



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

January 20, 2021

CONVENE MEETING

1. Call to Order – President Hemond called the meeting to order at 6:35 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 reflected on the new year, and the inauguration of the U.S. President.

He expressed his appreciation to his team who put together a timely response to support teachers and students on how to deal with the aftermath of Capitol Riot that occurred on January 6th, and gave a special thank you to Dr. Barbara Mullen who handled this matter swiftly.

Superintendent Peters also noted that the SMART Health Clinic is now opened at Mt. Pleasant High School to offer health and wellness services to staff, student and families.

Finally, he explained that as part of the Turnaround Action Plan, there are changes related to career and technical education (CTE) programs a new direction for the 2021-22 school year.

APPROVE AGENDA

3. Approve Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. Public Comment-Right to Be Heard

Cynthia Jones addressed the Board on a personnel matter

Sarah Morenon submitted comment that was read into the record on school libraries

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

5. School Board Comments

Board Member Goldberg noted that it had been exactly one year since the outbreak, and she recognized the challenges that school communities faced and endured. She also said she met with a school librarian last month, and she's hoping that there is additional support for librarians in the next budget.

Board President Hemond expressed his condolences to the family of Charlotte Tavares, who passed away recently.

President Hemond also stated that it will be his last year serving on the School Board. He will not be seeking reappointment at the end of this year. He also informed the Board that he received communication from the Mayor that three School Board colleagues have been reappointed, and another new board member will be joining.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Approval of Minutes - 10/21/2020

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda

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

REPORT ON CONTRACTS

7. College Crusade of RI

8. Cadence Learning

A motion was made to approve items 7 to 8 as one vote.

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

PRESENTATIONS

9. Status of School Re-Opening

Presented by Superintendent Harrison Peters, Dr. Barbara Mullen, Sue Chin, Olayinka Alege, Zack Scott and Laura Hart

10. Deputy Superintendent of Learning Entry Plan

Presented by Dr. Khechara Bradford, Deputy Superintendent of Learning

EXECUTIVE SESSION

11. Executive Session Pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §§ 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(a)(1)

Personnel - Non-Renewals; and: 42-46-5 (a)(9) Level B Grievances

A motion was made to enter into Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(a)(1)

Personnel - Non-Renewals; and: 42-46-5 (a)(9) Level B Grievances

MSV – Escobar, Thomas - MOTION APPROVED (7-0) on a roll call vote: Hemond, Escobar, Garcia, Goldberg, Ibiyemi, Santow, and Thomas

Board Member Liz Goldberg subsequently left the meeting

REPORT EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTE

12. Report on Executive Session Votes - There were five (7) votes taken

- 1) **A motion was made to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation to deny the grievance
MSV – Santow, Thomas - MOTION NOT SUSTAINED (3-3)**
- 2) **A motion was made to sustain the grievance
MSV – Santow, Thomas - MOTION APPROVED (5-1)**
- 3) **A motion was made to sustain the grievance
MSV –Santow, Thomas- MOTION APPROVED (6-0)**
- 4) **A motion was made to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation to deny the grievance
MSV – Santow, Thomas - MOTION APPROVED (6-0)**
- 5) **A motion was made to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation to deny the grievance
MSV – Santow, Thomas - MOTION APPROVED (6-0)**
- 6) **A motion was made to seal the minutes
MSV – Santow, Thomas - MOTION APPROVED (6-0)**
- 7) **A motion was made to come out of Executive Session
MSV- Santow, Thomas - MOTION APPROVED (6-0)**

**A motion was made to seal the minutes in public session
MSV – Escobar, Santow - MOTION APPROVED (6-0)**

ADJOURN

13. Adjourn Meeting

**A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:31 p.m.
MSV- Santow, Ibiyemi (6-0) MOTION APPROVED**