



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND AND TEN

RESOLUTION URGING THE BOSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO REVISE THE SCHOOL-AGE PARENTS POLICY

- WHEREAS,** In a 2006 survey of high school dropouts, 26% of all respondents, and 33% of the young women, named pregnancy or parenthood as the primary reason they dropped out of school; and,
- WHEREAS,** Many teen parents report that pregnancy and parenting initially increases their commitment to completing school but that supportive school environments are crucial to helping them reach their goals; and,
- WHEREAS,** The Boston Public Schools School-Age Parents Policy (hereinafter referred to as the Policy), adopted by the Boston School Committee in 1983, has not been revised since 1988; and,
- WHEREAS,** The Committee on Women and Healthy Communities conducted one hearing on teen pregnancy and a subsequent working session, with relevant stakeholders, to review and gather recommendations for revising the Policy; and
- WHEREAS,** The Committee on Women and Healthy Communities filed a report “Revising the School-Age-Parents Policy of the Boston Public Schools.” **THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED,** That the Boston City Council transmits a copy of the Report to the Boston School Committee; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the Boston City Council urges the Boston School Committee to convene relevant stakeholders to cooperatively revise the Policy within the first quarter of 2012; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the Boston City Council urges the Boston School Committee to include within the Policy, at minimum:
- A directive that the BPS Department of Special Education and Student Services have responsibility for enforcement and communication of this Policy;
 - A clear accountability and tracking component describing;
 - A description of student confidentiality and disclosure rights;
 - A description of the roles and responsibilities of the “school liaison;”
 - A directive for development of a pilot program that allows former teen parents to mentor or work with newly pregnant or parenting students; and
 - A directive that any BPS task force or department working on drop out prevention or re-engagement collaborate with pregnant and parenting students and representatives from relevant community agencies; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the Boston City Council request the Boston School Committee to submit the Policy to the Council upon revision.

Filed on: 12/13/2010