

PROVIDENCE SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
February 26, 2007
NO. 661

A Board workshop was held in the Professional Development Room at 797 Westminster Street, Providence, RI starting at 6:00 PM.

- Dr. Evans presented the District Strategic Plan Realizing the Dream Indicators of Success.

Ms. McClure convened the special business meeting at 7:00 PM in the School Board Room.

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

Superintendents' Report: Dr. Evans summarized the decision-making factors that informed his recommendation to relocate West Broadway students and faculty to the DeSesto – Springfield Building for the 2007-2008 school year.

MOTION TO ALLOW PUBLIC COMMENT TO EXCEED THE 30 MINUTE LIMITATION
MSV Touray, Holloway 8 – 0

PUBLIC COMMENT: Please see attached listing of public comment speakers.

MOTION to allow community members to speak following conclusion of public comment list
MSV Touray, Holloway 8 – 0

BOARD DISCUSSION on Superintendent's recommendation on West Broadway Elementary School
Mr. Sepe, Acting Director of Public Properties
Ms. Rose, Chief of Staff
Ms. Tocco, Director of Communications

QUESTIONS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- How much will it cost overall to fix fire code issues? At minimum, estimates indicate \$485,000; KITE estimate indicated \$350,000
- How long would it take to do fire code renovations?
- What are other problems that would cost \$9M to renovate? Older building with multitude of needs to bring into code and up to current educational specifications.
- State will cover 80% renovations.
- What are costs on moving students to Pell Complex? Under \$12,000 to make bathroom renovations for younger students?
- How would fixing the egress at West Broadway impact classroom space?
- What options might exist if we approved your recommendation to close West Broadway for one year?
- What do you think can be accomplished working with the community if we have one year to plan?
- What is the timeline one to three years to implement a developed plan with the community?
- Is West Broadway the only school to be advised of no more variances for fire code? Yes
- How long does it take to do \$5M renovations?
- Where do the children live in proximity to West Broadway?
- Are there alternative swing space locations for 9th grade students?
- What is cost of delaying action for another year?
- Building renovations will require closing the school for a year to do the work?
- What will the community engagement process going forward? It will be similar to Nathan Bishop process.
- What will the communications plan look like and how will it be implemented?
- How will the communications plan inform Board members on hot issues?
- What is a situations analysis? How can we use it to keep Board updated on issues?
- How will the relocation affect teacher lay-offs and bumping process?
- Are there any other alternatives for swing space? Number of students limits district choices.
- How have parents and community members been informed of school closing?
- What will happen if we do not relocate West Broadway students – where will high school students be located?
- Do we have the commitment to move faulty & students to Pell, will we bring kids back into the community?

PROVIDENCE SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

February 26, 2007

N0. 661

MOTION TO APPROVE ACTION ITEM

RESOLUTION 2-42-07 Recommendation for West Broadway Elementary School

Resolved, the School Board approves the relocation of the West Broadway Elementary School students and faculty to the Pell Complex. It is further resolved that West Broadway Elementary a school within a school in the DelSesto-Springfield Building for the 2007-2008 school year.

MSV Touray, Wise

MOTION TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS

MSV McClure, Touray 8 – 0

1. Relocate West Broadway as a school (existing students and faculty) to the Pell Complex and operate West Broadway as a school within a school in the DelSesto/Springfield building for the 2007-2008 school year.
2. Postpone the establishment of a K-8 school at the Pell Complex.
3. Continue to operate Carnevale as an elementary school for at least one additional year.
4. Convene community groups for both West Broadway and Carnevale/DelSesto this spring to advise decision-making for configuration of these schools beyond 2007-2008.
5. Conduct a Board workshop and community forums on school configurations, including K-8 during the Spring of 2007.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDED RESOLUTION

MSV McClure, Touray 6 – 2 – 0 (Young, Crenca voted Nay)

Roll Call Vote

Ms. Holloway	Yes	Mr. Young	No
Mr. Touray	Yes	Mr. Wise	Yes
Mr. McClure	Yes	Ms. Castro	Yes
Mr. Crenca	No	Ms. Gonzalez	Yes

For the record:

Mr. Crenca: Will not support resolutions that lack good process for the sake of expediency.

Mr. Wise: Acknowledged poor process, support for neighborhood schools and historic buildings, but will support resolution given the plan to bring the students back to the community

Ms. Castro: Acknowledged the efforts of the superintendent and recognized that the building does not make the school, the teachers and students make the school.

Ms. McClure; Acknowledged poor process and need to rebuild trust with the community; views recommendation as reasonable given factors discussed.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA: RESOLUTIONS 2-33-07 THROUGH 2-40-07

CONSENT AGENDA

2-33-07 Approval of Minutes

2-34-07 Nomination of LTSP/Change of Status

2-35-07 Resolution Non-Renewal of Teaching Contracts (More Senior Returning from LWOP) Addendum

2-36-07 Resolution Non-Renewal of Teaching Contracts (More Senior May Occupy) Addendum

2-37-07 Resolution Non-Renewal of Teaching Contracts (Program Reorganization) Addendum

2-38-07 Nomination to Amend Resolution

2-39-07 Nomination to Amend Resolution

2-40-07 Nomination to Amend Resolution

MSV Young, Crenca 8– 0

MOTION TO APPROVE THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT ON BUSINESS CONTRACT

RESOLUTION 2-41-07 Perspectives

MSV Touray, Castro 8 – 0

PROVIDENCE SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

February 26, 2007

NO. 661

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Brown University has pledged to raise a permanent \$10M endowment to establish the Fund for the Education of the Children of Providence. Additionally, it will provide free tuition to as many as 10 Urban Education Fellows each year. These fellows must agree to serve Providence-area schools for at least three years after they earn a Master of Arts in Brown's Urban Education Policy Program or a Master of Arts in Teaching.
- Update to RIDE corrective action plan: The District will provide District and school-based improvement plans to RIDE by May 1, 2007. RIDE is working with the District as it develops the process and corrective action plans.
- Basic Education Plan (BEP): The district conducted a compliance assessment of art, music, and library programs in response to RIDE non-compliance directive. The district will implement program initiatives to meet BEP requirements beginning in September 2007.

GOVERNANCE

Center for Reform of School Systems (CRSS) invited Providence to participate in a two year governance-leadership program.

MOTION TO APPROVE PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN CRSS REFORM GOVERNANCE IN ACTION.

Resolved by the Providence School Board this 26th day of February 2007. With pleasure we accept this invitation of the Center for Reform of School Systems to participate in Reform Governance in Action, Cohort III, which starts in July 2007 and concludes in February 2009. We are sufficiently informed about the purpose, goals, and scope of work to commit to the conditions outlined in the application. Accordingly, we commit ourselves to full and active participation by all participants, meeting all deadlines for required deliverables on time, and the production of high quality work. We commit our best effort. We understand that CRSS can terminate our participation in the program should we fail to keep the commitments in this application.

MSV Touray, Young 8 – 0

FUTURE MEETINGS

Feb 27 th	Special Meeting Teacher Hearing	6:00 PM Superintendent's Conference Room	Personnel
Mar 12 th	School Board Meeting	6:30 PM School Board Room	TBA
Mar 26 th	School Board Workshop	6:00 PM Professional Development Room	Curriculum & Budget Review
Apr 09	School Board Meeting	6:30 PM School Board Room	Human Resources Update
Apr 23	School Board Workshop	6:00 PM Professional Development Room	Grade Configurations

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

None

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 9:55 PM

MSV Young, Wise 8 – 0

Submitted by:

Maureen Cotter, Special Assistant to the Superintendent & School Board

PROVIDENCE SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
February 26, 2007
NO. 661

PUBLIC COMMENT

NAME	ISSUE
Grant Dulgarian	West Broadway
Osiris Harrell	West Broadway
Blossom Kirschenbaum	
Anthony Voccio	West Broadway/Parental Engagement
David Haller	West Broadway
Jean Link	West Broadway
Tobias Haller	West Broadway
Karen Ferrell	West Broadway
Judith Reilley	West Broadway
Charles Pinning	West Broadway/DeJong Study
Eric Rehder	West Broadway
Rep. Steven Costantino	West Broadway
Mark Van Neppen	West Broadway
Bryan Principe	West Broadway
Martha Brunzos	West Broadway
Councilman John Lombardi	West Broadway
Kerri Martello	West Broadway
Steve Adams	West Broadway
Janet Keller	West Broadway
Kari Lang	West Broadway
Megan Heinze	West Broadway
Tina Regan	West Broadway
Senator Paul Jabour	West Broadway