

PROVIDENCE SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

June 5, 2006

NO. 645

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 6:00 PM

MOTION TO CONVENE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO RIGL (a)(1),9a(2),(a)(9):

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.

I further move, under R.I. Gen. Laws 42-46-5(a)(9), that this public body convene in executive session to conduct hearings and hear grievances filed pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement.

<u>MSV</u>	Touray, Crenca	<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	6 – 0
Touray	Yes	Young	Yes
McClure	Yes	Gonzalez	Yes
Crenca	Yes	Castro	Yes

The open session was called to order by Ms. McClure at 6:45 PM

MOTION TO SEAL THE MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

MSV Touray, Crenca 6 – 0

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

MOTION TO CHANGE THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA TO HEAR PUBLIC COMMENT.

MSV Crenca, Touray 6 – 0

PUBLIC COMMENT

NAME	TOPIC	NAME	TOPIC
Osiris Harrell	Dilemma of black male	Dorothy Jungles	Hope Theater
Makiesha Horsley	Hope Theater	Alonzo Jones	Hope Theater
Rosalia Tolentino	Hope Theater	Michelle Almonte	Hope Theater
		Danitza Garcia	Hope Theater
Brooke Lee	Hope Theater	Barry Marshall	Hope Theater
Laura Travis	Hope Theater	Ermineo Pinque	Hope Theater
Carissa Baquiran	Hope Theater	Steve Smith	Hope Theater, Special Education Resolution
Ruth Dealey	Hope Theater	Eileen Landry (letter)	Hope Theater
Dennis Langley	Administrators	Vanessa Gilbert (letter)	Hope Theater

RECOGNITIONS: None

REPORT EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTES None

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POLICY & PLANNING:

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY REVISIONS 1ST READING

Presenter: Fran Gallo, Deputy Superintendent and Steve Smith PTU president.

Policy revisions were developed collaboratively in response to School Board members request to clarify issues of contention specifically regarding implementation in the classroom.

BOARD ISSUES

Is peer mediation included in the code of conduct?

What student input was given in the development or revisions?

How does dress code affect the learning environment?

How can we enforce code of conduct in a positive direction?

Why ban personal music devices in non-class times?

How do we clarify expectations for a learning environment?

What are thoughts on uniform policy?

What kind of culture do we want in our schools?

Does the code of conduct recognize positive behaviors of students?

How will we create ownership with changes in document?

How do we prepare students for the world of work?

What distinguishes between levels of alleged behavior regarding criminal offenses?

NEXT STEPS: Student behaviors that require referral to police should be classified as Level 3 behavior
Staff will revisit issues raised specific to the dress code. Policy will be placed on future agenda for second reading.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAMS POLICY 1ST READING

Presenter: Fran Gallo, Deputy Superintendent and Steve Smith PTU president

Procedures and training were developed collaboratively between administration and PTU to insure consistent implementation of SIT protocols across all schools. The recommended policy mirrors RI state law and regulations.

Board Issues:

Is there a need to customize the policy to better meet needs of Providence schools?

NEXT STEPS: Policy will be placed on July 24th agenda for a second reading.

DAVIES –BRICKELL POLICY REVIEW – COMMUNITY (1000 SERIES) 1st Reading

Administrators: Tomas Ramirez, Assistant Superintendent for Staff Development and Public Engagement and Dr. Jose Gonzalez, Director of Public Engagement

POLICY NAME Community Policies	DAVIES-BRICKELL (1000 series)	POLICY RECOMMENDATION	BOARD RECOMMENDATION
Citizens Advisory Committees for the School Board	1220	Rescind	Agree
Citizens Advisory Committee- Equal Educational Opportunity/Affirmative Action Committee (EEO/AA)	1220.1	Refer to Human Resources	Agree
Loitering or causing a disturbance	1251	Refer to Student Affairs Office & Director of Operations	Agree
Inquiries and complaints	1310	Rescind	Agree

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Soliciting funds from school personnel	1314		Rescind	Agree
Contests for students	1322		Refer to T&L and Level Directors	Agree
Soliciting funds from and by students	1324		Refer to HR and T&L	Agree
Police Department	1411		Refer to Director of Operations & SAO	Agree
Community (Federal Government, community participation, long range planning, personnel, by-laws)	1440		Rescind	Agree
Private Schools	1620		Refer to Legal Counsel SAO	Agree
External Partnerships	1640		Rescind	Agree
Urban Collaborative – scope and nature	1650		Refer to Director of Middle Level Education	Agree

NEXT STEPS: Administration will develop new policies to replace the five policies recommended for rescission and bring them to the Board in September. The referred policies are directed to the appropriate decision for review. Current Davies-Brickell policies will remain in place until new policies are adopted.

DAVIES-BRICKELL POLICY REVIEW – Administration (2000 series) 1st Reading
 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVISED ADMINISTRATION POLICIES 1st Reading
 Administrator: Dr. Fran Gallo, Deputy Superintendent

POLICY NAME Administration Policies	DAVIES-BRICKELL (2000 series)		POLICY RECOMMENDATION	BOARD RECOMMENDATION
Superintendent of Schools	2111.1		Transfer	Rescind
Duties of Superintendent	2111.2		Transfer	Develop legal & local policies
Selection of Administrative Staff	2120/2210		Revise	Rescind (Incorporate quality hiring into Duties of Superintendent)
Principals	2211.1		Revise	Rescind (Incorporate quality hiring into Duties of Superintendent)
Line of Responsibility in Superintendent's Absence	2420		Refer to Superintendent	Rescind; develop new policy directing superintendent to identify authority
Cabinets, Councils, Committees	2430		Rescind	Agree
Citywide Student Advisory Council	2432*		Revise	Agree
Control and Communication System	2460		Rescind	Agree

NEXT STEPS: Revised policies will be developed for July agenda. The student government policy will be placed on July agenda for second reading as proposed. Davies-Brickell policies will remain in place until new policies are adopted.

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SPECIAL EDUCATION LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

Request a review of RI state regulations that exceed Federal regulations and repeal. No discussion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions 6-1-06 through 6-5-06
MSV Touray, Gonzalez 6 – 0**

6-1-06 MAY 22, 2006 MINUTES and EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

6-2-06 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
Notz	Mark	5/15/06
Poliniak	Angela	5/16/06
Young	Susan	5/15/06

6-3-06 NOMINATION OF LTS-2ND SEMESTER 68 DAYS

Resolved, these appointments conform to the Employee Classification Plan and will not exceed the number of authorized positions in the respective category. The following nominations, as long-term substitute teachers for the term of the regular teacher's leave, are not to exceed a semester and not to be renewed, except by reappointment by the School Board.

LAST	FIRST	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE
Acosta	Maria	Sackett/Gr. K Bilingual	5/9/06
Rainville	Michele	C. Lauro/Sp. Ed.	5/15/06
Johnson	Daniel	Veazie-Lauro-Kizirian-MLK-Sackett/LEP Coverage	5/16/06
Kavanagh	Patrick	Sackett/Sp. Ed. Resource	5/16/06

6-4-06 RESCISSION OF NON-RENEWAL OF TEACHING CONTRACTS

Resolved, the termination of employment of the teachers listed below is hereby rescinded because a vacancy has become available in the teacher's area of certification.

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	TERMINATION RESOLUTION #	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	TERMINATION RESOLUTION #
Abatecola	Rachel	2/21/06	Conery	Frederick	2/21/06
Adams	Kerri	2/23/06	Coustan	Lily	2/24/06
Antignano	Julie	2/20/06	Cullen	Mary A.	2/24/06
Astudillo	Marcella	2/22/06	DeFusco	Jillian	2/21/06
Baccari	Daria	2/20/06	DiMucci	Michael	2/20/06
Bernabe	Lucille	2/21/06	Engelhardt	Cindy	2/24/06
Bickham	Darlene	2/24/06	Feeley	Susan	2/24/06
Bozzer	Rick	2/24/06	Fennell	Sharon	2/27/06
Chearino	Dawn	2/24/06	Fennessey	Rona	2/23/06
Gannon	Kristine	2/24/06	Nunez	Nanette	2/20/06
Gaulin	Tanya	2/23/06	Nunez	Carol	2/20/06
Gaynor	Lori	2/25/06	Routhier	Nancy	2/24/06
Gomez	Ana	2/28/06	Scarella	Jeanne	2/20/06
Grabowski	Tara	2/20/06	Scott	Heather	2/23/06
Guerrero	Janet	2/20/06	Scott	Lindsey	2/21/06
Johnson	Jennifer	2/20/06	Veilleux	Melissa	2/24/06
Kelly	Colleen	2/24/06	Webber	Melissa	2/24/06
Kerfoot	Tracy	2/21/06	White	Tashare	2/23/06

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Lester	Alan	2/21/06	Windham	Carolyn	2/23/06
Marcks	Seana	2/23/06	Young	Robert S.	2/23/06
Mendelsohn	Jonathan	2/24/06			
Meyers	Melissa	2/20/06	Chatelle, Stephanie		2-24-06
Monahan	Marissa	2/21/06	Cruz, Shaila		2-24-06
Montecalvo	Sharon	2/24/06	Delrosario, Pablo		2-27-06
Murray	Nicole	2/24/06	Melone, Valerie		2-24-06
			Nardacci, Steven		2-21-06
			Roy, Michael		2-13-06
			Scanapieco, Maria		2-25-06
			Vargas, Vivian		2-29-06
			Walker, Xenia		2-25-06
			Williams, Rick		2-23-06

6-5-06 RESCISSION of NON-RENEWAL of TEACHING CONTRACTS

Resolved, the termination of employment of the teachers listed below is hereby rescinded because the teacher was issued a professional certificate.

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	TERMINATION RESOLUTION #
Alvarez-Gallant	Yanaiza	2/13/06
Flaherty	Anna	2/09/06
Gibbons	Christina	2/25/06
Roberts	Barbara	2/25/06

MOTION TO APPROVE THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT ON PERSONNEL NOMINATIONS

6-6-06 SUPERVISOR FOR ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Ms. Eileen Biancuzzo: Effective July 1, 2006 at base salary: \$95,119

MSV Young, Touray 6 - 0

The Superintendent announced newly hired Executive Director of High Schools, Sharon Lloyd Clark.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT ON BUSINESS CONTRACTS

RESOLUTIONS 6-7-06 THROUGH 6-16-06

MSV Touray, Crenca 6- 0

6-7-06 Lockwood Associates

This consultant will work at E.W. Flynn elementary school during the school day offering embedded PD opportunities for teachers in the form of modeled lessons in the literacy components of the balanced literacy framework.

Amount: \$ 4,800.00 Source of Funds: Article # 31

PSD Contact: Ms. Deborah Bessette, Principal Flynn Elementary School

6-8-06 Lockwood Associates

This consultant will work at E.W. Flynn elementary school during the school day offering embedded PD opportunities for teachers in the form of modeled lessons in the literacy components of the balanced literacy framework.

Amount: \$ 4,800.00 Source of Funds: Article # 31

PSD Contact: Ms. Deborah Bessette, Principal Flynn Elementary School

6-9-06 Collaborative Education Designs

An Independent evaluation of the entire Perkins grant must be conducted yearly as required by Federal and State law.

Amount: \$ 19,500 Source of Funds: Perkins Grant

PSD Contact: Dominic Spera, Career/Tech Coordinator & Perkins Funding Coordinator

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6-10-06 Junior Achievement

This grant has been approved by the Rhode Island Department of Education under Perkins funding. In partnership with Junior Achievement, Inc., this grant provides training for juniors by business sector community volunteers in *Success Skills*.

Amount: \$9,000 Source of Funds: Perkins Grant

PSD Contact: Dr. Wayne Montague, Principal, Hope Leadership High School and Dominic Spera, Career/Tech Coordinator & Perkins Funding Coordinator

6-11-06 East Bay Educational Collaborative

The contract directly supports current redesign of the District Summer School Program and aligns District expectations for improving student achievement in Math, Literacy, and Science, building teacher capacity to support and facilitate Summer School Math, Literacy and Science professional development, and supports curriculum improvements for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) initiatives in support of equity and access for all students.

Amount: \$ 13,950.00 Source of Funds: NSF SCALE Grant

PSD Contact: Mike Lauro: Supervisor for Math/Science/PE-Health PLAN

6-12-6 Maureen Lee Consultant

This consultant will work at E.W. Flynn elementary school during the school day offering embedded PD opportunities for teachers in the form of observing modeled small group lessons in reading intervention strategies.

Amount: \$ 4,800 Source of Funds: Article # 31

PSD Contact: Ms. Deborah Bessette, Principal Flynn Elementary School

6-13-06 Brookline Public School

The National School Reform Faculty supports teachers and principals who are pursuing significant change in their schools and their practice.

Amount: \$ 19,700.00 Source of Funds: Small Learning Community Grant

PSD Contact: Ms. Maureen Crisafulli, Principal MPHS

6-14-06 National Council for History Education

The National Council for History Education will provide professional development for up to forty grade 6-12 social studies teachers with a week-long Summer Institute tailored to specific content needs: specifically around Progressivism.

Amount: \$ 45,270 Source of Funds: Teaching American History Grant

PSD Contact: Barbara Halzel Supervisor of Literacy and the Humanities

6-15-06 Parent Engagement Program Evaluation

The Providence School Department is seeking an external evaluator to conduct a second phase of a federally required annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy and the efforts of the Parent and Public Engagement and Communications Departments to outreach, communicate, and provide information to parents, families and community organizations working with our schools.

Amount: \$ 10,000 Source of Funds: Title I

PSD Contact: Dr. Jose Gonzalez, Director of Parent & Family Engagement

6-16-06 Work Opportunities Unlimited

The purpose of the contract is to provide transition services as required by the Individual with Disabilities Education Act to approximately 30 at-risk special education students age 17 - 21.

Amount: \$40,000 Source of Funds: IDEA

PSD Contact: Karen Vessella, Director, Student Services

MOTION TO APPROVE ACTION ITEM Resolution 6-17-06

MSV McClure, Touray 5 – 0 – 1 (Crenca abstained)

6-17-06 RESOLUTION TO SEEK REPEAL OF RI SPECIAL EDUCATION LAWS THAT ARE MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN FEDERAL LAWS

Whereas the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and its associated regulations were passed and reauthorized to ensure that children with disabilities have available to them special education and related services designed to meet their unique educational needs;

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Whereas in 1975 Congress pledged to provide 40% of IDEA funding and, 30 years later, has not yet reached this goal, leaving local taxpayers to fund the difference;

Whereas the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island charge school committees with providing special education to meet the needs of the child with a disability, as recommended and approved by the state Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education in accordance with its regulations;

And whereas the state legislation and associated regulations are in some cases more restrictive than federal legislation.

Whereas Section 608(a)(2) of the federal law IDEA (2004) requires states to identify in writing to local educational agencies located in the state any such rule, regulation, or policy as a state-imposed requirement that is not required by IDEA and federal regulations; and

And whereas Section 608(a)(3) further asks states to minimize the number of rules, regulations, and policies to which the local educational agencies and schools located in the State are subject under this title.

Therefore, the *Providence School Board* asks the Rhode Island legislature to repeal state special education laws deemed more restrictive than federal legislation.

BOARD ISSUES

What are implications of this resolution on services to students?

Is money the best reason to determine effectiveness of state regulations?

MOTION TO APPROVE ACTION ITEM Resolution 6-18-06

MSV Touray, Castro 6 – 0

6-18-06 AMENDMENT TO ARAMARK CONTRACT

Resolved, the School Board approves an amendment to the current ARAMARK Maintenance, Custodial and Grounds Contract in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000 pending City Legal review. This approval authorizes the Superintendent to forward the proposal to the Board of Contract and Supply. The amendment will provide additional funding to ARAMARK, to increase the amount of licensed tradesmen and purchase stock and vehicles to expand the scope of contractual services. This action will save the Providence School Department \$400,000 in the 2006-2007 School Year.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Press conference to announce changes in middle school is scheduled for Tuesday June 6, 2006.

High School graduations take place this week

FUTURE MEETINGS

Jun 19th Workshop: AYP/NECAP Review and District Strategic Plan

Jul 24th Regular Meeting

Aug 21st Regular Meeting

GOVERNANCE

Board Sub-Committees

- Visioning Task Force Assignments: Mr. Crenca, Mr. Young, Ms. Castro
- Superintendent's Evaluation: Ms. McKenzie, Mr. Wise
- Board Self-Assessment: Ms. Holloway, Mr. Crenca, Mr. Touray
- Positive Behavior Committee: Ms. Castro
- Wellness Committee: Ms. Gonzalez

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Crenca – requests that the consolidation affecting the Hope Theater program be included on the June 19th Board agenda

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:50 PM

MSV Touray, Crenca 6 – 0

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