

Providence School Board  
797 Westminster Street  
School Board Room  
May 08, 2006  
Minutes #643

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 5:35 PM

MOTION TO CONVENE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO RIGL (a)(1), (a)(9):

<u>MSV</u> Crenca, Holloway	<u>Roll Call Vote:</u> 9 – 0			
Holloway Yes	Touray Yes	Gonzalez	Yes	
McClure Yes	Castro Yes	Young	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 Touray, Wise 8 - 0

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. McClure, Ms. Castro, Mr. Touray, Mr. Wise, Mr. Crenca, Ms. Holloway, Mr. Young, Ms. Gonzalez, Ms. McKenzie

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTES

The School Board voted unanimously to sustain two grievances at Level B.

STUDENT RECOGNITIONS:

The Board recognized approximately 25 student athletes from MPHS and Feinstein girls' and boys' Divisions III state championship basketball teams. The Board also recognized another 25 students for their outstanding academic achievement having performed well in national and state competitions ranging from National Italian Exam and National Japan Bowl Competition, Science Olympiad, Arts, to Robotics.

POLICY & PLANNING

\* Physical Restraint Policy 1st Reading Dr. Gallo, Deputy Superintendent

Board members expressed an interest in reviewing procedures and training programs.

Policy will be on the agenda for a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and vote at the June 5<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

\* Davies-Brickell Policy Review – Communications Maria Tocco, Senior Communications Director

Recommendation: rescind current policy and draft new policies that reflect current communication standards.

The Board will vote to formally rescind current policy at next Board meeting. New communications policies will be brought to the Board for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading in June.

The Board will vote to rescind the policies as recommend at the June 5<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

\* Center for Resource Management Report (CRM) Dr. Evans, Superintendent

CRM will begin a formal program evaluation in the next month with an initial report to the Board expected in October.

\* Consolidated Resource Plan (CRP) Update Mr. Dunham, Chief Financial Officer

CRP funds primarily cut by \$1.8 MM or 5%. Current programs will remain intact but with reduced services; no new programs will be initiated this year.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Steve Smith Legislative Resolution

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MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS 5-1-06 through 5-6-05.  
 MSV Touray, Crenca 8 – 0

Mr. Wise recused himself from vote on Resolution 5-6-06

5-1-06 Approval of Minutes

- Apr 17, 2006 Minutes and Executive Session Minutes (sealed) and Apr 24, 2006 Minutes

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5-2-06 LTS 2nd Semester/Change of Status

Resolved, the following individual is appointed as a long-term substitute teacher for the term of the regular teacher's leave not to exceed a semester only by such appointment, not to be renewed except by reappointment by the School Board. These appointments conform to the Employee Classification Plan and will not exceed the number of authorized positions in the respective category.

LAST	FIRST	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE	SALARY
Ginzburg	Yekaterina	Feinstein H. S./Art	2/8/06	1st step Masters
Cotnoir	Aimee	Windmill/Gr. 1	1/4/06	2nd step
Sheehan	Kristen	Flynn/Gr. 3	2/27/06	3rd step Masters

5-3-06 Nomination of Long Term Substitute Teachers in Pool/New Hire

Resolved, the following individuals are hereby appointed provided that they pass the physical examination prescribed by the regulations of the School Board and are certified by the RI Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. These appointments conform to the Employee Classification Plan and will not exceed the number of authorized positions in the respective category. (\*\*All new hire employees start at 1st step until previous employment experience can be verified.) . This appointment is for the remainder of the 05-06 school year only

LAST	FIRST	EDUCATION	CERTIFICATION	EFFECTIVE	SALARY**
Barefield	Elizabeth	B.S./Montana State U./2005	Secondary General Science	5/9/06	1st step

5-4-06 Nomination of Long Term Substitute Teachers-135 Days

Resolved, these appointments fall under the decision of the Commissioner of Education regarding substitute teachers who work 135 days during a school year in accordance with the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island.

LAST	FIRST	EFFECTIVE	LAST	FIRST	EFFECTIVE
Amado	Brian	4/27/06	Connaughton	Daniel	4/26/06
Andrade	Anne	4/12/06	Costello	John	4/26/06
Arciniegas-Sanchez	Gilberto	4/12/06	DelGizzo	Debora	4/24/06
Arias	Alexandra	4/13/06	DeSimone	Carl	4/13/06
Barsoumian	Diana	4/25/06	Fabrizio	Dana	4/27/06
Beaudreault	Louise	4/25/06	Fantozzi	Joseph	4/7/06
Bellisle	Peter	4/6/06	Fontes	Maria	4/7/06
Boone	John	4/11/06	Fortin	Andrea	4/26/06
Garabedian	Jane	4/11/06	Maher	Patricia	4/13/06
German	Plinio	4/26/06	Marques	Scott	4/25/06
LAST	FIRST	EFFECTIVE	LAST	FIRST	EFFECTIVE
Henderson	Lorie	4/24/06	O'Kleasky	Daniel	4/11/06
Holgate	Nancy	4/10/06	Patrick	Dorothy	4/11/06
Holtzman	Joseph	4/11/06	Pena	Clara	4/10/06
Javier	Rafael	4/6/06	Piscione	Eve	4/25/06
Jutras	Stephen	4/24/06	Reynoso	Hector	4/10/06
Kollar	Alex	4/10/06	Tremonte	Kim	4/25/06
Leiva	Angel	4/10/06	Ucci	Vincent	4/10/06
			Xie	Jia	4/11/06

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5-5-06 Home School Candidate

Resolved, private home instruction for students in the Providence Public Schools is approved for the 2005-2006 school year. A detailed private home instruction plan has been prepared by the parents of students in the Providence School System and has been approved by the Director of Student Affairs in compliance with Chapter 16-19-2 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island. Student progress will be reviewed prior to the end of the school year.

STUDENT INITIALS	GRADE	SCHOOL
HD	2	PHI
MD	K	PHI

5-6-06 Sodexo Food Contract Renewal

Resolved, the Management Services Fee and General Support Services fee which is allowable per the contract is approved for renewal. Included in the renewal is a 3.3% increase in the Management Services Fee and General Support Services fee which is allowable per the contract. The contract allows for an increase not to exceed the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all Urban Consumers based on the immediately previous year. The total increase is approximately \$19,700.

On June 14, 2004 the Providence School Board recommended Sodexo Services to provide food services to Providence School Department Students for a period of five (5) years, from 2004-2009. The Board of Contract and Supply subsequently approved the same vendor for the same period of time. The Federal Government will allow a five (5) year agreement with a food service vendor; however, such an agreement must be renewed each year. Therefore, before you is the renewal for the 2006-07 school year. The contract used is a statewide contract approved by the United States Department of Agriculture.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 5-7-06 MSV Young, Wise 8 – 0

Nomination of Financial Assistant This is a non-union/non-certified position.

LAST	FIRST	EXPERIENCE	EDUCATION	EFFECTIVE	SALARY
DaCosta	Amy	Accountemps Agency 2005-Present	B.S./Bryant U./2005	5/9/06	\$35,000

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 5-8-06 MSV Touray, Gonzalez 8 – 0

Nomination of Facilitator of Accountability. This is a non-union/non-certified position

LAST	FIRST	EXPERIENCE	EDUCATION	EFFECTIVE	SALARY
Hailey	Linda	Abt Associates, Inc./Cambridge, MA 1991-2004 – Senior Research Analyst	B.S./Hampton U./1970 M.Ed./U. of Mass./1973	5/15/06	\$66,682

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MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 5-9-06, 5-10-06, and 5 -11-06 MSV Holloway, Touray 8 – 0

MOTION TO RESCIND PREVIOUS VOTE TO APPROVE 5-9-06, 5-10-06, AND 5-11-06 MSV McClure, Touray 8 – 0

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTIONS 5-9-06 AND 5-10-06. MSV Crenca, Young 8 – 0

5-9-06 Northwest Evaluation Association

Supplemental Educational Services are provided to eligible students in low-performing schools in order to raise their achievement level. Courses provide after school hours are aligned to the Rhode Island State standards. Each student is pre-tested to facilitate an individual plan of instruction and then post-tested at course completion to demonstrate any increase in achievement level. Each Provider has used its own test materials for assessment in the past. The School Board has determined that comparative data would be helpful to determine if SES is having any result on raising student achievement. Therefore, NWEA has an on-line computer assessment tool that Providence will require all Providers to use in their pre & post test phase.

Under NCLB, the District is required to 'set aside' 20% of Title I funds to fulfill legislation requirements. Funds may only be used under Supplemental Educational Services to pay for tutorial services provided to students by State approved Providers. Rates are hourly rates of instruction per student. The State has established \$1,944.30 as the maximum expenditure per student. Fiscal year accounting requirements necessitate the contract be complete by June, 2006. All Providers will be required to use the NWEA assessment and the fee for each test (to be used up to 4 times) is \$13.50. This payment, although invoiced to the District, will be absorbed by the Provider and therefore reducing maximum payment for any student enrolled to \$1,930.80 (\$1,944.30 - \$13.50)

Amount: \$ 16,200.00 Source of Funds: Title I  
PSD Contact: Katherine Hackett, Ph.D. / NCLB Compliance Office

5-10-06 Lady of the Lake Learning Systems

The consultant will work directly with school counselors across all grade levels focusing on individual learning plans (ILP) and career activities documentation to complete the Comprehensive School Counseling Curriculum. The consultant will work with counseling administration to assist with the strategic planning process for the future of counseling in the Providence Schools with a particular emphasis on fulfilling the RIDE regulation for personalization. The consultant will update the counseling framework to assure alignment with the national, state and local counseling model and the RI graduation by proficiency and high school diploma system. Consultant services will be available from May 9, 2006 through July 30, 2006. The consultant will be paid a fee of \$500 per day for 36 days.

Amount not to exceed: \$18,000 Source of Funds: Perkins Grant  
PSD Contact: Karen Vessella, Department of Counseling & Social Services

5-11-06 Brown University Education Alliance RESOLUTION WITHDRAWN BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Executive Director of High School is a contracted service with the Brown University Education Alliance. The Executive Director will have the overall responsibility for providing leadership and supervision to all district high schools. It requires a person who has successful high school teaching and administrative experience. This person must be a skilled, experienced educator with demonstrated ability to provide strong leadership for high school reform efforts in an urban school district. This position requires a background in large-scale planning, curriculum and instruction, technology, high school restructuring, research, data collection and analysis.

Amount: \$124,181  
Source of Funds: 50% Carnegie Corporation *Schools for a New Society* Grant and 50% Local Budget  
PSD Contact: Dr. Donnie W. Evans, Superintendent of Schools

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MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 5-12-06 MSV Crenca, Young 8 – 0

School Board Resolution for Predictable and Adequate Education Funding System

Whereas, it is the position of the Providence School Board that it is the obligation of the leaders and citizens of the state to be caretakers and guardians of the best interests of all the children of Rhode Island, regardless of city of residence, and

Whereas, the children of the state represent its future, and

Whereas, Rhode Island school committees have identified first and foremost as a long term concern, the need for a predictable and adequate education funding system through a formula which accounts for the varying needs of different populations in the school districts of the state and a decreased reliance on a property tax for education funding, and

Whereas, the Providence School Board believes this issue to be of great importance that merits study, review, broad input, and public debate, and

Whereas, the Providence School Board believes that all the stakeholders have an interest in and are affected by this issue, and

Whereas, this issue has been the subject of multiple proposals and recommendations,

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Providence School Board respectfully requests that state officials provide the leadership to develop and implement a predictable and adequate education funding system for the common benefit of all school children and all Rhode Islanders.

Next Steps: Board members requested that the resolution be forwarded to the House Leadership and Providence delegation. The Superintendent advised caution on initiating actions beyond approving the resolution until further study.

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#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Budget update: Reductions include 1.8M in CRP funds and \$4.1M in the local budget previously approved by the School Board.

Realizing the Dream: The superintendent will form a visioning taskforce to create a new district vision, mission, and slogan. Dr. Evans requested Ms. McClure to assign three Board members to the taskforce; the superintendent will appoint district staff.

#### FUTURE MEETINGS

May 22<sup>nd</sup> Workshop: High School Diploma System and District Technology Plan and Teacher Disciplinary Hearing

Jun 05<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting

Jun 19<sup>th</sup> Workshop: AYP and NECAP Review

#### SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Touray: Is it possible to chart budget cuts over past 5 – 10 years – how do we make do with less resources? How can we leverage opportunities with resources coming from outside the district?

Mr. Young: Continue to recognize students. What can school board do to make a statement to support neighborhood libraries? Mr. Young read a letter written by MPHS staff and students seeking attention to end the violence

Ms. McClure: Reported on Jamestown school committee resolution re: special education mandates. The resolution will come to the Board on a future agenda for consideration.

Motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM

MSV Touray, Young 8 – 0

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