

# Providence Schools

Regular School Board Minutes  
February 16, 2022

## SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT  
797 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, RI 02903  
Wednesday, February 16, 2022 (6:30 PM)

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### ROLL CALL

VP Garcia

Kinzel Thomas  
Diagneris Garcia  
Elizabeth Goldberg  
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi  
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 6:35 with a quorum present.

#### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

#### 3. Roll Call

Roll Call

**Recommendation:** Roll Call

Also in attendance was Superintendent Montanez, Evonne Alvarez, Jennifer Carney, Nick Figueroa, Joan Jackson, Alan Kushner, Rachel Palumbo, Salvador Pellerano, Charles Ruggierio, Zack Scott.

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### 4. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent's Comments

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required.

Superintendent spoke about the upcoming vacation and testing and vaccine clinics. There will be staggered return from winter break to minimize exposures. Town Halls will be held to spread the word about achievement.

### Approve Agenda

### 5. Approval of the Agenda

Approve agenda as presented

**Recommendation:** Approve agenda as presented.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Diagneris Garcia**) Moved, Member (**Jesus Nunez**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Approve agenda as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Diagneris Garcia	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 speak 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.

Mellissa Hughes spoke to how parents are engaging with their students and their schools.

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### School Board Member Comments

#### 7. School Board Comments

School Board Comments

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required

President Thomas welcomed our new members and remembered Ms. Gloria Patterson who passed away recently after teaching at Hope High for over 50 years and inspired hundreds of students.

### School Board Committee Updates

#### 8. Finance Committee

We'll hear an update from the Finance Committee on their latest meeting and work.

**Recommendation:** N/A

Dr. Goldberg spoke on the contracts coming up for a vote as needed as she is excited to have them voted on favorably and answered questions from the Board Members.

### Consent Agenda

#### 9. 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: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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

#### 10. Approval of Regular School Board Minutes - January 19, 2022

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Approval of Regular School Board Minutes - January 19, 2022

**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: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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

### **11. Approval of Policy Committee Meeting Minutes - December 1, 2021**

Approval of Policy Committee Meeting Minutes - December 1, 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: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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

### **12. CCS, Inc. - Basic Maintenance 2022-2023**

PPSD-CCS, Inc. E-Rate 2022-2023 Basic Maintenance. E-Rate Products and Services Program Year25 (7/1/22-6/30/23)/Providence School Department/Technology (Basic Maintenance)

Basic Maintenance Services

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends School Board approval

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends School Board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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

### **13. CCS, Inc. - Internal Connections 2022-2023**

PPSD-CCS, Inc. E-Rate 2022-2023 Internal Connections. E-Rate Products and Services Program Year25 (7/1/22-6/30/23)/Providence School Department/Technology (Internal Connections)

Internal Connections Services

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends School Board approval

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends School Board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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

### **14. Acevedo Contract**

A group of librarians across five PPSD high schools received an initial Classroom Boost grant to create a PPSD Reads program where PPSD purchased copies of English and Spanish texts for the PPSD Reads student group to use as part of a multi-school discussion group. The grant also includes workshops by the RI Poet Laureate. These activities have been ongoing since the fall. The group applied for the remainder of the available Boost Funds to fund a visit from Elizabeth Acevedo, an award-winning Dominican-American poet and author of young adult novels. Ms. Acevedo will offer a workshop and book signing.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends approval.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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

### **15. Rhode Island Black Storytellers Contract**

To quote the Boost application, "Bringing education beyond the walls of the classroom is essential for social-emotional growth. All culminating activities will be done in collaboration to develop a culture of empathy, self-managing and team-building." RI Black Storytellers present a variety of highly skilled, diverse, Black cultural artists whose performances will connect with all grade levels and curriculum tie-ins.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends approval.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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

### **16. Catapult - Contract Amendment**

Request to amend existing contract with Catapult Learning

**Recommendation:** Recommended for approval

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Recommended for approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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

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### **17. Medify Air Filter FY22 Purchases Contract Amendment**

Request to purchase additional Medify MA-112 replacement filters for use throughout the district

**Recommendation:** Recommended for approval

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Recommended for approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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

### **18. Energy Efficient Investments Inc (ENE Systems) for Purchase and Install of Water Filling Stations Contract**

Approval of Contract with Energy Efficient Systems Inc for Purchase and Install of Water Filling Stations at Various Schools throughout the district

**Recommendation:** Recommended for approval

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Recommended for approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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

### **19. District Management Group Contract**

Contract with DMGroup Student-Based Budgeting

**Recommendation:** Recommended for approval

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Elizabeth Goldberg)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Recommended for approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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

### Action Items

#### 20. 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.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends approval.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Elizabeth Goldberg**) Moved, Member (**TyRelle Stephens**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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

### Presentations

#### 21. Stage II Submission Presentation

Stage II Submission Presentation

**Recommendation:** N/A

Mr. Scott spoke about the Stage II presentation and recommended passage. Julia McFadden and Philip Conte also gave presentations concerning Spaziano and Veazie street schools and answered questions from Board Members from DR. Goldberg and Vice President Garcia.

#### 22. ALICE Training Update

ALICE Training Update



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Mr. Salvador Pellerano gave the presentation about the ALICE program and training. VP Garcia, Dr. Goldberg and Mr. Stephens had comments.

### **23. ESSER III Presentation**

ESSER III Presentation

**Recommendation:** N/A

President Thomas had comments on attendance and closing the achievement gap. VP Garcia had questions concerning the presentation. Dr. Goldberg mentioned that she attended one session and was quite impressed. Mr.. Muhingabo had a question about translation services for parents. Mr. Stephens also commented as did Mr. Nunez.

## **Executive Session**

### **24. Executive Session Pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §§42-46-4 and 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel - Non-Renewal**

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

**Recommendation:** Seek to convene in Executive Session Pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §§42-46-4 and 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel Action

The items for executive session have been resolved so ES is not needed at this time. No vote was taken.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (~~xxxxx~~) Moved, Member (~~xxxxx~~) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Seek to convene in Executive Session Pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §§42-46-4 and 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel Action'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: (~~xx~~) Nay: (~~xx~~). The motion ( ). (~~xx~~) - (~~xx~~)

## **Report on Executive Session Votes**

### **25. Report on Executive Session Votes**

Report on Executive Session Votes

**Recommendation:** N/A

There is no report on Executive Session because the matter(s) were resolved and the session was not needed.



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**Adjourn**

**26. Adjourn Meeting**

Adjourn Meeting

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required

President Thomas adjourned the meeting at 8:05.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(TyRelle Stephens)** Moved, Member **(Jesus Nunez)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'No recommendation required'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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