

MINUTES
PROVIDENCE SCHOOL BOARD
June 23, 2008 (6:30 PM)

1. Convene Meeting

The Providence School Board meeting was called to order by Board President McClure at 5:50 PM

ROLL CALL: Upon the roll being called, the following Board members were present:

Bob Wise

Jill Holloway

Kathy McKenzie

Mary McClure

Philip Gould (left at 9:15 PM)

Ronnie Young

Rosanna Castro

Maila Touray (arrived 6:00PM)

ABSENT: G. Gonzalez

2. 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, 42-46-5(a)(9) Grievances

Seek to Convene in Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel Board self-evaluation, appointments. Convene in Executive Session RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation, RIGL 42-46-5(a)(9) Grievances

MSV Holloway, Castro 7 – 0

3. Re-Convene Meeting at 6:30PM Pledge of Allegiance

4. Report on Votes taken during Executive Session

The School Board must report in open session on all votes taken during executive session.

No vote taken by the Board during Executive Session.

5. Board President Overview of Agenda

The Board President will provide an overview of major agenda items – Overview was omitted due to time constraints.

6. Superintendent's Comments

The Superintendent will provide district highlights relevant to the agenda Highlights omitted due to time constraints.

7. Approve agenda

Recommend approval of meeting agenda as presented

Motion to change the order of the agenda moving the Superintendent's Report before public comment.

MSV McClure, Touray 8 – 0 MOTION APPROVED

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

29. Volunteers in Providence Schools (VIPS) Overview

A description of Volunteers in Providence Schools (VIPS) and its programs. Terri Adelman, Executive Director, provide an update on VIPS

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8. Public Comment
Steve Smith -- VIPS and Teacher Rescissions
Nicole Lepre -- E-Cubed Academy Art & Music
Osiris Hareld - Superintendent Appreciation
Mustfa - VIPS
Colleen Driscoll - VIPS
John Arkue (student) - VIPS

POLICY & PLANNING

9. Management Oversight Policy - 2nd Reading
A revised planning calendar was accepted by the School Board to be included in this policy.
10. Policy Amendment: Board Organization and Meetings - 2nd Reading
Policy amendments include workshop language and 5-day advance notice of agenda materials for Board members. No changes to the policy were recommended.
11. Theory of Action Policy 2nd Reading
The purpose of this policy is to articulate the School Boards Theory of Action to drive rapid and significant improvements in student achievement consistent with the School Boards statement of Core Beliefs and Commitments

Sharon Contreras, Chief Academic Officer (CAO), recommended that the policy engage the school community in the design of aligned instruction. Ms. Contreras will work with Board members Castro and Young to further develop the policy before bringing back to the full Board for a 3rd reading and/or adoption.

Board Comments/Questions

- ✓ Add the word "policy"
- ✓ Replace "Theory of Action" language with "Strategic Direction"
- ✓ Consider including timeline for implementation in policy
- ✓ Consider presenting a budget for implementation given influence of PDK audit findings on 5-year action planning

12. Educational Specifications Policy 1st Reading - POLICY WITHDRAWN by the Superintendent

13. 2008 Commissioner's Order and Hope High School Order
Sharon Contreras, CAO, reported that Hope High School remains under reconstitution, however the 2005 letter is rescinded. The Commissioner's Order of Reconstitution is amended to include Hope High School and all other high schools in the district. This revised order builds a foundation for the next phase of district high schools. The Commissioner identifies 15 points in the Order with the district responsible for approval.

Board Comments/Questions

- ✓ Does the Commissioner's Order override contracts? (Yes)
- ✓ Does the proposed strategic direction align with the Order? (Yes)
- ✓ What items in the Order have the most significant fiscal impact? (Curriculum development and appropriate level of resources for theme based schools)

- ✓ How are small high schools impacted by the BEP? (Not all small schools are able to meet the BEP – BEP was designed for large comprehensive high schools)
- ✓ Why is E-Cubed high school arts program being eliminated this year? (To meet state requirements, art and music will be available on an every other year basis at E-Cubed.)

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- ✓ What is the district not requesting a waiver to keep the arts program at E-Cubed? (Waiver was not pursued by the district due to labor intensive process given short staff and RIDE has stated that the BEP will be redesigned)

* The Board requested a letter of response be prepared to raise the issue of the BEP impact on small high schools in Providence to include a request for small schools to use its resources differently than that is required of comprehensive schools.

In addition, administration will respond to the Commissioner's Order identifying what the District is able and unable to fulfill given the current fiscal situation.

CONSENT AGENDA

14. Consent Agenda Approval

MSV Member (Maila Touray) 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: 8 Nay: 0. MOTION APPROVED

15. Minutes

5.12.08 Minutes 5.19.08 Minutes
Recommend School Board Approval

16. Personnel Actions

Long Term Substitute Teachers-135 Days, LTS-2nd Semester 68 Days, LTS-2nd Semester/Change of Status, Nomination of Athletic Coaches

The Superintendent recommends School Board approval

17. Rescission of Non-Renewal of Teaching Contracts

Rescission of Non-Renewal of Teaching Contracts

The Superintendent recommends School Board approval

REPORT ON PERSONNEL

18. Assistant Principal-Classical High School

Brian R. Baldizar Assistant Principal-Classical High School Effective 7/1/08 Salary:\$90,360 (base)

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval.

MSV 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: 8 Nay: 0. MOTION APPROVED

19. Supervisor of Science

Natalie Dunning Supervisor of Science Effective 7/.07/08 Salary: \$95,119 (base)

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends School Board approval.

MSV Member (Mary McClure) 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: 8 Nay: 0. MOTION APPROVED

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REPORT ON CONTRACTS

20. Nancy Stevenin/Consultant

To provide professional development and technical assistance to the personnel of the Providence School District in the revised secondary IEP. Participants will become familiar with the new state IEP form content, be able to write measurable transition goals and be knowledgeable with the concept of embedding transition into their everyday curriculum.

RECOMMENDATION: Administrator recommends school board approval

21. Material and Service Contracts for 2008/09

Annual submission of material and service contracts for the 2008-2009 year.

RECOMMENDATION: Administrator recommends school board approval.

* **Board Comment:** All contracts for Alternative Learning Programs must be brought to the Board for review and approval.

22. Scholastic, Inc.

Read 180 is a literacy intervention for struggling Providence readers in grades 5, 6, 9, and 10. Under the direction of the Chief Academic Officer, the Contractor will provide supplies, coaching, and professional development to support the implementation of Read 180 in select Providence schools. Product / Service Per Unit Cost Quantity Total Side-by-Side Coaching for Providence Teachers (Sept '08-May '09) \$1,050.00 48 Coaching visits \$50,400.00 4 full-day PD sessions in August and September, 2008 \$2,500 4 Days \$10,000.00 2 full-day Data Analysis PD sessions on October 25, 2008 No cost 2 Days 0.00 District Technical Maintenance Contract (Item 502996) \$9000 1 Item \$9,000.00 District Server Maintenance (Item 50300) \$500 2 Per server \$1,000.00 TOTAL \$70,400.00

RECOMMENDATION: Administrator recommends School Board Approval.

23. College Board

The PSAT/NMSQT is a comprehensive, standardized assessment that measures skills important to success in college. The test, which is administered at schools each October, provides an opportunity for students to begin addressing areas where they may need extra attention as they prepare for life beyond high school. For the past two years the Rhode Island Department of Education covered the cost to test all 10th and 11th graders on the PSAT. RIDE will not be funding the testing in 2008-09.

RECOMMENDATION: Administrator recommends School Board Approval.

24. Pearson Mathematics Professional Development -- CONTRACT WITHDRAWN by the Superintendent

25. RFP for Consultant Services for the Providence School District Accountability System

The Providence School Department Purchasing Office is soliciting proposals from qualified individuals or organizations capable of building a high quality, centralized accountability system that promotes and expands the alignment of school-based activities to the district strategic plan. The Consultant must have the following qualifications: The Providence School Department requires a consultant or consulting organization with staff that have the following required qualifications: 1. Demonstrated knowledge and ability to build high quality and methodologically sound data management systems within urban educational contexts; 2. Demonstrated knowledge and ability to work with district and building administrators to enhance their role as data-driven instructional leaders; 3. Knowledge of the principles of managed instruction; and 4. Demonstrated experience conceptualizing, designing, building, and implementing a multi-strand, multi-instrument, and multi-layer accountability system in urban contexts.

RECOMMENDATION: Administrator recommends school board approval.

26. Contract Approvals

The contracts are presented by Superintendent Donnie W. Evans for School Board consent and approval, authorizing the Superintendent to seek bids (if applicable) and award contracts through the Board of Contract and Supply. All contracts will be adopted by a single motion unless a member of the School Board or the Superintendent requests that a contract be removed and voted on separately.

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RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends approval of the contracts as presented with the exception of the Pearson Contract (withdrawn by the superintendent).

MSV Member (Maila Touray) Moved, Member (Rosanna Castro) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'Administration recommends approval of the contracts as presented.'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 8 Nay: 0. MOTION APPROVED.

ACTION ITEMS

27. BD-BE Board Organization and Meeting Policy
RECOMMENDATION: Recommend School Board approval.

MSV Member (Kathy McKenzie) Moved, Member (Rosanna Castro) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'Recommend School Board approval.'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 8 Nay: 0. MOTION APPROVED.

28. Management Oversight Policy
RECOMMENDATION: Recommend School Board approval.

MSV Member (Maila Touray) Moved, Member (Philip Gould) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'Recommend School Board approval.'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 8 Nay: 0. MOTION APPROVED.

GOVERNANCE

30. Reform Governance in Action
The Board reviewed the RGA deliverables schedule

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Ms. Castro acknowledged the value of VIPS for Provide teachers and students.
Ms. McKenzie seconded Ms. Castro's observations re: VIPS; reported that the incoming Superintendent's goals are ready for Board review and comments; reported that a revised edition of the current superintendent's evaluation policy will be proposed at the July Board meeting.
Ms. McClure noted that the incoming superintendent's contract should be re-examined in line with the proposed evaluation policy.

FUTURE MEETINGS

31. Future School Board Meetings <http://www.providenceschools.org/pesb>
Jul 28 Regular School Board Meeting
Aug 15-16 School Board Retreat
Aug 18 - 19 RGA Site Visit

Motion to reconvene in **executive session** at 8:50 PM.

Roll call vote:

Bob Wise	Yes	Philip Gould	Yes
Ronnie Young	Yes	Rosanna Castro	Yes
Maila Touray	Yes	Jill Holloway	Yes
Kathy McKenzie	Yes	Mary McClure	Yes

MOTION APPROVED 8 – 0.

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32. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to come out of executive session and seal the minutes of executive session.

MSV Wise, Touray 7 – 0 MOTION APPROVED

* Report on Votes taken during Executive Session

Motion to uphold the Superintendent's decision to deny the grievance (8300).

MSV McClure, Touray 1-6-1 (No – Touray, Wise, McKenzie, Holloway, Castro, Young) (Abstain - Gould) MOTION FAILED

Amended Motion to direct administration to determine the cost to upgrade the phone system, determine root cause why the office does not answer the phone, and provide a report back to Board.

MSV Wise, Touray 7-0-1 (Abstain – Gould) MOTION APPROVED

Mr. Gould left the meeting at 9:15PM

Motion to uphold the Superintendent's decision to deny the grievance (8288).

MSV Castro, Young 7 – 0

Motion to adjourn at 9:40 PM.

MSV Member (Touray) Moved, Member (Holloway) seconded to approve the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: (7) Nay: (0). MOTION APPROVED

33. Retirements/Resignations

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

Submitted by:

Maureen Cotter

Special Assistant to the Superintendent & School Board