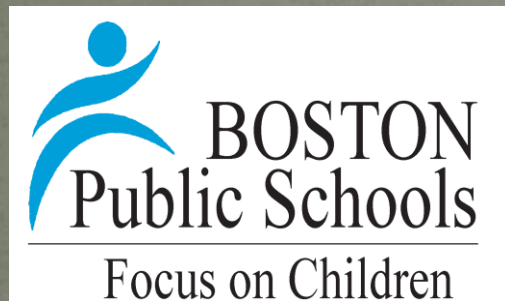


Students at the Center of Improving School Climate



Boston Student Advisory Council

BSAC



- Lock-out Policy
- Constructive Feedback
- Student input in Teacher Evaluation
- BPS Code of Conduct (COCAC)
- Boston Student Rights phone app
- Student Rights and Responsibilities
- Climate Justice
- Education Equity
- Transportation Equity
- Credit Bearing BSAC Course
- Chapter 222
- Boston's Climate Action Plan

Boston Student Rights App

WWW.BOSTONSTUDENTRIGHTS.ORG



1. Know your rights as a student
 - the process of suspensions, expulsions, and hearings
2. Legal Resources
 1. Learn more about BSAC

The Listening Project

The Boston Student Advisory Council (BSAC)/Youth on Board (YOB), Youth Organizers United for the Now Generation (YOUNG) and the Boston Area Youth Organizing Project (BYOP) conducted a survey at subway stations for the 5th year in a row.

246 young people's experiences with school discipline and zero tolerance policies.

Here's what they said...

The Listening Project

- ❖ 60% said they felt their race, ethnicity, physical appearance, gender, gender expression, sexuality, sexual identity, disability, or English Language Learner status influenced **why and how often they got disciplined at school.**
- ❖ 75% think **out-of-school suspension is *not effective*** as a disciplinary tactic.
- ❖ 60% think **out-of-school suspension** should ***end completely*** as a disciplinary tactic.
- ❖ 50% ***did not know*** how **disciplinary hearings work** at their school.
- ❖ 70% ***did not know*** that their school is required to try alternatives to **suspension** before suspending them in most cases (i.e., restorative practices).

The Listening Project

Quotes from the Survey:

If you or someone you know has been disciplined at school, how has it changed them or you?

“By the time I was in sixth grade I had been **suspended 52 times** for not having belts, for not putting stuff away, little things. I had no clue about stuff on the school tests because I was always suspended. **I ended up getting held back a year.**”

“In sixth grade my teacher called me violent and I was suspended, but **no one ever asked me how I felt or even cared.**”

“It changes most people into **not wanting to try at all.**”

“It makes me **feel like someone is getting bullied.**”

“Being suspended didn’t change my friends’ attitude or mine. **We keep getting suspended.**”

Massachusetts Youth Summit

