

MINUTES

PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
797 WESTMINSTER STREET
PROVIDENCE, RI 02903
JULY 11, 2011

CONVENE MEETING

1. Convene in Executive Session 6:00PM – Convene in Executive Session Pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1)Personnel; RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1)School Board & Superintendent Job Performance; RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2)Collective Bargaining

A Motion was made to convene in Executive Session at 6:07PM

MSV – Lalli, Pande (6-0) MOTION APPROVED

Board Members Present: Kathleen Crain, Nina Pande, Brian Lalli, Robert Wise Julian Dash and Keith Oliveira

Absent Board Member: Maila Touray and Magaly Sanchez

RECONVENE MEETING

2. Call to Order at 6:30PM – School Board President Kathleen Crain called the meeting to order at 6:34PM

A Motion was made at this time to take Public Comment and School Board Comments before Superintendent's Comments

MSV – Crain, Oliveira (6-0) MOTION APPROVED

PUBLIC COMMENT

3. Public Comment – Right to be Heard began at 6:35PM and ended at 6:56PM
 - Osiris Harrell – I have to start out by saying we all pleaded with you not to close the schools. We told we were being played and now you all are being played. You all have been stripped of your powers and you all have become pawns. Now Asa Messer will become a charter school, what do you say to that? The Mayor has complete control of the schools now. There is something very sinister in public education and people are just chess pieces to them. You have to wake up!! A wolf in sheep's clothing is still a wolf and will definitely bite you.

- Blossom Kirschenbaum – I am here to say what I am glad for. I am glad to say that a graduate of Hope High School has been appointed by the Mayor to replace Philip Gould. I welcome the new appointment of Natalia Rosa-Sosa. I am glad to see the Mayor is taking over final approval of the teacher contract. Amen to the Mayor taking over contracts.
- Jean Linc – I here today because last time I was up here I did not have enough time to get my point across. I'm not sure if I should address you or the Mayor but I wanted to speak on the match process. The match process was not fair. I believe everyone should have been interviewed for jobs. I see it's no longer what you know, it's who you know. We lost Kimi Walsh & Lisa Balsamo those are two teachers that did not get hired back. The match process was a cattle call and teachers were not treated like people. Now the match principals are being moved around. The initial report said that only 44-70 teachers would be terminated and in fact it is 125.
- Sheila Wilhelm – Thank you for letting me speak tonight. I could say I told you so but I won't. The big guy played all of us. This is crazy, in the past we've had school boards that we have worked well together with. If there's one thing we could thank the Mayor is playing all of us and then he kicked us down. Unfortunately, closing schools is what gets kids shot.
- Steve Smith – Superintendent Brady was hired and when we first met him he said be bright, be brief and be gone. I really thought he would be my last Superintendent. I apologize for not attending your farewell party on the 30th but I had to attend negotiations. It has been my privilege to work with you for the last 3 years. There was a plan that went from seniority to teacher quality. People asked why I signed Race to the Top and I wanted to tell you it's because of the conversation Mr. Brady and I had on Martin Luther King Day. We thank you for all that you have done.
- Ms. O'Connel – I would like to echo Steve Smith's comments and Superintendent you will be truly missed. Tomorrow the Mayor has a meeting regarding Asa Messer because now we learned it will be a charter school. I you would all participate in this meeting I think that would be a good thing.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

4. School Board Comments

- President Crain – Thank you Superintendent for all you have done. Also I would like to say that I am resigning from the Board effective immediately.
- Robert Wise – I remember before September when you got here how hard it was to steer this ship. I thank you on behalf of the School Board and on behalf of the children in the system.

- Brian Lalli – I too would like to echo the School Board thank yous. I would also like to thank on behalf of my wife.
- Julian Dash – I would like to express my thanks to you also. We are all here for the children. Thank you for the time you served.
- Keith Oliveira – The district has made a lot of accomplishments. Though I did not serve with you for a long time, I too would like to thank you.
- Nina Pande – It was rocky for a little time but I would like to thank you as well.

5. Superintendent's Comments

APPROVE AGENDA

6. **Approve Agenda as Presented**

MSV – Lalli, Pande (6-0) MOTION APPROVED

Mr. Robert Wise left the meeting at 8:10PM

REPORT ON CONTRACTS

7. Pearson/America's Choice
8. RFP – Management Services for Leadership Development and Support
9. Contract Approvals: Pearson/America's Choice; RFP – Management Services for Leadership Development and Support

MSV – Dash, Lalli (5-1) MOTION APPROVED Abstain: Oliveira

CONSENT AGENDA

10. Personnel Actions
11. Minutes 6-13-11
12. LTSP – reasonable assurance for 2011/2012 provided to 2010/2011 LTSPs
13. Consent Agenda Approval: Personnel Actions; Minutes 6-13-11; LTSP reasonable assurance for 2011/2012 provided to 2010/2011 LTSPs

MSV – Dash, Lalli (6-0) MOTION APPROVED

FUTURE MEETINGS

14. August 9, 2011 – Regular Business Meeting; August 22, 2011 – Workshop

RETIREMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

15. Retirements & Resignations

8 EXECUTIVE SESSION

16. Reconvene in Executive Session Pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel; RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1) Superintendent & School Board Job Performance; RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining & Litigation

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTES

17. There were no votes taken in Executive Session

7:23PM - A Vote was taken to Adjourn the meeting

MSV – Oliveira, Pande (6-0) MOTION APPROVED

ADJOURN

18. The meeting adjourned at 7:23PM