

**PROVIDENCE SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES**  
**November 14, 2005**  
**NO. 628**

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 5:40PM

MOTION TO CONVENE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO RIGL (a)(1):

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.

<u>MSV</u>		<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>			
Hamolsky	Yes	Inoa	Yes	Touray	Yes
McClure	Yes	Gonzalez	Yes	Wise	Yes
Crenca	Yes				

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

MOTION TO SEAL THE MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

MSV Crenca, Wise 7 – 0

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Hamolsky, Ms. McClure, Ms. Inoa, Mr. Touray, Mr. Wise, Mr. Crenca, Ms. Gonzalez

RECOGNITIONS: None

REPORT EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTES: None

POLICY & PLANNING:

Topic: Student Assignment

Presenters: Magaly Sanchez, Facilitator for Student Registration & Assignment  
Mark Dunham, CFO

The presenters provided a power point analysis of school choice data 2000-01 through 2005-06.

Board Issues:

- What are the factors that influence student choice?
- How does the school department track choice – demographics and/or programs?
- How are parents and students making school choice?
- Why are 50% of middle schools choosing? What is impact on transportation costs?
- What is the process for parents to choose?
- Is it reasonable to ask why parents choose a particular school such as athletics, bi-lingual, or other?
- How often is convenience a factor in school choice?
- How to engage City Council in discussion of conflicting goals for choice: parent satisfaction and cost of transportation

Next steps: Develop plan to research and document reasons for parent/student choice. Prepare questions to ask parents before and after choice as part of program evaluation strategy.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT**

NAME	ISSUE	NAME	ISSUE
Steve Smith	Resolution 11-09-05 Resolution 11-11-05 Contracts	Priscilla Pitters	New High School Site
Charles Coves	Out-of-district school choice for advanced academics	David Fremming	New High School Site
Samuel Zurier	Out-of-district school choice for advanced academics	Jose Nunyez	New High School Site
Stephanie Cannady	New High School Site	Dario Ramirez	New High School Site
Javier Harney	New High School Site	Jorge Santana	New High School Site

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

- 11-1-05 Approval of Minutes
  - 11-2-05 Nomination of Probationary Teachers/Change of Status
  - 11-3-05 Nomination of Long Term Substitute Teachers in Pool/New Hire
  - 11-4-05 Nomination of Long Term Substitute Teachers in Pool/Recall
  - 11-5-05 Nomination of School Based Coordinators for Career & Technical Education
  - 11-6-05 Nomination of Teacher Assistants to Probationary Status
  - 11-7-05 Nomination of Crossing Guards
  - 11-8-05 Home Schooling
  - 11-9-05 Student Exclusions
- MSV Touray, Gonzalez 7 – 0

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT ON PERSONNEL NOMINATIONS**

- 11-10-05 Nomination of Deputy Superintendent
- MSV Hamolsky, Crenca 7 – 0
- 11-11-05 Nomination of Facilitator of District Reform
- MSV Inoa, Gonzalez 7 – 0
- 11-12-05 Nomination of District/University Liaison: Special Assistant to the Superintendent
- MSV Crenca, Inoa 7 – 0

Superintendent Evans noted reorganization chart.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT ON BUSINESS CONTRACTS**

- 11-13-05 Educators for Social Responsibility
  - 11-14-05 West Bay Collaborative
  - 11-15-05 Independent Contractor, J. Scurry
  - 11-16-05 8 Digital Art
  - 11-17-05 Independent Contractor, L. MacManus
  - 11-18-05 Ideas Consulting, Inc
  - 11-19-05 Independent Contractor, N. Cloud
  - 11-20-05 American Development Institute
  - 11-21-05 United Cerebral Palsy (UCP)
  - 11-22-05 Dorcas Place Adult and Family Learning Center, Inc
- MSV Inoa, Touray 7 – 0

Board question re: Resolution 11-22-05 – How do we evaluate programs? How do we track student and parent outcomes? Given dollars invested and small numbers of families, is the cost-benefit ratio reasonable?

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**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- State Assessments Report indicates no changes in school classifications; however, the district is maintaining a steady increase in student achievement.
- The school department appointed a small study group to consider grade configurations in light of research that supports stronger student performance during extended elementary years, i.e. grade 6 and grade 8 students have higher test scores as compared with middle schools students in the same grades.
- Providence is maintaining its interest in high school reform. The High School renewal steering committee made up of 24 outside partners will hold its first meeting Wednesday, November 16.
- E-Rate Audit \$6 million investment in Providence revealed that Providence is in complete compliance with requirements. Congratulations to Kyle Davie, Technology Director and Arthur Mendonca, Technical Services Expediter, for their leadership and tireless efforts preparing for the audit

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

November 28, 2005	Family Engagement Policy
December 12, 2005	Student Access Policy Recommendations
	Student Success Update

**GOVERNANCE**

None

**SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS**

Mr. Touray:

- Resolution 11-09-05 – what would it take to further address issue of discipline and consequences for students who engage in criminal acts
- How will the Board monitor discussions and actions regarding the new high school building site?
- Kudos to Mr. Dunham & Ms Sanchez on Student Assignment Presentation

Mr. Crenca:

- What is school board's authority in approving or disapproving new high school building site?

Response: School Board must express interest in site in order to go forward because school board approval is necessary for bond approval. DEM must sign-off on the site before building can begin. Ms. Rappart will report on building site discussions with DEM and provide information on standards for site selection and site remediation.

- What is energy plan in district for alternative energy sources? What is status of energy talks for City Council and school department?
- Does school board have authority to retract approval of bond resolution?

Mr. Wise:

- Support looking at student discipline and consequences for serious crimes

Ms. McClure

- Dr. Burns is in Roger Williams hospital for cancer treatment -- cards, calls, and visitors are welcome.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:20 PM**

MSV Touray, Crenca

Submitted by:

Maureen Cotter, Special Assistant to the Superintendent & School Board