# Whose Children? What Schools?



Unveiling the Politics of School Assignment in Boston October 21, 2017

## Agenda

- Light Breakfast
- Welcome Odette Williamson, QUEST
- An Historical Perspective Barbara Fields, BEAM
- A Close Study: The 2013 Student Assignment Process Dr. Meghan Doran
- Now What? The Future of BPS Assignment Kevin Murray, QUEST
- Demographics, Data and Its Impact on Education Equity Dr. James Jennings
- Break
- Turn and Talk: Reflections with a Partner
- Fishbowl: "Making the Connections" Facilitators: Donna Bivens, UMN, and Karen Oil, QUEST
- Closing

**Sponsored by:** BEAM: Black Educators Alliance of Massachusetts, QUEST: Quality Education for Every Student, UNM: Union of Minority Neighborhoods **Co-Sponsored by:** Citizens for Public Schools, and the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Economic Justice

### **Reflections on Patterns re. School Assignment**

#### Turn and talk:

With your partner, make connections between:

(A) Two or more things you've heard today

(B) Something you heard today and something in your own experience

Fishbowl: "Making the Connections: So what? Now what?"

Notes:

#### Who are we?

**Black Educators' Alliance of Massachusetts (BEAM)** was founded in 1965 by a small group of Black educators committed to improving education. Known in its infancy as the Massachusetts Negro Educators' Association, BEAM has provided five decades of leadership and support for educational reform at the local, state and national levels. http://www.beaminfo.org/

**Quality Education for Every Student (QUEST)** is a volunteer, grassroots organization of parents with children in Boston Public Schools. Founded in 2012, the group initially came together over concerns about the inequities of proposed changes to the BPS assignment system. We continue to ask how education policies and practices can help to dismantle past oppression, increase opportunity, and provide greater access to quality education for all. qualityforeverystudent@gmail.com, questbps on facebook, @quality1st4BPS on twitter

**Union of Minority Neighborhoods (UMN)** is an organizing and leadership building organization that works to ensure that the collective power of people of color is heard and felt. http://unionofminorityneighborhoods.org/, donna@umnunity.org