

MINUTES
PROVIDENCE SCHOOL BOARD
PSB
Tuesday, October 09, 2007 (6:30 PM)

THE PROVIDENCE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY BOARD PRESIDENT MARY MCCLURE

ROLL CALL

UPON THE ROLL BEING CALLED, THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT:

BOARD MEMBERS:: Bob Wise
Grace Gonzalez
Jill Holloway
Mary McClure
Ronnie Young

Executive Session

2. 5:30 PM Executive Session per RIGL 42-46-5 (a)(1)Personnel,(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation, (a)(9) Grievances

RECOMMENDATION: Seek to Convene in Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel Convene in Executive Session RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation; RIGL 42-46-5(a)(9) Grievances

Re-Convene Meeting

3. 6:30 PM Open Session

Welcome to the Providence School Board meeting. All items on the agenda tonight have been advertised as required by State Law. The Board is here to set goals, develop policy for the district, listen reports from the Superintendent, and take care of regular business items such as personnel appointments and contract approvals. This means we are here to make governance decisions, not management decisions, which are the responsibility of the superintendent and his administration. This is a meeting held in public, as required by state law. It is not a meeting with the public. We welcome you to observe and to listen. We provide an opportunity for you to address the Board during public comment on items of district policy or business; translation services are available. If you have an individual problem or concern, please speak with one of our administrators here tonight. We ask that you observe some rules of common courtesy. Please refrain from talking while others are speaking. If you wish to have a conversation with another attendee, we ask that you step into the hallway where you can carry on your conversation without disturbing others. We also ask that you turn off the sound on all cell phones and pagers. Thank you for attending our meetings; we welcome your interest.

Approve Agenda

5. Approve School Board Agenda

The School Board may vote to approve any revision, adoption, ordering of the Agenda.

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of meeting agenda as presented.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Jill Holloway)** Moved, Member **(Ronnie Young)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Recommend approval of meeting agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **CARRIED. 5 - 0**

Policy & Planning

6. Quarterly Report on the Providence School District Corrective Action Plan

Quarter 1 summary report

This policy and planning presentation will focus on the accomplishments of June, July, and August 2007 in Providence's efforts to implement the district corrective action plan.

7. Quarterly Facilities Report

3rd Quarter Facilities Report

Overview on Phase 1 Active Projects

RECOMMENDATION: Information

Public Comment

8. 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.

RECOMMENDATION: Information

Consent Agenda

9. 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.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Grace Gonzalez**) Moved, Member (**Jill Holloway**) 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: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **CARRIED. 5 - 0**

10. Home School Candidates

Home School Candidates

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.

RECOMMENDATION: The administration recommends the School Board approve Home School Candidates

11. Personnel Actions

Personnel Names and Assignments (A-E)

- A. Regular Teachers Change of Status
- B. Probationary Teachers Change of Status
- C. Probationary Teachers New Hire
- D. LTSP New Hire
- E. Occupational Therapist

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval.

12. Minutes

9.10.07 Minutes 9.17.07 Special Meeting Minutes

9.10.07 Minutes 9.17.07 Special Meeting Minutes

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend School Board approval of minutes

Report on Personnel

13. Acting Principal-E. Hopkins Middle School

Recommended candidate

Gloria Jackson Acting Principal E. Hopkins Middle School Effective: 9/4/07 Salary: \$99,208

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Jill Holloway**) Moved, Member (**Mary McClure**) seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends School Board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **CARRIED. 5 - 0**

14. Acting Assistant Principal-E. Hopkins Middle School

Recommended candidate

Robert E. Young, Jr. Acting Assistant Principal-E. Hopkins Middle School Effective: 9/4/07 Salary: 74,714

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Jill Holloway**) Moved, Member (**Grace Gonzalez**) seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends School Board approval.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **CARRIED. 5 - 0**

15. Reading First Program Supervisor

Paula Shannon Reading First Program Supervisor Effective 10/10/07 Salary \$95,119

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Grace Gonzalez**) Moved, Member (**Jill Holloway**) seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends School Board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **CARRIED. 5 - 0**

16. Director of Planning, Improvement, and System Accountability

A.Castaneda

Andrea Castaneda Director of Planning, Improvement, and System Accountability Effective: 10/10/07
Salary: \$82,001

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Jill Holloway**) 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: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **CARRIED. 5 - 0**

Report on Contracts

17. ASAP Software Contract

ASAP Contract Summary

This web-based communications system will allow the district and schools to comprehensively and efficiently communicate with families regarding parent and family engagement opportunities, absenteeism and emergency notification. This system will allow unlimited telephone messages to be sent throughout the district by either central office staff or school leadership.

RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends School Board approval.

18. Rhode Island School of Design Contract - Paul Sproll

Dr. Paul Sproll - Consultant

Dr. Paul Sproll, Head of RISDs Department of Art + Design Education and Mara ODay - the Department's Project Open Door (POD) Studio Arts Coordinator, working with Hope Arts High School teachers, will design and implement a Hope-based RISD@Hope) and RISD-based (Hope@RISD) after-school visual arts program for 40 students during 07-08 school year.

RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends School Board Approval

19. Re-Focus, Inc. Contract

Re-Focus

Re-Focus will provide community based supports and needed services to a special needs student. The goal is to help him achieve independence through meaningful community participation. The main goals/expectations will focus on Transition skills. a. Improve social interactions body language b. Functional skills budgeting, transportation c. Independent living schedules, time frames d. Employment skills vocational skill and job skills etc.

RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends School Board approval

21. Re-Focus, Inc.

Re-Focus, Inc. Contract

RE-FOCUS, INC. will provide community based work experiences for a developmentally delayed student who needs specialized accommodations and modifications in the workplace that cannot be met through the current district transition service model for special needs students. RE-FOCUS, INC. will provide community-based job development services for paid and unpaid positions for the student Positions will be based upon the student's strengths and interests.

RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends School Board approval

22. Kurt Wootton

Kurt Wootton Consultant

Kurt Wootton, working closely with the Hope High School administration, will design standards-based professional learning community for the 2007-8 school-year that will include the following: * Lead professional development seminars for the teacher leaders with the goal of building the capacity of teacher leaders to work with their departments to: a) create systematic curriculums aligned with the Providence Scope and Sequence along with Graduation Portfolio Indicators; b) create aligned methods for assessment within and across departments; and c) to analyze and discuss student work reaching a consensual agreement about work that falls below, meets, and exceeds the standard for graduation portfolios. * Observe and mentor teacher leaders instituting professional development with the entire school, divided into subject-area departments, on a weekly basis, during school-wide complex planning time. The goal will be to ensure consistent quality to the professional development instituted school-wide and that all departments are consistently working towards the agreed upon products. * Create school-wide systems and protocols whereby teachers can share and receive feedback on actual day-to-day teaching methods and practice in a supportive environment encouraging teacher development. * Align the work of the Portfolio-Based Graduation Committee directly with classroom teaching and learning products.

RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends School Board approval.

23. Wireless Generation

This contract supports Providences current implementation of a K-12 multi-tiered reading framework. Consistent, accurate screening and progress monitoring data represents a key practice imperative to successfully implementing this framework. Eighteen of Providences twenty-five elementary schools will begin wireless DIBELS implementation during the 2007-2008 academic year. Additionally, this activity builds the districts capacity to support wireless DIBELS implementation in all elementary schools over the course of the next three years. Most specifically, Wireless Generations mCLASS: DIBELS software and mCLASS: Direct 2.0 reporting system will: Make the assessment process easier, faster, and more accurate for teachers, with automated prompting, integrated timing, and immediate results. Provide item-level detail reports that help teachers identify specific recurring behaviors requiring instructional attention. Produce rich Web-based reports that facilitate needs-focused instruction, data aggregation, and Reading First reporting. Integrate progress monitoring module enables continuous assessment for students performing below benchmark and evaluation of student response to intervention. Include a growing library of instructional recommendations from leading reading experts, based on individual student scores and response patterns.

RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends School Board approval

24. Urban League Contract for the Bridge School

The purpose of the contract is to provide a high school alternative education program to 9-12 graders who have been excluded from the PSD. The Urban League of Rhode Island uses the PSD Scope & Sequence to provide instruction to Providence students. The Urban League Program offers 15 slots for both regular and Special Education students.

RECOMMENDATION: Recommendation to approve the contract

25. CHISPA Contract: Bridge School

The purpose of the contract is to provide a high school alternative education program to 9-12 graders who have been excluded from the PSD. CHISPA uses the PSD Scope & Sequence to provide instruction to Providence students. CHISPA offers 15 slots for both regular and special education students. CHISPA administers the Bridge School in conjunction with the Urban League.

RECOMMENDATION: Recommendation to approve the contract

26. Psd/Dorcas Place Adult & Family Learning Center Contract

Dorcas Place Contract Summary

The proposed contracted services represent a continuation of a successful family literacy partnership of the Providence School Department, Dorcas Place and two elementary schools: Lima, and Bailey; Parents from the four elementary schools that family literacy services were offered in last year: Sackett, Young , Woods, and Fortes are also eligible to participate in the program. The purpose of this program is to assist the districts work in its middle schools, by helping low performing children, enrolled primarily in the third and fourth grades, whose parents have limited English language proficiency.

RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends School Board approval.

Action Items

27. 2007-2008 Budget Adoption

2007-2008 Budget Presentation 2007-2008 Appropriation Ordinance 2007-2008 Classification Ordinance 2007-2008 Compensation Ordinance

The Providence School Board authorizes the superintendent to transmit a proposed operating budget of \$322,214,968 for submission to City Finance Director. The budget was reduced by \$7,910,836 and approved by the City Council for \$314,304,132.

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends the Providence School Board to adopt an operating budget in the amount of \$314,304,132 for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Grace Gonzalez**) Moved, Member (**Jill Holloway**) seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the Providence School Board to adopt an operating budget in the amount of \$314,304,132 for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **CARRIED. 5 - 0**

Superintendents Report

28. Report on ELL Task Force

Cover Memo & Phase 1 Executive Summary

RECOMMENDATION: Information

29. Teacher Recruitment Grant

The Providence School Department partnered with the RI Department of Education and received grant awards to fund two teacher recruitment programs: 1. Teacher assistant recruitment and support program: \$300,000 award disbursed in \$100,000 increments per year starting October 2007 and ending September 2008 2. Teacher Academy: \$90,000 award disbursed in \$30,000 increments per year starting October 2007 and ending June 2010.

RECOMMENDATION: Information

30. Newcomer/Refugee Report

Newcomer/Refugee report

Refugee and newcomer education in the Providence District as well as descriptive summary of International Institute.

RECOMMENDATION: information

31. Council of the Great City Schools Peer Review

CGCS update

Human Resources - Council of the Great City Schools Peer Review

RECOMMENDATION: Information

32. Update on Special Education Variance -

Transmittal Letter

Update on conditions of the special education variance, detailed in a letter from Dr. Evans to Commissioner McWalters

RECOMMENDATION: Information

Governance

33. Reform Governance in Action Committee Reports

Board sub-committee Status Reports 1. Core Beliefs & Commitments 2. School Board Meetings & Committees Policy 3. Board Constituent Services Policy

RECOMMENDATION: Information

34. Wellness Committee Report

Wellness Committee

RECOMMENDATION: Information

Future Meetings

35. Future School Board Meetings

07-08 School Board Calendar

Oct 19th Workshop 5:30 PM School Board Room - Reform Governance in Action

Oct 20th Workshop 8:30 AM School Board Room - Reform Governance in Action

Nov 8 - 11 Reform Governance in Action Institute

Nov 13th Regular Meeting 6:30 PM School Board Room TBD

Dec 10th Regular Meeting 6:30 PM School Board Room TBD

RECOMMENDATION: Information

Retirements & Resignations

36. Retirements/Resignations

Names currently received

List of recently received resignations and/or retirements for informational purposes only

RECOMMENDATION: Information only. No action required.

37. Adjourn at 9:35 PM

Member **(Jill Holloway)** 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: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **CARRIED. 5**