

# Providence Schools

Regular School Board Meeting  
May 18, 2022

## SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT  
797 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, RI 02903  
Wednesday, May 18, 2022 (6:30 PM)

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### ROLL CALL

VP Garcia

Kinzel Thomas  
Diagneris Garcia  
Mark Santow  
Elizabeth Goldberg  
Jesus Nunez  
TyRelle Stephens  
Night Jean Muhingabo

### Convene Meeting

#### 1. Call to Order

Call to Order

**Recommendation:** Call the meeting to order  
Call to order at 6:33

#### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

#### 3. Roll Call

Roll Call

**Recommendation:** Roll Call  
Mr. Escobar and Mr. Ibeyimi are absent.

#### 4. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent's Comments

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required.

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Dr. Montanez gave remarks upon the growth that the District has been working for.

### Approve Agenda

#### 5. Approval of the Agenda

Approve agenda as presented

**Recommendation:** Approve agenda as presented.

There was a substitute motion to approve the agenda as amended. The vote to approve the Home School policy was removed.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Mark Santow)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Approve agenda as amended'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **(xx)** Nay: **(xx)**. The motion **Carried. (xx) - (xx)**

#### 5. Approval of the Agenda

Approve agenda as presented

**Recommendation:** Approve agenda as presented.

#### **SUBSTITUTE - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Mark Santow)** Seconded to approve the **SUBSTITUTE** motion 'Approve agenda as amended to remove home school policy vote'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Jesus Nunez	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes
Night Jean Muhingabo	Yes

### Public Comments

#### 6. Public Comment - Right to Be Heard

Public Comment: Members of the community who wish to address the School Board must sign-up by 4 p.m. the day of the School Board meeting. Instructions to sign-up for public comment during virtual meetings are available on the Providence School Board website: <https://www.providenceschools.org/domain/118>. An individual may

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speaking for up to three minutes. Comments may also be submitted in writing. Groups or organizations are encouraged to appoint a spokesperson. PLEASE NOTE: The School Board welcomes comments from the public but does not engage in dialogue with the public during school board meetings.

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required.

There were fourteen people who had sent in requests to make comments and six that sent in letters. The people that spoke were Suzanne Sutton, Ashanti Gonzalez, Jennifer Germosen, Jonathan Zavala, Richard Garcia, Christopher Mercedez, Noah Vasquez, Roslein Argueta, Melissa Robb, Jennifer Curry, Pedro Quijada, Diane Burdick, Courtney Goglia, Andrea Hartman, Jasmine and Keno Mullings, and Melissa Hughes. The six that sent in comments were Darlyn Gomes, Mary Cogean, Cali VanHorn, Courtney Hoyle and Susanne Schennachyle, Calef Brown and Axel Van de Walle whose letters are included.

To Whom it May Concern: My name is Mary Cogean and I am a certified teacher in the state of Rhode Island, a homeschooling parent in Providence, and a former student of the Providence Public School District. I am reaching out today in opposition to the proposed homeschool policy that Providence is in the process of developing. I have been homeschooling my children since 2017, when my oldest became eligible to attend Kindergarten. I made the decision to homeschool because as someone who went through the public schools in Providence, I knew that I wanted my children to have more opportunities, more individualized attention, the ability to follow their interests, and the guarantee of consistency and stability that being a student in the largest school district in the state would not be able to provide. What exactly do I oppose in the developing policy? • I oppose section A, bullet #3 which asks parents to provide a mailing and email address. I oppose this because the homeschooling parent should have the option to provide the form of contact that they are comfortable with. Homeschooling students are not in the care of the school during the day, so therefore immediate access to parents is not necessary. A mailing address should be sufficient, with the option to provide an email address if the parent chooses to. • I oppose Section A, bullet #7 which states that the curriculum for the homeschool candidate must be approved by the PPSD Teaching and Learning Department. I oppose this because there are thousands of curriculum options. Will someone from the PPSD be assigned to research each and every curriculum option in order to approve or deny the homeschool requests? If so, what makes this person qualified to tell parents what is an acceptable curriculum for them to use with their child? The beauty of homeschooling is that you have options and you are able to make your own educated decisions based on the needs of your child. • I oppose section B, which requires an application to homeschool for each candidate. I oppose this section because as homeschoolers we already submit a yearly Letter of Intent (LOI) with all of the information required by

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state law. An additional application is a nuisance and serves no purpose. • I oppose section C, which requires an educational plan to be completed, submitted, and approved. I oppose this because within every LOI that is submitted, the parents state which subjects will be covered, that instruction will be equal to 180 days, and the types of materials that may be used. Additionally, every homeschool family submits an End of Year (EOY) progress report at the end of their school year as a form of assessment. • I oppose section D, which states that if parents/guardians refuse to submit the requested homeschool documents that their request will be denied. Homeschooling is a right that every parent has and it cannot be denied. I feel that this language serves as a scare tactic to coerce parents into giving more information than is required by law by threatening something that cannot happen. • I am not opposed to section K, which states that a student who completes an approved program of homeschooling is not eligible to receive a Providence High School diploma. I would just like to point out that if our homeschool children are not eligible to receive a diploma, then what sense does it make for the district to have so much oversight and the ability to approve and/or deny what homeschool parents may use to educate their children? Why does the district need to be so involved in something that they have nothing to do with? Why does the district feel as though it needs to have control over parents who choose the path of homeschooling for their children? I understand that the pandemic homeschoolers may have felt overwhelmed, or like they were in a crisis because they did not know what to do. However, traditional homeschoolers, the parents who have done their research and chosen this path for reasons other than Covid, are perfectly content and do not feel as though they need the district to step in. Rhode Island has a thriving homeschool community that provides co-op classes, meet-ups, field trips, informational meetings, etc. The homeschooling community in Rhode Island is diverse, welcoming, and knowledgeable. Regulations should not be changed due to a small number of people who were thrown into something they knew nothing about during a worldwide pandemic. Thank you for your time, Mary Cogan Dear Members of the Board, My name is Darlyn Gomes. I reside in Providence, RI. I have four children ages 14, 13, 10, and 5 years old. My husband and I have homeschooled our children since 2013. They have never attended a public school. Like many families who have been homeschooling (even before the pandemic), we have our reasons why we homeschool. As a former teacher, I chose not to continue teaching in a classroom because I wanted to dedicate as much of my time as possible to my family. I knew if I continued teaching in a school, I would not have been able to be fully present in the lives of my children. My husband and I also wanted our children to be able to explore their interests and learn at their own pace without judgement. It was important for us to

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instill in our children our faith, values, and beliefs, by observing and living them with us everyday. We believe parents are children's first and most important teachers. When the pandemic caused schools to shut down and force many parents to continue school at home, it was something many parents were not ready for, nor had they previously had any intentions of ever doing. Many of these parents relied heavily on the school system to teach their children, so I'm sure they were overwhelmed with this task. Unlike families who freely choose to homeschool, these families were completely unprepared. Pre-pandemic homeschoolers didn't stress because learning with our children all day everyday is our lifestyle. As I mentioned, my husband and I choose to homeschool for various reasons. From our experiences and research, and through community outreach we were able to make a conscientious decision on why we homeschool, why we continue to homeschool, and why we implement our style of homeschooling. If we have questions, doubts, fears or concerns we know where to turn to and who to talk and ask questions to, because again, we have our own objectives, plans, and assessments. As we continue to homeschool our children, my husband and I would like to do so with the freedom and flexibility that we have been able to since 2013. Being able to homeschool our children has been a blessing and a gift we cherish. Please have trust and belief that parents who choose to homeschool know what is best for their families. Thank you for your time, Darlyn Gomes Good Afternoon, My name is Courtney Hoyle and I have been homeschooling my two (three next year!) kids in Providence for the past 6 years. I am writing because it has come to my attention that the Providence Public School district feels it might be necessary to create a homeschool policy, to ensure that parents have resources, structure and oversight. Personally, for our family and for most homeschoolers, we have chosen to homeschool because we (respectfully) don't find the oversight and structure necessary to educate our own children. We have chosen a different route based on the needs of our kids and family. We are appreciative of the accountability each year and know it is a necessity for many children, however, we do not feel the need for a change or a creation of a policy. Our needs are met by the homeschool community and the plethora of resources available in this lovely, diverse state of ours. Oversight from the school district is not something we will benefit from or feel is necessary. We chose to homeschool our children because we strongly believed that if we could feasibly allow our children to have less time sitting in a classroom and more time exploring their own interests and tackling academics at a speed that was appropriate to them, it would be in the best interest of our kids. Especially for the younger years. We have a rhythm of moving through academics catered to each child in the mornings a few days a week and then leaving the afternoons for projects, reading, music, dance, sports, rehearsals,

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poetry tea times, ninja gym, hikes and nature exploration or whatever it is that excites them in a given season. They have never been to a school building, yet they are thriving. My eldest was just selected for the PPAC arts scholarship, my middle has found a passion for fencing and my youngest just constantly wants to be involved in whatever the older ones are doing- including trying to read! They all will tell you that math is their favorite subject. We have found a wonderful and supportive community through EnrichRI where we have participated in co-ops, field trips and subject specific classes and fun with friends. Just yesterday we were at Casey farm learning about farming, gardening, animal care etc. I am able to get the support I need from seasoned homeschool families and in return pour into families just starting out. Thank you for taking the time to hear our voices. -- Courtney Hoyle 917.273.0745 courtneyfhoyle@gmail.com Hello, My name is Cali VanHorn and I have been homeschooling my children for the last 10 years. I understand that there is a meeting today to discuss homeschooling in Providence county and if the public school should be distributing resources to help homeschool families and such. I cannot attend the meeting, but wanted to send an email to voice my opinion. For the last ten years we have been homeschooling and thoroughly enjoy this choice for our family. There are so many benefits that I continually see. It would take too long to list them all, but I will give you the highlights. Homeschooling has made our family a closer tighter unit. We have hard times like anyone else, but all in all, we see all the good, bad, and ugly of each other and get lots of experience to talk through character building, to forgive one another, to learn to be slow to anger and quick to love. These are important qualities that in a public school setting a teacher wouldn't have the time to pause class and talk through a conflict or character development. In the long term, this greatly affects the future of who my children grow up to be and how they interact with our community, how they treat people, and how they deal with conflict. I am thankful for the time to do this. Homeschooling has also proven beneficial academically. We spend so much time reading aloud together and discussing classic literature. I KNOW my kids so well and know their struggle areas in academics. My daughter is struggling with 7th grade math right now and instead of just plugging along and pushing her through to get done with the book, I have the benefit of going back and helping her to really understand the material before moving on. This is going to make math easier for her in the high school years if I can lay a solid foundation for her now and for her to really know it before moving ahead. I love being able to choose what my kids learn and how they learn it. We are huge fans of the classical method of learning and have been participating in a classical homeschool community for eight years now. We meet once a week and my kids are doing weekly presentations, geography, learning Latin and

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Spanish, learning history and a timeline of the world, doing art projects, and science experiments. We are so thankful for a community to participate in this with. My children are learning to become a student for life and that learning can be fun. Not everything is fun, but so much of it is! Each of my children have different interests and we can spend more time on that student delving into something that piques their curiosity. I love the support and accountability our homeschool community provides. I love the flexibility we have in our daily routine. I love that we know each other so well and that I can take more time with academic struggle areas to help my children truly know a content area. I love that we get to work on character development and conflict right at the moment. There are so many other things I could mention, but these are my highlights. All of this to say that we have a support community and we are thriving at homeschooling. This was a choice my husband and I made ten years ago and when we did it we never expected anything academically from our public school system. We do not wish or want the public school to send us resources or require us to use certain resources. Homeschooling is a choice that, thankfully, we get to make here and when a family does that it is their choice to not receive resources academically from the school system. Resources given to us would not be a help to us. It would take time away from the things we have already established as quality materials for us to work through and would really be more harmful than good. We chose to homeschool because we wanted to decide what our children should learn and how they would learn it and we pray it remains that way. I do also want to say that I have a degree in education and have worked in school systems before. My family GREATLY appreciates the public school system. We are thankful for their dedication and HARD work for the community! My husband is one of the track coaches at our public schools and as taxpayers, we are so glad that our children get the benefit of playing on certain teams occasionally at the school. It allows us to know people in our community, but still educate our children in the way that we think is best for them. Thank you so much for reading this! Thank you for your diligent work in the education department! Blessings, Cali VanHorn To the Providence School Board, I am writing to submit this written comment in advance of the meeting on homeschool policy scheduled for May 18th. I am a resident of the eastside of Providence. I have been a children's book illustrator and author for twenty-five years, and am a professor at Rhode Island School of Design. My wife and I have been homeschooling our children long before the pandemic, for the past seven years here in Providence. We have effectively taken advantage of, and utilized Providence's many resources, including working with the fantastic librarians at our local public branch and The Providence Athenaeum, taking art and animation classes at RISD and the RISD Museum, as well as performing in

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Festival Ballet's Nutcracker. Our children are also learning to speak Spanish and Japanese, and studying ornithology and marine biology among other subjects. We are Rhode Island taxpayers. We have never asked for assistance from the district. We pay for all classes, books, and materials. Our child-led homeschooling has allowed our children to thrive. Homeschooling is not distance learning. Should the school district become involved in our homeschooling curriculum, it will disrupt seven years of education for our family. District oversight would take away our freedom as homeschoolers by forcing us to become distance learners. As two working parents we also fear that becoming distance learners would make homeschooling impossible for our family. We are asking the Rhode Island Department of Education, The Providence School District to please consider our three children, as well as the seven years of work we have invested in educating them. Please, allow us to remain a homeschooled family by respecting our existing autonomy, and our freedom to educate our children without District control. Thank you, Sincerely, Calef Brown Associate Professor, Illustration Rhode Island School of Design calefbrown.com calefbooks.com 124 6th St. Providence RI 02906 cbrown02@risd.edu Dear PPSD School Board, We have been notified that you are planning to implement a new fairly restrictive and cumbersome home school policy that attempts to recreate what happens in public school into the home school environment, with daily hours of instruction noted. Since most homeschool parents elect to homeschool precisely because it allows for freedom to adjust the schedule and material present to the unique child in the family (as opposed to teaching that has to fit a large classroom of learners), this attempt at making home school teaching look more like public school teaching appears misguided. We have been successfully homeschooling as a family in Providence for many years. As evidence of this, our older children have participated in and won prizes in major competition. For example, our 7th grader qualified for the AIME - the American International Mathematics Examination that is one of the steps towards the International Math Olympiad (a huge accomplishment in a major math competition for students up to 12th grade! Our homeschooled son was one of only around 150 students in the entire US in 7th grade or below to do so). He also won a gold medal on the Intermediate Latin exam. In order to accomplish our learning objectives, we teach homeschool almost every day around the year - much more than the 180 days required by the state. Some days, the schedule is light, with only math and reading and some writing and art or sports, some days the schedule is heavy. Some days, part of the teaching happens in the evening, because that is when some online classes are offered. The flexibility of homeschooling allows parents to adjust the schedule to optimize learning for their particular child. It is not necessarily a 8-3pm day. The transition between school work and hobbies is also



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fluid - a class on the depths of Intermediate Counting and Probability or Pre-calculus may lead to programming of a game using these concepts in the computer language Python. The School Board should also realize that requiring a detailed learning plan in advance, with material and resources to be used also misunderstands that much of the benefit of homeschooling is the ability to adjust teaching and learning, as well as resources to the one student at hand as the year proceeds. Some materials that may look good and that have worked for an older child may not work as well for a younger sibling, and a homeschool family can adjust to maximize teaching outcomes. As homeschool parents, we are also always on the lookout for new resources and sometimes, perfect class offerings open up in the middle of the school year. Our experience should illustrate that much of the advantage of homeschooling is precisely the flexibility it provides to optimize learning for the individual student. Rhode Island Law recognizes this - the new proposed PPSD Homeschool Policy does not. Forcing detailed guidance and rules from the school district onto homeschool families will be a detriment to the students. The homeschool environment is very different from a class of 20-30 students. For those that would appreciate help with how to approach homeschool, there are many resources already available. Enrichi, for example, offers many seminars on homeschooling in Rhode Island, including on curriculum questions, and in our experience, they have always been very quick to reply when we have approached them with a question. Perhaps the School District should mention to new homeschool families resources such as Enrichi. Thank you very much for your attention, Axel van de Walle, PhD Susanne Schennach, PhD

### School Board Member Comments

#### 7. School Board Comments

School Board Comments

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required

Board Members commented on the past retreat that was successfully held.

### School Board Committee Updates

#### 8. Policy Committee

Policy Committee updates and highlights.

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required.

Dr. Santow apologized for the mixup in the agenda submitted to the Secretary of State website that did not include the Homeschool policy.

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### 9. Finance Committee

Finance Committee updates and highlights.

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required.

Dr. Goldberg gave an update on the Finance Committee meeting.

### Consent Agenda

#### 10. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Items listed under Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be approved by a single motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items; however, any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda upon the request of any member of the Board and action upon separately.

**Recommendation:** Approve consent agenda as presented.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Approve consent agenda as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Jesus Nunez	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes
Night Jean Muhingabo	Yes

#### 11. Approval of Minutes - April 28, 2022

Approval of Minutes - April 28, 2021

**Recommendation:** Approve minutes as presented

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Approve minutes as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Jesus Nunez	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

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Night Jean Muhingabo Yes

### 12. Todd Whitaker Amendment FY22

**Recommendation:** Admin recommends approval

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Admin recommends approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Jesus Nunez	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes
Night Jean Muhingabo	Yes

### 13. Mystic Aquarium FY22

**Recommendation:** N/A

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'N/A'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Jesus Nunez	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes
Night Jean Muhingabo	Yes

### 14. Sodexo Renewal FY23

**Recommendation:** Admin recommends approval

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Admin recommends approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes

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Mark Santow Yes  
Elizabeth Goldberg Yes  
Jesus Nunez Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes  
Night Jean Muhingabo Yes

### 15. iSAFE Renewal FY23

**Recommendation:** Admin recommends approval

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Admin recommends approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas Yes  
Diagneris Garcia Yes  
Mark Santow Yes  
Elizabeth Goldberg Yes  
Jesus Nunez Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes  
Night Jean Muhingabo Yes

### 16. UCONN Confratute FY23

**Recommendation:** N/A

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'N/A'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas Yes  
Diagneris Garcia Yes  
Mark Santow Yes  
Elizabeth Goldberg Yes  
Jesus Nunez Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes  
Night Jean Muhingabo Yes

### 17. Curriculum Associates FY23

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

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Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'No recommendation required'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Jesus Nunez	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes
Night Jean Muhingabo	Yes

### **18. Lionbridge FY23**

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'No recommendation required'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Jesus Nunez	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes
Night Jean Muhingabo	Yes

### **19. Effectiff FY23**

**Recommendation:** Admin recommends approval

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Admin recommends approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Jesus Nunez	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes
Night Jean Muhingabo	Yes

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### 20. Energy Efficient Investments

**Recommendation:** Admin recommends approval

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Admin recommends approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Jesus Nunez	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes
Night Jean Muhingabo	Yes

### 21. Homeschool Policy (First Read)

**Recommendation:** Admin recommends approval after next read

Because of an error in uploading the agenda to the Secretary of State website that did NOT include the Home school policy, this item was removed from the Consent Agenda and was not included.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Admin recommends approval after next read'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Jesus Nunez	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes
Night Jean Muhingabo	Yes

## Action Items

### 22. Review of Homeschool Candidates

We'll review complete homeschool application(s) to be approved by the School Board. Accompanying documentation is not available publicly to protect student-identifying information.

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**Recommendation:** Administration recommends removal.

Mr. Catone spoke on Homeschool candidates that has been approved.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Night Jean Muhingabo)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends removal'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Jesus Nunez	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes
Night Jean Muhingabo	Yes

### 23. Schoolworks Contract FY23

**Recommendation:** Admin recommends approval

DR. Yvonne Alvarez answered questions. There are six schools that would be included in the redesign project. There is an urgency to move forward. President Thomas mentioned that there was a similar contract by another vendor had done in 2020 and would like to be sure there is no un-necessary duplication. DR. Goldberg mentioned that she was uncomfortable as well without knowing the contract going through the Finance Committee. VP Garcia also expressed concern that the contract has not gone to the Finance Committee.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(xxxxx)** Moved, Member **(xxxxx)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Admin recommends approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **(xx)** Nay: **(xx)**. The motion ( ). **(xx) - (xx)**

### 23. Schoolworks Contract FY23

**Recommendation:** Admin recommends approval

**SUBSTITUTE - Motion**

Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Moved, Member **(Mark Santow)** Seconded to approve the **SUBSTITUTE** motion 'Motion was made to table the approval on Schoolworks'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes

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Mark Santow Yes  
Elizabeth Goldberg Yes  
Jesus Nunez Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes  
Night Jean Muhingabo Yes

### **24. FY23 Local Budget Ordinances - Appropriation, Compensation and Classification**

**Recommendation:** Admin recommends approval

Zach Scott gave the presentation on the budget and answered questions.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Admin recommends approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas Yes  
Diagneris Garcia Yes  
Mark Santow Yes  
Elizabeth Goldberg Yes  
Jesus Nunez Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes  
Night Jean Muhingabo Yes

## **Presentations**

### **25. FY23 Budget Presentation**

**Recommendation:**

Zach Scott gave the presentation on the budget.

### **26. Turnaround Action Plan Update Presentation**

**Recommendation:**

Zach Scott and Joan Jackson gave the presentation and answered questions.

### **27. Wellness Department Presentation**

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends approval.

Sandra Stuart gave the presentation that covered four departments. President Kinzel congratulated Mrs. Stuart for her exceptional work on standing up this new office. DR. Goldberg also said that the work was exceptional.

## **Executive Session**



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### **28. Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Law §42-46-5 (a)(2)—Litigation**

The School Board must vote on the stated purposes in public to enter into Executive Session

**Recommendation:** Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Law §42-46-5 (a)(2)—Litigation

There were two votes taken in Executive Session. The first after discussion, was to seal the minutes of that discussion. Motion made by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Mr. Nunez. The motion passed unanimously. The second motion was to come out of Executive Session. That was moved by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Mr. Nunez. That passed unanimously also.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(Mark Santow)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Law §42-46-5 (a)(2)—Litigation'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Jesus Nunez	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes
Night Jean Muhingabo	Yes

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 by President Thomas.

### **29. Adjourn Meeting**

Adjourn Meeting

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Night Jean Muhingabo)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'No recommendation required'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	Yes

# Providence Schools

Regular School Board Meeting  
May 18, 2022

Mark Santow	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Jesus Nunez	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes
Night Jean Muhingabo	Yes