



**BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**OFFICE OF LEGAL ADVISOR**  
Martin J. Walsh, Mayor

BY EMAIL

August 25, 2020

Lauren Sampson  
Lawyers for Civil Rights  
61 Batterymarch Street, 5th Floor  
Boston, MA 02110  
[lsampson@lawyersforcivilrights.org](mailto:lsampson@lawyersforcivilrights.org)

Re: July 16, 2020 Public Records Request

Dear Lauren:

BPS is in receipt of your public records request dated July 16, 2020, seeking information related to BPS's RFP # 1118 (re-issued as RFP # 7954). Below please see your requests and BPS's responses to requests 1, 2, 3, and 9 in blue below. BPS is continuing to identify responsive records responsive to requests 4 through 8 and will provide them when that process is complete.

Specifically, you requested, for the time period February 1, 2020 to present:

*1. All records referring to, indicating, or reflecting the contract entered into between BPS and Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) regarding the exam school assessment.*

Records responsive to request # 1 may be found [here](#) and [here](#).

*2. All records referring to, indicating, or reflecting BPS's assertion that the exam school assessment created by NWEA is aligned to Massachusetts state standards and the BPS curriculum.*

Records responsive to request # 2 may be found [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

3. *All records referring to, indicating, or reflecting the assertion by BPS that the exam school assessment created by NWEA is free from racial and ethnic bias, including but not limited to copies of any studies, reviews, or validations commissioned by BPS, NWEA, or any third-party.*

Records responsive to request # 3 may be found [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

4. *All records referring to, indicating, or reflecting BPS' plan for administering an exam school admission test in Fall 2020, including but not limited to, providing Internet access and/or personal technology devices to BPS students, providing accommodations for students with disabilities or who are Limited English Proficient, and providing safe and quiet spaces for test-taking for students who are homeless or housing-insecure.*

5. *All records referring to, indicating or reflecting the process that the City of Boston and/or BPS has used, is using, or is planning to use to advertise, promote, or conduct outreach to BPS families regarding the exam schools and the NWEA assessment in 2020.*

6. *All records referring to, indicating, or reflecting any efforts to recruit a diverse body of applicants and enrollees for the exam schools, including those anticipated in 2020 and 2021.*

7. *All records referring to, indicating or reflecting changes to the exam school admission policy considered, proposed, or reviewed by BPS, including but not limited to any communications or requests to consider the implementation of an alternate or additional process for admission and any response by BPS to these proposals.*

8. *All records referring to, indicating, or reflecting the Educational Records Bureau ("ERB") and/or the Independent School Entrance Exam ("ISEE").*

9. *All records referring to, indicating, or reflecting the Request for Proposal (RFP) published by BPS for a new examination for exam school admissions and any responses received to the RFP, including any requirement that a new examination be subject to a validity study or be tailored to the BPS curriculum.*

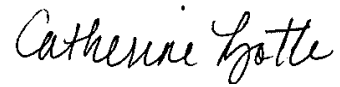
Records responsive to request # 9 may be found [here](#) and [here](#).

### **Conclusion**

You may appeal this response to the Supervisor of Records in the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth. G.L. c. 66, § 10A (c); G.L. c. 66, § 10(b)(ix); 950 CMR 32.08; 950 CMR 32.08(1)(h) (in petitioning the Supervisor, the requester shall provide a copy of such petition to

the records access officer associated with such petition). You may also appeal to the Superior Court. 950 CMR 32.06(3)(c).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Catherine Lizotte". The script is cursive and fluid.

Catherine Lizotte  
Legal Advisor

[clizotte@bostonpublicschools.org](mailto:clizotte@bostonpublicschools.org)