

#0494



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
THOMAS M. MENINO

April 7, 2009

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith an appropriation order for the Boston Public Schools for Fiscal Year 2010, in the amount of \$817.1 million, submitted pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 224 of the Acts of 1936, as amended by Chapter 190 of the Acts of 1982, as further amended by Chapter 701 of the Acts of 1986, Chapter 613 of the Acts of 1987, and Chapter 108 of the Acts of 1991.

This budget represents a decrease of \$16.2 million from the FY2009 appropriation of \$833.3 million. Even in this difficult economy, I remain firm in my commitment to improving education for Boston's children. While posing a significant financial challenge to BPS, this FY10 decrease is significantly less than initial budget estimates as a result of the City increasing the FY10 BPS appropriation by \$25 million.

Despite the fiscal challenges, the Boston Public Schools FY10 budget includes investments in important initiatives that accelerate academic achievement and help ensure all children reach their full potential. The FY10 plan strengthens literacy programs and expands K-8 programs and pilot schools. It supports graduation for all by providing safety nets such as credit recovery programs and improved offerings for English Language Learners.

In addition to meeting the academic needs of today, the FY10 budget makes strategic investments that position the Boston Public Schools for the future. Investing in energy efficient technologies will reduce costs and free up resources for investing in schools. We will continue our multi-year effort to make improvements in student assignment and transportation that will reduce costs while preserving high quality choices for families. Investments in technology and training will increase school inclusion practices for students with disabilities, improving educational opportunities.

Further, the Boston Public Schools will make wise use of all available resources from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Where allowable under the law, these stimulus funds will support restoration of teachers in classrooms across the City as well as one-time strategic investments in technology and educational system-building whose benefits will be felt in future years. Of the \$30 million in ARRA funding that BPS will receive in FY10, more

than half will support BPS operating expenses. Together with the educational investments in the Operating Budget, these changes lay the groundwork for a stronger School Department and a brighter future for Boston Public School students.

I respectfully request your support of the FY10 appropriation for the Boston Public Schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas M. Menino". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "T" and "M".

Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

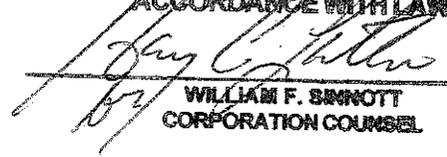
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**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

ORDERED: That pursuant to Chapter 224 of the Acts of 1936, as amended by Chapter 190 of the Acts of 1982, and as further amended by Chapter 701 of the Acts of 1986, Chapter 613 of the Acts of 1987, and Chapter 108 of the Acts of 1991, to meet the current operating expenses of the School Department in the fiscal period commencing July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010, the sum of EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTEEN MILLION ONE HUNDRED TWENTY ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED THIRTY DOLLARS (\$817,121,930) be, and the same hereby is, appropriated, said sum to be raised by taxation pursuant to Section 23 of Chapter 59 of the General Laws:

Boston School Department \$817,121,930

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT
THE FOREGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.


WILLIAM F. BENNETT
CORPORATION COUNSEL

In City Council

REJECTED w/out.
Prejudice
Chas. 13.

JUN 10 2009



CITY CLERK