

EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

East Providence City Hall

145 Taunton Avenue, East Providence, Rhode Island 02914

School Committee Meeting

December 8, 2009

Open Session

Mr. Santos called the meeting to order at 6:00PM. School Committee Members present: Luisa Abatecola, Shannon Barbosa, Robert Faria, Steven Santos. Also present: Dr. Mario F. Cirillo, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Lonnie Barham, Chief Operating Officer and Sara Rapport, Esq.

A motion was made by Mr. Faria to convene in Executive Session for purposes of discussing:

Collective Bargaining: R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a) (2): Teachers, Teacher Assistants, Custodians, Secretaries, Principals; Litigation: R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a) (2): EPSC v. EPEA (Superior Ct. DJ Action & DOL TA Interest Arbitration); EPEA v. EPSC (DOL); EPSC v. Rocha; TA Accretion Petition.

Public Property: R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a) (5): (a) Grove Avenue School Building; and (b) Acquisition Public Property in

EP/Disposition Public School Property. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Abatecola.

Roll call vote: Mrs. Abatecola, aye; Mrs. Barbosa, aye; Mr. Faria, aye; Mr. Santos, aye; Mr. Carcieri, aye.

The School Committee returned to Public Session at 7:30PM. A motion was made by Mrs. Abatecola to seal the minutes of the Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Faria. Roll call vote: Mrs. Abatecola, aye; Mrs. Barbosa, aye; Mr. Faria, aye; Mr. Santos, aye.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag & Moment of Silence were observed.

Report Executive Session Votes – None

Student/Teacher Recognition – Mrs. Hilda Andrews was commended and presented with a certificate for 20 years of volunteer service to East Providence Schools.

Mr. Santos requested that Item #2 listed in Section H. Action Items be moved to Section G. Consent Agenda. He requested that the item, Grove Avenue School Building: Possible Disposition, be tabled.

Reports

Student Liaison - Erin Butler presented a report.

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Patti Whalen, Director of H/R and Benefits presented the following personnel items:

RETIREMENTS

**Judith Hurley Grade 5 Teacher
Oldham Elementary School
Effective 12/23/09**

RESIGNATIONS

**Edward Donoghue Finance Director
Effective 12/11/2009**

**Kevin Monagle Girls' Cross Country, Head Coach
East Providence High School**

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE

**Lauren Farnsworth Physical Education Teacher
Waddington Elementary School
Effective 1/13/2010 – (13 weeks)**

PARENTAL LEAVE

Jennifer Benell Speech-Language Pathologist

Kent Heights Elementary School

Remainder of 2009/2010 School Year

Financial Report - Mr. Barham presented the report on FY 2009. Expenditures were listed at \$71,732,577; revenues at \$71,612,609 plus another \$66,000 anticipated revenues (\$71,678,609); the difference is \$54,000. The School Department plans to end the year with a balanced budget, subject to audit.

Update on H1N1 Flu – Dr. Cirillo reported that the RI Department of Health, RI Department of Education, Wellness Company and the State Medical Reserve Corps partnered to coordinate H1N1 vaccinations for all school children in grades K-12 in RI. Clinics were held in ten East Providence schools and one additional school clinic is scheduled for December 9th. The statewide regional vaccination clinic for first responders and emergency health care workers will take place on January 9, 2010 at Martin Middle School.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – November 19, 2009 – A motion was made by Mr. Faria to approve, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa. Vote 4-0.

Personnel Appointments – Mrs. Patti Whalen presented the following items:

APPOINTMENTS

**John Marsula Robotics Teacher
Riverside Middle School**

**Sydney Culbertson Life Skills Teacher
East Providence High School**

**Nicole Delanos Flag Corp Coach
East Providence High School**

**Amy Watson Numeracy Coach
Title I – Elementary
Effective January 5, 2010**

**Motion to approve by Mrs. Abatecola, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa.
Vote 4-0.**

Requisitions

Bill Lists

Warrant #950 12/4/09 \$ 116,181.13

Warrant #951 12/4/09 \$2,483,672.52

Motion: Mr. Faria/Seconded by Mrs. Abatecola. Vote 4-0.

Action Items

Awarding of Bids:

Transportation – Dr. Cirillo related that further analysis is needed and he was not in a position to make a recommendation at this time; he asked that the bid be tabled.

Smart Board –Dr. Cirillo requested that the bid be awarded to Valley Communication in the amount of \$211,358.00 as recommended by the Director of Technology based upon their superior teacher training & support and the value of the three professional days provided with their bid. Motion by Mr. Faria to approve, seconded by Mrs. Abatecola. Vote 4-0.

Grove Avenue School Building: Possible Disposition - Tabled

Requests for Home Schooling – Motion by Mrs. Abatecola to approve, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa.

Vote 4-0.

Eliminate: Policy I.B. Accountability Statement. I.I. Board-O-Gram, and Policy I.J. Athletic Passes –Second Passage – Motion by Mr. Faria to approve, seconded by Mrs. Abatecola. Vote 4-0.

Proposed Home School Policy (Second Passage) – Motion by Mrs. Abatecola, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa. Roll call Vote: Mrs. Abatecola, aye; Mrs. Barbosa, aye; Mr. Faria, aye; Mr. Santos, aye. Vote 4-0.

New Business

Schedule of School Committee Meetings for 2010 – A motion was made by Mr. Faria to approve the schedule for 2010 as follows: January 12, February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10, and June 8. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Abatecola. Vote 4-0.

Public Comment-Communications

Reflections on 2009 – Mary Texeira, teacher at Silver Spring School reflected on the year 2009 and the path of confrontation taken by the School Committee to solve the city's financial problems, which was enacted at a great price. In June, a vote of no confidence was taken in the Superintendent and School Committee; the definition of morale is well being; there is no morale problem; in spite of all this, EP teachers have maintained their sense of purpose during assaults on their profession and this has not affected students; morale is confidence in the future; someone chose confrontation; this does not bind but separates; a house divided against itself cannot stand. East Providence is divided against itself since this path of confrontation was taken and will not be able to stand up; there are three quarters of a million dollars of legal bills. She implored peace; work for justice;

say no to confrontation; restore district to peace; return to respect and dialogue in 2010.

Announcements – Mr. Faria presented a report on events and information about ET2T grants, Save the Bay; Commissioner Visit team on 12/7; 2012 diploma; Special Ed Advisory Workshop 12/27.

Mr. Santos announced that the School Committee would not seek to return to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel: R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(1): Post Termination Hearing of Teacher – matter continued to another date.

A motion was made by Mr. Faria to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa. Vote 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Iannelli, Administrative Assistant

Shannon Barbosa, Clerk of the Committee