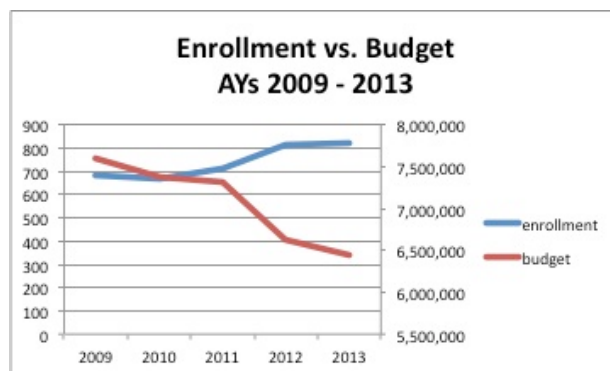


January 18, 2012
Boston School Committee Meeting
Yasmina Alvarenga, Lindsey Weeramuni

Statement of the Curley K8 SSC and SPC to the Boston School Committee



We are Lindsey Weeramuni and Yasmina Alvarenga and we are parents at the Curley K8 school in Jamaica Plain. Regarding next year's budget, we are here to say "Enough. No more." We chose not to attempt to prioritize what's important, as we believe none of the choices available to us are tenable. Please reconsider what you are asking of the schools in this district, and what you are asking our children to sacrifice.

Like all Boston public schools, our student body is a bright and diverse population that speaks several languages, and comes from every configuration of family make-up, economic level, and cultural background. It is also a school with a projected enrollment of 824 for the next academic year.

- For 824 students, we have two libraries and no librarian.
- For 824 students, we have one nurse.
- For 824 students, we have one guidance counselor.
- For 824 students, we have one school secretary.
- For 824 students, we have one dance teacher and one music teacher.
- For 824 students, we have two community family coordinators.
- For 824 students, we have four science teachers.
- For 824 students, we have nine lunch monitors.

In this current school year our school has lost the following:

- Two computer and writing teachers
- Two theatre arts teachers
- 1.4 library professionals
- One Director of Instruction
- One secretary
- One SEI science teacher
- One SEI social studies teacher

Next year the Boston School Committee proposes a budget for our school that is 12% lower than when our enrollment jumped by 16% this past fall. Our 824 students are facing a school year with even fewer invaluable staff members than ever before.

Again we say: "Enough. No more." Help us preserve our school community. Please don't cut our budget again. Instead, restore our funding so we can meet every need of every child in our school.

Thank you.