

**MINUTES
PROVIDENCE SCHOOL BOARD
PSB**

Monday, September 10, 2007

THE PROVIDENCE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY BOARD PRESIDENT MARY MCCLURE AT 5:30 PM

ROLL CALL

UPON THE ROLL BEING CALLED, THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT:

BOARD MEMBERS:: Bob Wise
Grace Gonzalez
Jill Holloway
Kathy McKenzie
Maila Touray
Mary McClure
Ronnie Young
Rosanna Castro
Umberto Crenca

Executive Session

2. Executive Session

5:30 PM Executive Session per RIGL 42-46-5 (a)(1)Personnel,(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation

RECOMMENDATION: Convene in Executive Session RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation; Seek to Convene in Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel

Member **(Ronnie Young)** Moved, Member **(Kathy McKenzie)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Convene to executive session for the purpose of collective bargaining and personnel. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was:

Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. **MOTION APPROVED. 9 - 0**

Convene Meeting

Ms. McClure re-convened the meeting in open session at 6:30 PM

Approve Agenda

Member **(Grace Gonzalez)** Moved, Member **(Kathy McKenzie)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion: 'The School Board approves the agenda as presented.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. **MOTION APPROVED. 9 - 0**

Policy & Planning

4. Providence Effective Schools Initiative

PESI Overview

The Providence Effective Schools Initiative (PESI), is designed specifically for the Providence Public School District. The initiative includes ten dimensions of school effectiveness designed to fundamentally change the culture and climate of schools as well as the Districts central offices. PESI will be successful in positively impacting student outcomes, including accelerating student achievement. It is recognized that successful implementation requires that all stakeholders, including unions, community partners, parents, and colleges and universities work collaboratively.

RECOMMENDATION: Information

Dr. Evans, Superintendent of Schools introduced Providence Effective Schools Initiative.

Mr. Ed Miley, Director of School Leadership reported on Effective Schools research, quality and equity standards for measuring effectiveness, the interrelationship of PESI and Effective Schools.

Ms. Sharon Contreras, Chief Academic Officer reported on PESI over the past two years moving from

awareness to .implementation. Year one focus: principal as leader and school culture. Year two focus is on teachers: high expectations, assessment & monitoring, and instructional delivery.

BOARD QUESTIONS

- How does School Mission align with district vision?
- How will we know if PESI has an effect in our schools?
- How do we measure changes in school culture?
- How does PESI fit into corrective schools?

Public Comment

5. Public Comment

Public Comment (30 Minutes): Members of the community who wish to address the School Board must complete a request form BEFORE the start of the meeting. Comment forms are available in the meeting room 30 minutes before the start of the meeting. An individual may speak for up to 3 minutes. Additional comments may be submitted in writing. Groups or organizations are encouraged to appoint a spokesperson (Policy reference BEDH). PLEASE NOTE: The School Board welcomes comments from the public but does not engage in dialogue with the public during business meetings.

Blossom Kirschenbaum
Steve Smith, PTU President
Julie Latessa, Teacher
Marianna Darboe
Rosa Lizardo

Consent Agenda

6. Consent Agenda

All items under the Consent Agenda are adopted by a single motion unless a member of the School Board or the Superintendent requests that an item be removed and voted on separately. Consent items are considered routine and do not require discussion prior to the vote.

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval of consent agenda items.

- BOARD MINUTES
- PERSONNEL ACTIONS
- HOME SCHOOL CANDIDATES

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Grace Gonzalez**) Moved, Member (**Kathy McKenzie**) seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends School Board approval of consent agenda items.'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was:

Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. **MOTION APPROVED.. 9 - 0**

7. School Board Minutes

8.17.07 & 8.18.07 School Board Minutes 8.27.07 School Board Special Meeting Minutes

8.17.07 & 8.18.07 School Board Minutes 8.17.07 & 8.18.07 Executive Session Minutes (sealed) 8.27.07 School Board Special Meeting Minutes 8.27.07 Executive Session Minutes (sealed)

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend School Board approval of minutes.

8. Personnel Actions

Personnel for Consent Agenda

- A. Probationary Teachers/Recall
- B. Regular Teachers/Recall
- C. Regular Teachers/Change of Status
- D. Probationary Teachers/Change of Status

E. Long Term Substitute Teachers in Pool/New Hire
F. Long Term Substitute Teachers in Pool/Recall G. Nomination of Athletic Coach
RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval

9. Home School Candidates

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval

Report on Personnel

10. Acting Assistant Principal-Mt. Pleasant High School

Recommended candidate

Kela Moore Acting Assistant Principal-Mt. Pleasant High School Effective: 8-29-07 Salary: \$81,454

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Kathy McKenzie**) Moved, Member (**Ronnie Young**) seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends School Board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. **MOTION APPROVED. 9 - 0**

11. Acting Principal-Mt. Pleasant High School

Recommended candidate

Michael J. Sollitto Acting Principal-Mt. Pleasant High School Effective:8-29-07 Salary:\$108,660

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Kathy McKenzie**) Moved, Member (**Umberto Crenca**) seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends School Board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. **MOTION APPROVED. 9 - 0**

12. Acting Assistant Principal/Mt. Pleasant High School

Recommended Candidate

Nathan Biah Acting Assistant Principal/Mt. Pleasant High School Effective:9/4/07 Salary: \$74,,949.50

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Jill Holloway**) Moved, Member (**Rosanna Castro**) seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends School Board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. **MOTION APPROVED. 9 - 0**

13. Acting Assistant Principal-PAIS

Recommended candidate

Regina Winkfield, Acting Assistant Principal, PAIS Effective: 8-29-07 Salary: \$81,454

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Rosanna Castro**) Moved, Member (**Kathy McKenzie**) seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends School Board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. **MOTION APPROVED. 9 - 0**

Report on Contracts

14. Dominic Spera Consultant Contract

Spera Contract Summary

The Career and Technical Education consultant will coordinate and direct all career and technical education programs within the Providence School District, to include planning, establishing, and operating programs designed to bring students from different social, ethnic, and racial backgrounds into a strong program of instruction stressing school-to-work programming and articulation with post-secondary education career and technical programs. The consultant will work to ensure that all 4800 students enrolled in career and technical education programs and courses of study in grades 5-12 receive high quality career and technical education and career orientation aligned to industry standards.

RECOMMENDATION: Administrator recommends school board approval.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Ronnie Young)** Moved, Member **(Kathy McKenzie)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administrator recommends school board approval.'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. **MOTION APPROVED. 9 - 0**

15. Scholastic, Inc. Contract

Scholastic Consultant, Denice Rodaniche will train new and returning teachers in the READ 180 Tier II Intervention program. She will also provide (8) 2 hour sessions of after-school required professional development for READ 180 teachers. In addition, Ms Rodaniche will conduct 10 on site classroom visits to support teachers through modeling and demonstration of lessons.

RECOMMENDATION: Administrator recommends school board approval

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Maila Touray)** Moved, Member **(Bob Wise)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administrator recommends school board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. **MOTION APPROVED. 9 - 0**

16. International Institute of RI

The International Institute of Rhode Island Refugee Resettlement services will be contracted to provide a Service Coordinator for the Newcomer students enrolled in (elementary, middle and high school) and their families. These services will focus on the specific needs that the students and their families have with respect to accessing services and programs. This person will link directly to the Newcomer student staff and oversee the provision of services and referrals to community agencies. This person will directly supervise the placement of adults into appropriate educational programs, including but not limited to, the Saturday ELL programs offered by the Providence School Department. This liaison will work with families on issues of health, housing, employment, and training, knowledge of the school system, understanding diversity and American culture.

RECOMMENDATION: Administrator recommends school board approval

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Maila Touray)** Moved, Member **(Jill Holloway)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administrator recommends school board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. **MOTION APPROVED. 9 - 0**

17. Audiology Rehabilitation Services, LTD Contract

James Healey will: 1. Interpret audiologic assessment results for school personnel. 2. Make recommendations regarding placement and modification of classroom environments for students with hearing impairment or other auditory problems. 3. Provide in-service training on hearing and hearing impairments and their implication to school personnel. 4. Make recommendations for assistive listening devices for students with hearing impairments. 5. Develop and provide reference materials for each classroom. 6. Provide direct and/or consultation services for individual students according to hearing impairment and students IEP. 7. Assistive devices collected in June will be assessed and recalibrated to meet student needs. 8. Analyze classroom noise and acoustics and make recommendations for improving the listening component

RECOMMENDATION: Administrator recommends school board approval

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Ronnie Young**) Moved, Member (**Maila Touray**) seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administrator recommends school board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. **MOTION APPROVED. 9 - 0**

18. Reform Facilitator Contract/Central High School Bianca Gray

RECOMMENDATION: The Administration recommends School Board approval.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Jill Holloway**) Moved, Member (**Maila Touray**) seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Administration recommends School Board approval.'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **8** Nay: **0**. **MOTION APPROVED 8 – 0**

Action Items

19. Facilities Planning and Development: Goals and Priorities

RECOMMENDATION: The Administration recommends School Board approval.

ORIGINAL - Motion

NEW MOTION: Member (**Mary McClure**) Moved, Member (**Bob Wise**) seconded to approve the **NEW** motion to Add "and the Providence community" to principle #4'.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **8** Nay: **0**. Abstention: **1**

The motion **carried 8 – 0 -1**

Member (**Jill Holloway**) Moved, Member (**Maila Touray**) seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion with policy amendment 'The Administration recommends School Board approval.'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **8** Nay: **0**. Abstention: **1**

MOTION APPROVED 8 – 0 - 1

Superintendents Report

21. Acting/Temporary Middle School Administrators

Names and Assignments

Gloria Jackson-Acting Principal/E. Hopkins Middle School

Robert Young-Acting Assistant Principal/E. Hopkins Middle School Effective:9-4-07

RECOMMENDATION: Informational purposes only

- Report on Positive School Opening
- Report on district & school crisis response teams for family and friends of young hit and run accident victims
- Superintendent and staff will observe a moment of silence in remembrance of Sep 11th
- Future report on district indicators of success based on Performance Management Plan will be presented with leading and lagging indicators (process and outcomes) clearly identified
- Reported on the resignation of Senior Communications Director, Maria Tocco, with gratitude for her service to the district.

Governance

21. School Board Calendar

Calendar Proposal

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend School Board approval of revised calendar proposal.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Kathy McKenzie)** Moved, Member **(Maila Touray)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Recommend School Board approval of revised calendar proposal.'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**.

MOTION APPROVED. 9 - 0

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS:

Mr. Wise – Commented on Providence Journal's responsibility for accurately reporting district and school initiatives and positions.

Mr. Touray – Noted his position to hold all persons accountable to have high expectations for all children

Ms. Castro – Noted that all teachers need to be accountable for high expectations and support for students

Mr. Young – Agreed that all 2000 teachers should be held accountable for high expectations and support for students

Ms. McKenzie, Mr. Wise, & Ms. Holloway spoke about Reform Governance in Action Commitment for Board members and staff. They reported favorably on the recent site visit as worthwhile investment of time to support student achievement in Providence Schools.

Retirements & Resignations

22. Retirements/Resignations

Current list of teacher and/or administrator retirements/resignations

List of recently received retirements and/or resignations.

RECOMMENDATION: Information only, no action required.

Motion to adjourn at 8:20 PM

Member **(Kathy McKenzie)** Moved, Member **(Maila Touray)** seconded. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. **MOTION APPROVED. 9 - 0**