

September 18, 2013 No. 13-5

Highlights

- 21 Commonwealth charter schools now operate in Boston and there will be 21 in SY15-16. 6,557 Boston resident students attend charter schools with 9,475 expected in SY15-16.
- A key policy choice for the next Mayor is how much to protect the BPS budget in light of the City's growing charter tuition assessment loss.
- The state per-pupil charter tuition reimbursement is only funded at 62% in FY14, a loss of \$9.3M for Boston.

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Charter Seat Growth Should Drive BPS Reform

BPS focus on low-performing schools also requires legislative support

The Boston Public Schools' (BPS) initiatives to improve student achievement in its underperforming schools need to attain success for two key reasons. First, BPS school success will be a key factor in retaining students who might otherwise consider transferring to the expanding seats in Commonwealth charter schools expected over the next three years. Second, the equity of high performing schools in all neighborhoods of the City is a critical ingredient in the success of the new student assignment plan that will begin implementation in September 2014.

The number of Boston resident students attending Commonwealth charter schools is projected to reach 9,475 in three years, an increase of 2,918 students or 44.5%. That increase will cause a further reduction of the City's operational revenues as Boston's net charter tuition assessment is estimated to grow to \$116 million in SY15-16, an increase of \$49.3 million or 73.6%. Based on past experience, of the projected increase of 2,918 Boston resident students attending charter schools, at least 1,608 or 55% of these students will transfer from the BPS, potentially bringing the total empty school seats to over 5,000 by SY15-16.

Boston currently has 127 public schools, 96 of which were assigned a state performance Level in 2012. Of the 96 schools, 12 are Level 4 Turnaround schools (12.5%) and 48 or 50% are Level 3 schools, which represent the lowest 20% in student performance statewide. Now enrolled in these 60 schools are 30,300 students who represent 53.4% of the total student enrollment. These are the schools that most need to improve student performance and BPS's efforts should be bolstered by state legislative support.

Turning around these low performing schools will require a comprehensive approach involving action steps by the BPS, Commonwealth and charter schools. The Research Bureau proposes the following three-point plan:

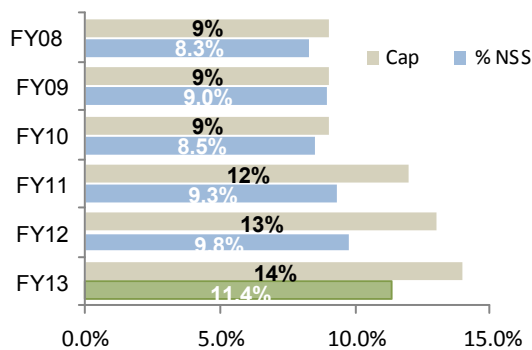
- Education reform legislation now being considered should focus on Level 3 and Level 4 schools in providing proven flexibilities for success. The cap on Horace Mann charter schools should be removed and their renewal facilitated. Boston is now at its Commonwealth charter school cap, which should be raised.
- The BPS should continue its focus on closing the achievement gap and complete its multi-year facilities plan to guide it in the most efficient utilization of its facilities and identify possible school closings as needed.
- Commonwealth charter schools have become a permanent part of the educational fabric of Boston and should be included in the portfolio of schools focused on improvement of Boston's low performing schools.

History of Boston Charter Schools

Commonwealth charter schools first opened their doors in Boston in 1995, with four schools located in the City enrolling 785 students. Charter schools were first authorized by the Education Reform Act of 1993. Charter schools are funded on a per-pupil basis determined by enrollment cost factors such as grade level, education program, or poverty status, in addition to district spending beyond state requirements and the facilities spending rate. The per-pupil tuition assessment is partially reimbursed over the first six years a student attends a charter school, leaving Boston to fund the net impact. Local charter school tuition payments had been capped at 9% of a school district’s net school spending requirement. For the past 19 years, Commonwealth charter schools served as a popular alternative to traditional BPS schools for Boston families to experience innovative learning environments and in doing so to create pressure for reform in the Boston Public School System.

Figure 1

Boston Charter Tuition as % of Required Net School Spending, FY08-FY13



Source: MA Dept. of Secondary and Elementary Education

By 2010, demand for charter seats was so strong among Boston residents that the City’s charter tuition payments were approaching the 9% cap. Charter schools located in Boston were also concentrated in certain sections of the City and mostly catered to students in middle and high school grades. Demand for more charter seats, combined with the national education reform environment in January 2010, led to the passage of

The Achievement Gap Act (Ch.12, Acts of 2010). The Act, approved in response to the Federal Race to the Top competition, allows the state to grant more Commonwealth charter schools, up to 18% of net school spending, for school districts in the lowest 20% of statewide performance.

By SY2012-2013, 20 Commonwealth charter schools operated in Boston with an enrollment of 6,379, of which 6,078 were Boston residents. [\(Appendix A\)](#) Also, nine charter schools in other cities and towns accepted 479 Boston students, bringing the total number of Boston resident students attending charter schools to 6,557 or 11.5% of the BPS enrollment.

The number of charter seats authorized for Boston residents as of 2013 was 10,005. On February 25, 2013, the Massachusetts Board of Education authorized 835 additional charter school seats over the next few years in accordance with Chapter 12, bringing the total number of approved seats for Boston from 10,005 to 10,840. For each school district, the Board votes to authorize seats to be filled or set aside to be filled and holds back 5% of the seats under the cap for an enrollment fluctuation buffer.

Boston’s charter spending as a percent of net school spending is allowed to increase one percentage point per year until it reaches 18% in fiscal 2017. For the first year of Chapter 12 expansion, three charter schools opened in Boston for SY11-12, bringing charter tuition to 9.8% of net school spending. In SY12-13, three more charter schools opened in Boston, making Boston’s charter tuition reach 11.4% of net school spending under a 14% cap.

In 2013, Boston has effectively reached its charter seat cap through 2017. Boston’s current maximum charter seat cap is now set at 11,132, based on a Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) net school spending and charter tuition projection analysis released in April 2013. In 2017 when charter tuition is limited to 18% of net school spending, the projected cap is 11,751 seats, a 619-seat difference. However, after factoring in the 5% buffer, projected to be 587 seats, only 32 seats will be available.

Charter Expansion Enrollment Impact

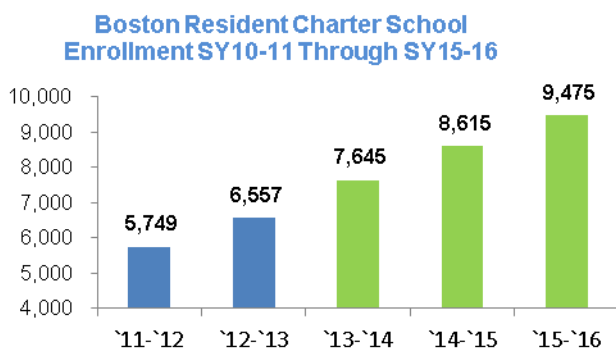
In SY 12-13, the number of Boston resident students attending Commonwealth charter schools, both in Boston and in other towns, increased by 808 or 14.0% to 6,557. Of those students, 770 or 95.3% attended charter schools located in Boston while the remaining 38 students or 4.7% attend charter schools in other municipalities.

Current seat expansion plans are leading to a sharp increase in Boston charter enrollment. Boston resident student charter school enrollment is expected to increase by 2,918 students or 44.5% in the three years between SY12-13 and SY15-16 due to expansion authorizations under Chapter 12. [\(Appendix B\)](#) This projection is based on the enrollment growth plans of each charter school, including those outside the city serving Boston resident students. Enrollment growth during the four years between SY08-09 and SY11-12 averaged 4.9% annually. However, the average annual enrollment growth rate projected in the four years from SY12-13 through SY15-16 will almost triple to 13.3%. Most of the Commonwealth charter growth is seen in grades five and six due to new school openings and expansions.

BPS Enrollment Impact

For most of the last fifteen years, the BPS has been challenged with declining enrollment, though it has retained, on average, enrollment of 75% of Boston resident students. Total BPS enrollment

Figure 2

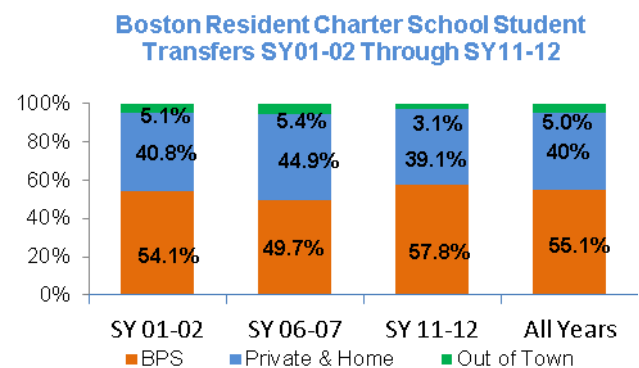


Source: MA Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education and City of Boston projections

has been on the rise over the past four years with a 538 or 1% increase in students. Enrollment in the BPS for SY12-13 was 56,905 as of mid-December 2012, a 0.67% increase over the prior school year. [\(Appendix C\)](#) The BPS budgeted enrollment for SY12-13 was 57,087 and in SY13-14, it is projected to rise to 58,271, an increase of nearly 1,200 students, primarily in the early grades. Nearly half of these students have high-severity disabilities.

When factoring out pre-kindergarten and kindergarten enrollment for all education programs, BPS enrollment has dropped over four years. Enrollment remained flat between SY08-09 and SY10-11, while in SY11-12 and SY12-13 enrollment dropped. The biggest BPS enrollment losses have occurred in the fifth grade. The number of BPS fifth graders fell by 459 or 12% between SY11-12 and SY12-13, coinciding with the opening of eight charter schools. BPS enrollment losses are also occurring at the high school level, where enrollment has dropped by 1,035 students or 5.6% over the past four school years. Between SY10-11 and SY11-12, BPS high school enrollment declined by 569 students or 3.2%.

Figure 3



Source: Mass. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Of the BPS students who have entered Commonwealth charter schools since fiscal 2002, 81.1% have transferred in the transitional years of fifth, sixth, and ninth grades. [\(Appendix D\)](#) Over the next three years, Boston residents in Boston charter schools will have the most seats added to sixth, seventh, and eighth grades, at a total of

1,206. K1 and K2 charter seats, currently at 616, will increase by 239 seats during this time.

Since fiscal 2002, 13,533 Boston children have enrolled in a Commonwealth charter school. Of this total, 7,452 or 55.1% had been enrolled in the BPS the previous year. An additional 5,409 or 40% came from private schools or 'home', which includes children too young to have been in school in the previous year. However, when considering only first graders and older, 74% of charter school transfer students had been enrolled in a BPS school the previous year.

As more Commonwealth charter school seats have become available to Boston students, charter schools have drawn an increasing share of students from the BPS. In SY11-12, 57.8% of Boston resident students enrolled in Commonwealth charter schools had transferred from the BPS. The comparable percentage in SY01-02 was 54.1%.

Financial Impact

The rise in charter school enrollment among Boston students comes at a cost to the City of Boston. The financial impact is measured as the City's annual net charter assessment. The net charter tuition assessment is calculated by subtracting reimbursement aid provided to Boston by the Commonwealth in the first six years a student attends a charter school, from the tuition

assessment. [\(Appendix E\)](#) In fiscal 2014, the projected charter tuition assessment is \$108.7 million and the charter reimbursement is \$22.1 million for a net charter assessment of \$86.6 million. This assessment loss represents 41.3% of the City's total Chapter 70 school aid of \$209.4 million this year.

Over the past six years, net Chapter 70 aid as a percent of the BPS operating budget has decreased from 21.9% in fiscal 2008 to 13.1% in fiscal 2014 as a consequence of BPS's budget growth and the increase in the charter school tuition assessment loss during this time. [\(Appendix F\)](#)

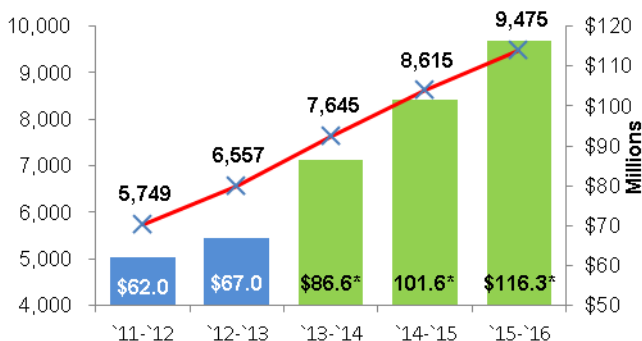
Charter school expansion has an impact on three cost factors in Boston. The City incurs a cost when any Boston resident student enters a charter school in the following ways: 1) the net tuition assessment; 2) the excess capacity cost associated with the empty seat that is difficult to adjust for in a timely fashion; and 3) the transportation cost per pupil.

Charter Tuition – Due to the expected increase of Boston students attending charter schools, growth in Boston's net charter tuition payment is expected to climb to \$116.3 million in fiscal 2016, an increase of \$49.3 million or 73.6% over the three years from fiscal 2013. In comparison, the total increase in Boston's net impact over the prior three years from fiscal 2009 to fiscal 2012 was \$16.1 million or 35%.

The City of Boston is assessed a tuition payment for the total number of students who live in the City and attend a charter school. The assessment represents a transfer of state school aid from Boston to the charter schools as the money follows the student. The charter per-pupil rate is intended to reflect district funding for BPS students based on three components: 1) the charter school foundation budget, which, in part, accounts for per-pupil spending including grade level, education program, (regular, English language instruction, or special education), and poverty status; 2) an amount representing BPS per-pupil spending beyond state requirements; and 3) a component reflecting a facilities spending rate.

Figure 4

Boston Net Charter Spending & Enrollment
SY11-12 to SY15-16



Source: MA Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education and the City of Boston. *Figures are projected

Reimbursement Aid – For municipalities losing Chapter 70 funds due to students transferring to charter schools, the Commonwealth provides some financial mitigation through a six-year reimbursement schedule. Under Chapter 12, the annual incremental tuition assessment is reimbursed 100% in the first year and 25% of the tuition in each of the next five years. Boston’s total reimbursement in fiscal 2009 was \$15.4 million and the state will allocate \$22.1 million in fiscal 2014. The reimbursement is subject to appropriation and from fiscal 2005 to fiscal 2012, the Commonwealth appropriated 100% of its obligation. However, in fiscal 2013, the state paid only 95.7% of its obligation. The fiscal 2014 adopted state budget covers only 62.2% of its reimbursement obligation, which, for Boston, represents a loss of \$9.2 million if it had been funded at 100%.

City Covers Tuition Loss – The rapid growth of Boston’s net charter school tuition assessment has reduced funding for City operations, but it has had minimal impact on the City’s planned investment in the public schools. The City’s operating revenues factor in the net tuition payment loss and for the past six years, the BPS budget has averaged 35% of the available revenues. During that same period, the net charter school tuition has increased from \$45.9 million in fiscal 2009 to \$86.6 million in fiscal 2014.

Empty Seat Cost – According to the BPS, as of fiscal 2013, there are 3,399 empty seats across the BPS. This figure represents total excess capacity throughout all BPS classrooms, determined by the gap between actual classroom enrollment and the maximum class size under the teachers’ contract, without accounting for unused building space. The cost per empty seat, at \$3,853, is determined by the average BPS teacher salary, including benefits, divided by the average contractual maximum class size.

Charter school expansion between fiscal 2013 and 2016 should lead to an additional 2,918 Boston resident students attending charter schools. At least 1,608 or 55.1% of the students entering charter schools are expected to leave the BPS, adding to the 3,399 empty seats. This creates a

total of 5,007 empty seats between SY12-13 and SY15-16 in the continued absence of a comprehensive facilities plan and assuming no growth in total BPS enrollment. At \$3,853 each, the total cost of empty seats could potentially reach \$19.3 million by SY15-16, with \$6.2 million coming directly from the additional seats lost to charter schools.

Charter Transportation – The BPS is responsible for funding most transportation for charter school students in addition to BPS students. Currently 3,847 charter students ride BPS school buses. Approximately 1,310 Boston resident charter students are expected to enter charter schools from non-BPS schools between SY12-13 and SY15-16 and ride school buses. The fiscal 2013 per-pupil cost to transport BPS regular education students is \$1,343. It is conservative to also use this number as the cost to transport charter students because of route and resource planning. Therefore, the cost for transporting additional charter students between SY12-13 and SY15-16 may be as high as \$1.8 million.

At present, route lengths for BPS and charter school buses are similar, which makes for comparable per-pupil transportation costs. However, BPS believes that as student assignment zones shrink with the new student assignment plan in September 2014, BPS bus routes will shorten, making the per-pupil cost for BPS students comparatively lower. Also, BPS controls its school start times, allowing for logistical efficiencies, while charter schools schedule their own start times, which can complicate route planning and efficiency.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Commonwealth charter schools have become a permanent part of the educational fabric of Boston. This situation requires the Boston Public Schools to develop a collaborative working plan with the charter schools while focusing on improving achievement in its own schools to be more successful.

The fact that enrollment in Commonwealth charter schools in Boston is expected to increase by an annual average of 13.3% over the next four years, indicates the continual interest of parents and students for quality alternatives to the Boston public schools. The fact that the net tuition assessment Boston will lose to charter schools is estimated to reach \$116 million in SY 15-16 explains why BPS schools must become more successful in providing quality education to retain its students.

Whether the next Administration will be able or willing to mitigate the charter tuition loss in its support of the School Department budget in future years as has been done in past years is a key policy choice the next Mayor will have to evaluate in preparing the City's fiscal 2015 budget.

Recognizing the important role charter schools will continue to play in Boston and the BPS's need to improve its schools' educational quality, the Research Bureau proposes the following recommendations starting with a three-point plan:

Recommendation I: A Three Point Plan:

1. Legislative Education Reform – Educational reform legislation to improve student achievement in underperforming schools should be enacted this year. The law should extend Turnaround plan flexibilities for existing Level 4 schools in Boston. For Level 3 schools, it should extend the same Level 4 flexibilities in areas of selecting their educational team, budgeting, and scheduling. It should also facilitate opportunities to convert underperforming Level 3 schools into Horace Mann in-district charter schools, which have the same flexibilities as charter schools, but Chapter 70 tuition funds stay in the district. For Horace Mann schools, the new law should facilitate openings and renewals in addition to removing the cap on these schools. Parents and students should be given more options by expanding the cap on Commonwealth charter schools in Level 4 Districts to keep pressure on the BPS to improve student achievement in its underperforming schools. Including provisions to authorize a more collaborative relationship between charter schools and district schools is also important.

2. BPS Reform and Facilities Plan – The BPS should continue its focus on closing the achievement gap in low performing schools with additional support, resources, and what flexibility it can offer these schools. The Department should complete its multi-year comprehensive facilities plan which should serve as a true strategic facilities plan that can guide the BPS in the most efficient utilization of its existing facilities with any new schools and also identify possible school closings as needed.

3. School Portfolio Plan – Agreements between the BPS and Commonwealth charter school operators should be authorized to enable charter school management to operate in chronically underperforming schools to serve the same students and bring high performing schools to more Boston neighborhoods.

Recommendation II:

Full Funding of Tuition Reimbursement – The state's six-year reimbursement schedule to help mitigate the loss of charter tuition funds should be fully funded each year. The reimbursement schedule acknowledges that savings from students transferring to charter schools take some time to achieve. From fiscal 2005 to fiscal 2012, the Commonwealth appropriated 100% of its obligation. However, in fiscal 2013, the state paid only 95.7% of its obligation and the fiscal 2014 adopted state budget covers only 62.2%. The reimbursement at 62.2% represents a loss to Boston of \$9.3 million from what would have been received if the account had been fully funded. Restoring the reimbursement to full funding statewide in fiscal 2014 would require an additional \$28.3 million.

Appendix A

Charter Schools Attended by Students Living in Boston

SY12-13

Commonwealth Charter Schools in Boston

SY 12-13 Enrollment

Charter School	Location	Grade Level	Total Students Enrolled (FTE)	Boston Students Enrolled (FTE)	% Boston Students
Academy Of the Pacific Rim Charter Public	Boston- Hyde Park	5-12	502	478	95.2%
Boston Collegiate Charter	Boston- Dorchester	5-12	607	598	98.5%
Boston Preparatory Charter Public	Boston- Hyde Park	6-12	364	364	100.0%
Boston Renaissance Charter Public	Boston- Central	K-6	944	886	93.9%
Bridge Boston Charter School	Boston	PK-K	107	104	97.2%
City On A Hill Charter Public	Boston- Roxbury	9-12	282	278	98.6%
Codman Academy Charter Public	Boston- Dorchester	9-12	147	145	98.6%
Conservatory Lab Charter	Boston- Brighton	PK-6	178	175	98.3%
Dorchester Collegiate Academy Charter School	Boston- Dorchester	4-6	135	134	99.3%
Edward Brooke Charter	Boston- Roslindale	K-8	485	458	94.4%
Edward Brooke Charter 2	Boston	K-5	265	262	98.8%
Edward Brooke Charter 3	Boston	K-5	178	143	80.3%
Excel Academy Charter	Boston- East Boston	5-8	215	133	61.9%
Excel Academy Charter 2	Boston	5-8	56	55	98.2%
KIPP Academy Boston Charter School	Boston	5	72	71	98.6%
MATCH Charter Public High	Boston- Allston	6-12	480	460	95.8%
MATCH Community Day Charter Public School	Boston	PK-2	200	200	100.0%
Neighborhood House Charter	Boston- Dorchester	PK-8	399	382	95.7%
Roxbury Preparatory Charter	Boston- Roxbury	6-8	545	541	99.3%
Smith Leadership Academy Charter Public	Boston- Dorchester	6-8	217	211	97.2%
Subtotal (20)			6,379	6,078	95.3%

Appendix A (continued)

Non-Boston Commonwealth Charter Schools Accepting Boston Students

Charter School	Location	Grade Level	SY 12-13 Enrollment		
			Total Students Enrolled (FTE)	Boston Students Enrolled (FTE)	% Boston Students
Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public	Worcester	K-12	1,423	0	0.0%
Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter	Marlborough	5-10	968	1	0.1%
Atlantis Charter School	Fall River	K-8	758	0	0.0%
Benjamin Banneker Charter Public	Cambridge	K-6	352	151	42.9%
Christa McAuliffe Regional Charter Public	Framingham	6-8	308	0	0.0%
Community Charter School of Cambridge	Cambridge	7-12	373	194	52.0%
Excel Academy Charter- Chelsea	Chelsea	5-5	112	0	0.0%
Foxborough Regional Charter	Foxborough	K-12	1,214	5	0.4%
Hillview Montessori Charter Public School	Haverhill	K-8	303	0	0.0%
Kipp Academy Lynn Charter	Lynn	5-9	585	0	0.0%
Mystic Valley Regional Charter	Malden	K-12	1,488	4	0.3%
Phoenix Charter Academy	Chelsea	9-12	183	43	23.5%
Pioneer Charter School of Science	Everett	7-12	356	15	4.2%
Prospect Hill Academy Charter	Somerville/ Cambridge	PK-12	1,138	64	5.6%
Salem Academy Charter School	Salem	6-12	338	2	0.6%
South Shore Charter Public	Norwell	K-12	540	0	0.0%
Subtotal (16)			10,439	479	4.6%
Grand Total (34)			6,557		

Impact on Boston	
Total Boston Students Enrolled	6,557
Total FY13 Tuition Payment	\$89,565,576
Total FY13 Tuition Reimbursement	\$22,581,628
Net FY13 Impact	\$66,983,948

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Charter School Enrollment Reports.
 Prepared by: Boston Municipal Research Bureau

Appendix B

Projected Enrollment for Charters Serving Boston Students SY12-13 to SY15-16

Charter Schools In Boston

	SY12-13	SY13-14 (1)	SY14-15 (1)	SY15-16 (1)	Variance SY12-13 - SY15-16	%
Academy of the Pacific Rim Charter School	478	507	539	543	65	13%
Boston Collegiate Charter School	598	646	665	665	67	11%
Boston Preparatory Charter Public School	364	372	385	400	36	10%
Boston Renaissance Charter School	886	881	944	944	58	7%
Bridge Boston Charter School	104	141	180	216	112	108%
City on a Hill Charter Public School	278	277	280	280	2	1%
City on a Hill II Charter Public School	-	110	140	210	210	-
Codman Academy Charter Public School	145	210	265	305	160	110%
Conservatory Lab Charter School	175	309	396	420	245	140%
Dorchester Collegiate Academy Charter School	134	200	190	200	66	50%
Edward Brooke Charter School 1	458	488	510	510	52	11%
Edward Brooke Charter School 2	262	359	510	510	248	95%
Edward Brooke Charter School 3	143	233	257	340	197	137%
Excel Academy - East Boston	133	135	148	185	52	39%
Excel Academy - Orient Heights	55	112	168	224	169	308%
KIPP Boston	71	143	288	403	332	467%
MATCH Charter Public School	460	477	550	550	90	19%
MATCH Community Day Charter School	199	300	350	400	201	101%
Neighborhood House Charter School	382	385	400	400	18	5%
Roxbury Preparatory Charter School	541	715	805	1,125	584	108%
Smith Leadership Academy Public Charter School	211	216	216	216	5	2%
Subtotal	6,078	7,216	8,186	9,046	2,968	49%

Appendix B (continued)

Charter Schools Outside of Boston Serving Boston Students

	SY 12-13	SY 13-14 (1)	SY 14-15 (2)	SY 15-16 (2)	Variance SY12-13 - SY15-16
Advanced Math & Science Academy	1	1			(1)
Benjamin Banneker School	151	132			(151)
Community Charter School of Cambridge	194	168			(194)
Foxborough Regional	5	4			(5)
Mystic Valley Regional	4	-			(4)
North Central Charter Essential School	-	1			-
Phoenix Charter Academy	43	47			(43)
Pioneer Charter School of Science	15	13			(15)
Prospect Hill Academy Charter	64	61			(64)
Rising Tide Charter School	-	2			-
Salem Academy	2	-			(2)
Subtotal	479	429	429	429	(50)
Grand Total	6,557	7,645	8,615	9,475	2,918
Annual Growth	807	1,088	970	860	53
% Growth	14.0%	16.6%	12.7%	10.0%	(0)

(1) These figures are projections based on Charter School expansion plans approved by the State.

(2) There is no projection for schools outside of Boston serving Boston students, as such, the City of Boston uses the 2013/2014 projection to predict these enrollments

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and City of Boston.

Prepared by: Boston Municipal Research Bureau

Appendix C

Boston Public Schools Enrollment by Grade SY08-SY12*

						Change	% Change	Change	% Change
Kindergarten	SY08-09	SY09-10	SY10-11	SY11-12	SY12-13	2011-2012	2011-2012	2008-2012	2008-2012
Pre-Kindergarten	384	366	374	427	485	58	13.6%	101	26.3%
Kindergarten 1	2,061	2,117	2,163	2,212	2,397	185	8.4%	336	16.3%
Kindergarten 2	3,948	4,055	4,218	4,216	4,471	255	6.0%	523	13.2%
Total Kindergarten	6,393	6,538	6,755	6,855	7,353	498	7.3%	960	15.0%
Elementary									
Grade 1	4,145	4,288	4,365	4,368	4,595	227	5.2%	450	10.9%
Grade 2	4,116	4,015	4,195	4,246	4,180	(66)	-1.6%	64	1.6%
Grade 3	4,053	4,062	3,972	4,146	4,202	56	1.4%	149	3.7%
Grade 4	4,029	4,002	4,104	3,974	4,106	132	3.3%	77	1.9%
Grade 5	3,875	3,864	3,796	3,841	3,382	(459)	-12.0%	(493)	-12.7%
Total Elementary	20,218	20,231	20,432	20,575	20,465	(110)	-0.5%	247	1.2%
Middle Schools									
Grade 6	3,354	3,687	3,721	3,605	3,657	52	1.4%	303	9.0%
Grade 7	3,940	3,780	3,987	4,042	3,971	(71)	-1.8%	31	0.8%
Grade 8	4,046	3,972	3,800	3,964	4,078	114	2.9%	32	0.8%
Total Middle Schools	11,340	11,439	11,508	11,611	11,706	95	0.8%	366	3.2%
High Schools									
Grade 9	5,250	5,044	4,920	4,660	4,783	123	2.6%	(467)	-8.9%
Grade 10	4,491	4,499	4,358	4,206	4,041	(165)	-3.9%	(450)	-10.0%
Grade 11	4,233	4,298	4,263	4,253	4,202	(51)	-1.2%	(31)	-0.7%
Grade 12	4,442	4,468	4,512	4,365	4,355	(10)	-0.2%	(87)	-2.0%
Total High Schools	18,416	18,309	18,053	17,484	17,381	(103)	-0.6%	(1,035)	-5.6%
Total BPS	56,367	56,517	56,748	56,525	56,905	380	0.7%	538	1.0%
% Increase		0.27%	0.41%	-0.39%	0.67%				

* As of December of each year

Source: BPS, Analysis of Students by Zone, Actual Enrollment and BPS Analysis of Students by Program, Mid-December Enrollment.

Prepared by: Boston Municipal Research Bureau

Appendix D

Transfers to Charter Schools

ALL Students Transferring Into Charter Schools SY01-02-SY11-12 by Source

Grade	Private & Home	Out of Town	BPS	Total
K1	501			501
K2	2,927	21	33	2,981
1	433	10	43	486
2	38	23	224	285
3	40	19	149	208
4	64	14	258	336
5	564	128	1,622	2,314
6	345	180	2,918	3,443
7	175	76	458	709
8	67	50	194	311
9	247	118	1,503	1,868
10	5	24	38	67
11	2	6	11	19
12	1	3	1	5
Total	5,409	672	7,452	13,533
%	40.0%	5.0%	55.1%	100.0%

BPS Students Only Transferring Into Charter Schools SY01-02-SY11-12 by Grade

Grade	SY01- SY02	SY02- SY03	SY03- SY04	SY04- SY05	SY05- SY06	SY06- SY07	SY07- SY08	SY08- SY09	SY09- SY10	SY10- SY11	SY11- SY12	Total	%
K2	11	12		1		5		1	1	2		33	0.4%
1	17	8	3	1	1	7	1		3	1	1	43	0.6%
2	17	24	12	21	37	32	14	4	4	7	52	224	3.0%
3	15	21	22	21	15	25	9	8	4	4	5	149	2.0%
4	20	16	24	26	20	39	2	6	41	33	31	258	3.5%
5	49	175	147	153	117	83	174	155	166	145	258	1,622	21.8%
6	146	171	317	388	256	287	301	286	262	244	260	2,918	39.2%
7	40	31	37	37	27	49	44	43	44	45	61	458	6.1%
8	9	20	20	8	14	9	18	26	8	32	30	194	2.6%
9	112	114	155	203	142	120	126	128	138	146	119	1,503	20.2%
10	3		1	13	7	4	1	4	3	2		38	0.5%
11			1		1		1	1		5	2	11	0.1%
12											1	1	0.0%
Total	439	592	739	872	637	660	691	662	674	666	820	7,452	100.0%

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.
Prepared by: Boston Municipal Research Bureau

Appendix E

Historical Enrollment of District Charter Schools SY95-SY13

School Year	Charter School Enrollment (FTE)	Tuition Assessment	State Reimbursement	Net Impact to Boston
95-96	784	\$5,801,808	\$5,256,000	\$545,808
96-97	1,315	10,384,359	3,081,800	7,302,559
97-98	1,509	11,228,344	2,026,200	9,202,144
98-99	1,765	13,421,568	2,193,224	11,228,344
99-00	2,083	17,322,561	5,242,570	12,079,991
00-01	2,551	21,892,408	7,787,732	14,104,676
01-02	2,889	26,543,817	7,970,814	18,573,003
02-03	3,365	32,167,518	60,323	32,107,195
03-04	3,967	36,503,900	2,927,537	33,576,363
04-05	4,434	41,875,268	10,224,584	31,650,684
05-06	4,182	43,922,686	8,270,938	35,651,748
06-07	4,509	48,375,443	9,713,428	38,662,015
07-08	4,763	55,466,364	13,887,683	41,578,681
08-09	4,962	61,257,924	15,359,109	45,898,815
09-10	5,086	62,020,257	10,987,738	51,032,519
10-11	5,273	68,292,834	13,236,601	55,056,233
11-12	5,749	74,085,738	12,130,766	61,954,972
12-13 *	6,557	89,565,576	22,581,628	66,983,948
13-14 *	7,645	108,661,809	22,090,688	86,571,121

* SY12-13 and SY13-14 are preliminary and subject to change

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education and City of Boston.

Prepared by: Boston Municipal Research Bureau

Appendix F

Chapter 70 School Aid

FY08-FY14

Figures in 000's

	Actual FY08	Actual FY09	Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Actual FY12	Budget FY13	Budget FY14	Variance FY08-14	%
Charter Tuition Assessment	\$55.5	\$61.3	\$62.0	\$68.3	\$74.1	\$89.6 (1)	\$108.7 (1)	\$53.2	95.9%
Charter Reimbursement	13.9	15.4	11.0	13.2	12.1	22.6 (1)	22.1 (1)	8.2	59.1%
Net Charter Impact	\$41.6	\$45.9	\$51.0	\$55.1	\$62.0	\$67.0	\$86.6	\$45.0	108.2%
Chapter 70	\$215.8	\$221.4 (2)	\$217.0	\$204.3	\$205.4	\$207.9	\$209.4	-\$6.4	-3.0%
Net Charter Impact	41.6	45.9	51.0	55.1	62.0	67.0	86.6	45.0	108.2%
Net Chapter 70 (3)	\$174.2	\$175.5	\$166.0	\$149.3	\$143.5	\$140.9	\$122.8	-\$51.4	-29.5%
Net Chapter 70	\$174.2	\$175.5 (2)	\$166.0	\$149.3	\$143.5	\$140.9	\$122.8	-\$51.4	-29.5%
BPS Operating Budget (4)	795.5	833.3	817.8	821.4	831.3	873.7	937.4	141.9	17.8%
Chapter 70 as % of BPS Budget	21.9%	21.1%	20.3%	18.2%	17.3%	16.1%	13.1%	-8.8%	

(1) FY13 and FY14 Charter Tuition Assessments and Reimbursement reflect revised amounts from the Commonwealth as of July 2013.

(2) FY09 Chapter 70 and BPS Operating Budget includes \$23.3 million in ARRA funds that were used for general fund school purposes. The City accounts for these ARRA funds as Special Revenue.

(3) Net Chapter 70 represents the disposable state school aid revenue available to Boston

(4) BPS Operating Budget includes Health

Source: City of Boston Financial Statements and Budget and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Prepared by: Boston Municipal Research Bureau