



Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

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Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.
Commissioner

February 8, 2017

Tommy Chang, Superintendent
Boston Public Schools
2300 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02119

Re: Paul A. Dever Elementary School

Dear Superintendent Chang:

I am writing to you regarding the Paul A. Dever Elementary School (Dever). In October 2013, pursuant to G.L. c. 69, §1J, I declared the Dever to be chronically underperforming, or a Level 5 school under the state accountability system. Blueprint Schools Network was named as the receiver for the Dever and together we developed a turnaround plan for the school, which is enclosed.

Blueprint Schools Network and I have mutually agreed that it will conclude its work at the Dever as of June 30, 2017. I have requested and you have agreed that going forward, as superintendent of the Boston Public Schools, you will be responsible for the implementation of the turnaround plan for the Dever pursuant to G.L. c. 69, §§ 1J (r),(w). The Dever remains in state receivership and is not under the authority of the Boston School Committee. In your role, you will have authorities of a receiver for a Level 5 school, and will report to me, as Commissioner.

I look forward to working with you. Using the authorities and opportunities that the Level 5 designation provides, I believe we will substantially improve educational outcomes for students.

Sincerely,

Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education

C: Todd Fishburn, Principal, Paul A. Dever Elementary School
Russell Johnston, Senior Associate Commissioner, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Michael O'Neill, Chair, Boston Public Schools School Committee
Martin Walsh, Mayor, City of Boston

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