

PROVIDENCE SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

October 25, 2004

NO. 586

A regularly scheduled meeting was held in the Providence School Board Room at 797 Westminster Street, Providence, RI.

Ms. McClure called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM with a motion to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RIGL (a)(1),(a)(2):

- I move, under R.I. Gen. Laws 42-46-5(a)(1), that this public body convene in executive session to discuss the job performance of certain employees. These persons have been notified in writing that the public body intends to convene in executive session to discuss his or her job performance and he/she declined to have this discussion take place in open session.
- I further move, under R.I. Gen. Laws 42-46-5(a)(2), that this public body convene in executive session to discuss certain matters that are the subject of collective bargaining and litigation, and to conduct work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining and litigation.

MSV	Oredola, Hamolsky	Roll Call Vote:			
	Hamolsky	Yes	Gonzalez	Yes	Lopes
	Oredola	Yes	Inoa	Yes	McClure
	Touray	Yes			Yes

Motion to reconvene to open session at 6:35 PM.

MSV Inoa, Oredola 6– 0

The open session was called to order by Ms. McClure 6:35 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Milton Hamolsky, Vice-President; Ms. Mary McClure, President; Ms. Adeola Oredola, Secretary; Mr. Lenny Lopes, Ms, Grace Gonzalez, Ms. Diania Inoa, Mr. Maila Touray, Dr. Gene Burns, Emeritus.

Report on Vote taken in Executive Session: No votes reported
Recognition: No recognition

Student Achievement: Dr. Hackett, NCLB Compliance Officer, and Mr. Sorum, Chief Academic Officer, provided an overview of the Supplemental Services program: highlighting number of students served, retention and drop-out rates, total cost of supplemental services, and student performance on pre and post tests. Supplemental service agencies are an arm of the state and not under the auspices of PPSD.

Board Issues

- How to attribute growth to supplemental services when students are concurrently schools?
- What is behind high drop-out rate?
- Is there a feedback mechanism for drop-outs to inform retention strategies?
- Are ELL services provided?

Staff Responses: No analysis has been done to determine impact of supplemental services on growth of student performance. Supplemental service agencies are initiating retention strategies to cut reduce drop-outs. PPSD can develop a survey tool to solicit feedback from drop-out. ELL services are provided with all service agencies.

POLICY & PLANNING

Principles of Learning (PoL) presented by Tomas Ramirez, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development.

Board Issues

- How is PoL affecting practice in the classroom?
- What are policy implications for the Board to consider?

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Staff Responses: Evolving culture change is evidenced through learning walks, core beliefs, staff's higher expectations for student learning. Policy to adopt the core belief of effort based learning.

School Board Topic Review Priorities

1. Budget
2. Student Achievement
 - a. Drop-outs
 - b. Truancy & Attendance Policy,
 - c. Student Discipline & Student Suspensions
 - d. High School Graduation Requirements
 - e. Education Reform
 - f. ELL Programs (K -12)

NOTE: Superintendent Johnson recommended a review of PoL to provide broad overview of student achievement presenting initiatives that have been operationalized under each principle of learning.

3. Human resource Systems
4. Teacher Quality and NCLB
5. Parent & Student Engagement

Dr. Hamolsky recommended putting the Principles of Learning as a 1st reading on the November 6th agenda. Members Inoa and Oredola suggested insuring community input.

BUSINESS MEETING

No Public Comment

Motion to Approve Consent Agenda

10-21-04	Approval of Minutes
10-22-04	Nomination of Probationary Teachers/Change of Status
10-23-04	Nomination of Probationary Teachers/New Hires
10-24-04	Nomination of LTS 1 st Semester/Change of Status
10-25-04	Nomination of Long Term Substitute Teachers in Pool/Recall
10-26-04	Nomination of Long Term Substitute Teachers in Pool/New Hire
10-27-04	Nomination of Athletic Director
10-28-04	Nomination of Athletic Coach
10-29-04	Nomination of Debate Coach
10-30-04	Home School Candidates
MSV	Inoa, Oredola 8 - 0

Motion to approve the Superintendent's Report on Contracts

10-31-04	Volunteers in Providence Schools (VIPS)
MSV	Touray, Lopes 8 - 0

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Johnson reported on the 10.22.04 district-wide professional development day on the Principles of Learning; participation in conference re: Wallace Lead grant held in Kentucky noting PPSD national recognition for the Aspiring Principal's program; and the District-Wide Student Government Leadership retreat held at Alton Jones.

Governance: Member Hamolsky reported the school board nomination deadline for applications was extended to October 29th. Dr. Hamolsky will organize a Board committee host information session for candidates.

Member Oredola advised that the Board could expect a complete draft of the self-evaluation at the 10.25.04 Board meeting.

Future Meetings: Board Calendar Review

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School Board Comments: School Board Emeritus Dr. Burns provided an updated report on guest list and logistics for Broad Institute Director Don McAdams' visit on November 22nd.

Motion to reconvene to Executive Session for Teacher Grievance.

MSV	Oredola, Gonzalez	Roll Call Vote:			
Hamolsky	Yes	Gonzalez	Yes	Lopes	Yes
Oredola	Yes	Inoa	Yes	McClure	Yes
Men	Yes				

Mr. Lopes left after roll call at 8:35 PM.

Motion to Adjourn at 9:50 PM

MSV Gonzalez, Inoa 7 – 0

Submitted by: Maureen Cotter,
Special Assistant to the Superintendent & School Board