



MINUTES -DRAFT

Providence School Board Regular Meeting

Pursuant to Executive Order 20-25 issued by the Governor of Rhode Island, the Providence School Board held this meeting remotely. A recording is available on the Providence School Board YouTube channel at bit.ly/pvdschoolboard

December 16, 2020

CONVENE MEETING

1. Call to Order – President Hemond called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Roll Call--Board Members Present: Nicholas Hemond, Travis Escobar, Diagneris Garcia, Muyideen Ibiyemi, Elizabeth Goldberg, Mark Santow and Kinzel Thomas.

Board Member Nina Pande was not in attendance.

2. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Harrison Peters shared PPSD's definition of equity that expresses the core values of Providence Public Schools. He noted that value, equity and belonging means that we must provide resources and support that matches students' needs, and that we have a responsibility to recognize, interrupt and transform systemic educational inequities so that social and cultural factors such as race, language and ability are no longer predictors of our students' success.

Superintendent Peters referenced Dr. Barbara Mullen's work and recommendations on equity and encouraged staff to review. He also shared quotes from teachers and school leaders on equity.

APPROVE AGENDA

3. Approve Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda

MSV – Thomas, Goldberg (7-0) MOTION APPROVED

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. Public Comment-Right to Be Heard

Cynthia Jones spoke on a personnel matter.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

5. School Board Comments

Board Member Escobar requested an update or guidelines on virtual learning, specifically on the temporary distance learning for the last weeks of December and first week of January.

Board Member Santow inquired on Covid-19 testing roll out and requirements for students. He also inquired on the impacts of charter school enrollment.

Board Member Goldberg asked if there are any plans for K students, of which approximately 18 to 19 percent did not register for school and may not place in first grade.

Board Member Garcia requested information relating to the process for home school candidates, results from home schooling and support system and resources for parents. She noted that compared to other districts, we need additional transparency in this area.

Superintendent Peters will provide information to the Board relative to homeschooling and other matters.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Home School Candidates

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda

MSV – Escobar, Thomas (7-0) MOTION APPROVED

REPORT ON CONTRACTS

7. ARC
8. Audio Enhancement – Amendment
9. Allovue - Education Finance and Budget
10. Ernst and Young
11. BSN Sports

A motion was made to approve items eight to 7 to 11 as one vote.

MSV – Ibiyemi, Escobar (7-0) MOTION APPROVED

ADJOURN

12. Adjourn Meeting

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

MSV- Escobar, Goldberg (7-0) MOTION APPROVED