

HANDOUT

Quotations | Boston Educational Justice Gallery Walk

Quotation 1

Headline:

'What exactly is fair about this?': Great high schools aren't available to all Boston kids (*Boston Globe*, June 15, 2023)

“Our education system pits students who do not have sharpened pencils against students who are given MacBooks to do their homework,” [Justis Porter, a student at the Jeremiah Burke High School] wrote. “Which student do you think will win? Students in schools are held to the same level for things such as standardized tests, but what exactly is fair about this?”¹

¹ Deanna Pan, “[What exactly is fair about this?](#)’: Great high schools aren't available to all Boston kids,” *Boston Globe*, June 15, 2023.

Quotation 2

Headline:

How a group of Boston teenagers organized a massive district-wide protest (Boston.com, March 11, 2016)

“There’s this stereotype that young kids don’t know what we’re doing and should let adults handle things because it’s their fight more than ours,’ said Jahi Spaloss, a senior at Boston Green Academy. ‘But we’re the ones in school. This fight is ours.’”²

² Allison Pohle, “[How a group of Boston teenagers organized a massive district-wide protest](#),” Boston.com, March 11, 2016.

Quotation 3

Headline:

In Mattapan’s Haitian Creole program, a taste of the bilingual education BPS wants to expand (*Boston Globe*, November 29, 2022)

“Teachers say a sense of belonging . . . doesn’t just make students feel good, but translates to deeper learning. At the Mattahunt school, 26 percent of English-language learners met or exceeded expectations in the third-grade English Language Arts MCAS test, double the portion of English learners across the district who met or exceeded expectations on that test.”³

³ Naomi Martin, “[In Mattapan's Haitian Creole program, a taste of the bilingual education BPS wants to expand](#),” *Boston Globe*, November 29, 2022.

Quotation 4

Headline:

Boston schools lost 15,000 Black students in the past 20 years. Where did they go, and will they ever return? (*Boston Globe*, November 26, 2022)

“We’re leaving because we’re tired,’ said LaTasha Sarpy, a Boston mother of three who is Black, and opted to send her children to a charter school instead of BPS. ‘My mom was fighting this fight 35 years ago, trying to find the best schools. . . . In my opinion, it’s not really a choice. To sacrifice my children’s education? That is not a choice. We’re leaving because, at some point, enough is enough.’”⁴

⁴ Jenna Russell and Christopher Huffaker, [“Boston schools lost 15,000 Black students in the past 20 years. Where did they go, and will they ever return?”](#) *Boston Globe*, November 26, 2022.

Quotation 5:

Headline:

'Asians are an afterthought': Asian American students at BPS report feeling less safe, more undervalued (*Boston Globe*, March 20, 2023)

"'We don't just need more Asian teachers,' [education researcher Rosann] Tung said. 'We need all educators to understand and care about the Asian experience.'"⁵

⁵ Deanna Pan, "'Asians are an afterthought': Asian American students at BPS report feeling less safe, more undervalued," *Boston Globe*, March 20, 2023.

Quotation 6:

Headline:

Neighborhood over quality in school plan? (Letter to the editor, *Boston Globe*, March 1, 2013)

“Boston arose as a city on a hill, not separate territorial blocks. Cities don’t strengthen community by hunkering down in isolated neighborhoods. Cities, and city schools, become stronger when we stride across boundaries and, in the words of school assignment panel co-chair Hardin Coleman, ‘have skin’ in every part of the diverse Boston we all call home.”⁶

⁶ Mary Battenfeld, “Neighborhood over quality in school plan?,” letter to the editor, *Boston Globe*, March 1, 2013.

Quotation 7

Headline:

Use Restorative Justice Practices to Reduce Suspension and Dropout Rates (826Boston.org, 2016)

“Continuous punishment against someone doesn’t correct their mistake, instead, it leads the person to think they’re an awful person. They will continue making wrong decisions.”⁷

⁷ Nicole María Peña, “Use Restorative Justice Practices to Reduce Suspension and Dropout Rates,” 826Boston.org, spring 2016.

Quotation 8

Headline:

Integrate Latino Cultural Studies into the Curriculum (826Boston.org, 2016)

“Not having Latino cultural studies in the Boston Public Schools high school curriculum causes Latino students to feel left out of the community. They lose touch with their culture and history. The most serious problem is that they have nothing that can connect to their life and express who they are.”⁸

⁸ Isamar Sánchez, “Integrate Latino Cultural Studies into the Curriculum,” 826Boston.org, spring 2016.

Quotation 9

Headline:

Implement More Two-Way Bilingual Programs to Decrease Segregation (826Boston.org, 2016)

“I have had many positive experiences at the Margarita Muñiz Academy, but there is something important missing: cultural diversity. I am surrounded by students that look and speak like me: Latinos. This kind of segregation is something that Boston Public Schools needs to change.”⁹

⁹ Lorian De Lahoz Cruz, “Implement More Two-Way Bilingual Programs to Decrease Segregation,” 826Boston.org, spring 2016.