS utilize environmentally-responsive design, technology, and energy to maximize the district's and Boston's climate readiness; and

WHEREAS: BPS has hosted and is expected to continue hosting a series of public meetings to provide updated information, to engage with the community, and to receive feedback on BuildBPS; **THEREFORE, BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to receive an update on the progress of BuildBPS after receiving feedback from the community. Interested parties should be invited to participate such as the Boston Public Schools, parents, students, teachers, education advocates, and more.

Filed On: January 14, 2020