



Offered by City Councilor Annissa Essaibi-George  
Breadon, O'Malley, Flynn, Bok, Edwards, Mejia, Campbell, Wu Flaherty and Janey  
**CITY OF BOSTON**  
**IN CITY COUNCIL**

**ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING ENSURING ALL  
BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS HAVE FULL-TIME MENTAL  
HEALTH AND SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SUPPORT  
SPECIALISTS**

**WHEREAS:** The Boston Public School district has 125 schools with approximately 56,000 students enrolled, all who have different mental health support needs; and

**WHEREAS:** In 2020, twenty-one schools had one full time psychologist, 30 schools had one full time social worker, and many other full- and part-time support specialists provided services to the rest of the district; and

**WHEREAS:** These specialists provided over 11,500 consultations, 3,500 special education evaluations, and responded to over 1,200 school-based mental health crises and a cadre of 14 specialists provided mental health care to 1,400 students during the summer; and

**WHEREAS:** It is our obligation to support the social, emotional, behavioral, mental, and physical well-being of all of our students by providing resources and support to address issues and concerns such as, but not limited to, depression, trauma, anxiety, and bullying; and

**WHEREAS:** We know that the COVID-19 pandemic has had grave mental health impacts on all of our students and that most of our students will need access to full-time mental health specialists; and

**WHEREAS:** An ideal school community would include full-time mental health support specialists who can build real relationships with the school community, not just when there is a crisis or on a part-time basis, **THEREFORE BE IT**

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss the progress Boston Public Schools has made to guarantee that every school also has full-time social emotional support specialists, including full-time psychologists and full-time social workers.