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# BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

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## COMMITTEE HEARING NOTICE

March 18, 2026

The Boston City Council's Committee on Education will hold a hearing on **Monday, March 23, 2026 at 2:00 pm** in the **Iannella Chamber, 5th Floor, Boston City Hall**.

The subject of the hearing is:

***Docket #0587, Order for a hearing to review administrative transparency, equitable student representation, and student freedoms in higher education.***

This matter was sponsored by Councilors Julia M. Mejia and Miniard Culpepper, and was referred to the Committee on March 18, 2026.

NOTICE: The Boston City Council may have a quorum in attendance due to standing committees of the City Council consisting of both voting and non-voting members. However, members attending this duly posted meeting are participating and deliberating only in conjunction with the business of the standing committee.

**Public Testimony** Members of the public are cordially invited to attend and testify in person or virtually. Those wishing to testify in person should arrive five (5) minutes before the call of the hearing to sign up. Please bring fifteen (15) copies of any written documentation you wish to present at the hearing. **Those wishing to testify virtually via videoconference should email the staff contact for a link and instructions to do so.** Written comments may be sent to the Committee or staff email (below) and will be made a part of the record and available to all Councilors. The public may watch this hearing via live stream at [www.boston.gov/city-council-tv](http://www.boston.gov/city-council-tv) and on Xfinity 8/RCN 82/Fios 964. This hearing will be recorded.

For the Committee:

Julia M. Mejia, Chair  
Committee on Education

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**Staff Contact:** Meghan Kavanagh

**Mail Address:** Docket #0587 City Council, City Hall, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02201

**Committee Email:** [ccc.education@boston.gov](mailto:ccc.education@boston.gov)

**Staff Email:** [meghan.kavanagh@boston.gov](mailto:meghan.kavanagh@boston.gov) | **Staff Telephone:** (617) 635-3040

**Broadcast Live on Xfinity 8/RCN 82/ Fios 964 and streamed at:** [boston.gov/city-council-tv](http://boston.gov/city-council-tv)

OFFERED BY CITY COUNCILOR JULIA MEJIA



**CITY OF BOSTON  
IN CITY COUNCIL**

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**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX**

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**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO REVIEW ADMINISTRATIVE  
TRANSPARENCY, EQUITABLE STUDENT REPRESENTATION, AND  
STUDENT FREEDOMS IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston is home to many higher education institutions that attract students from across the country and around the world seeking academic opportunity and professional advancement; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Students at higher education institutions, including Northeastern University, have raised concerns regarding the level of engagement between students and university administrators and the extent to which student perspectives are represented in institutional decision-making; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Decisions made by a university or college's Board of Trustees can have significant impacts on faculty, students, and staff, yet information about board governance practices, including meeting minutes and board membership, may not always be widely accessible to the broader campus community; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Members of the campus community have also raised questions regarding institutional policies related to protections for international students, protocols related to federal immigration enforcement, and the availability of resources and information for students and the broader university community; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Institutions of higher education play an important role in supporting open dialogue, civic engagement, and the exchange of ideas, including the protection of speech, expression, and peaceful demonstration within campus communities; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The Boston City Council has an interest in understanding how higher education institutions in the City are addressing issues related to

transparency, governance, and student engagement; ***NOW THEREFORE  
BE IT***

***ORDERED:*** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to review issues related to administrative transparency, student representation, and student rights at Northeastern University and other private higher education institutions in the City of Boston. Representatives from student groups, faculty, university leadership, subject matter experts, and members of the public are encouraged to participate.

Filed in Council: March 18, 2026