



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

November 18, 2020

CONVENE MEETING

1. Call to Order – President Hemond called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

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

2. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Harrison Peters welcoming Yvonne Graf back, and acknowledged her contributions to the team.

One week away from Thanksgiving, Superintendent Peters expressed his gratitude to his new community for the warm welcome to him and his family, especially the families of Providence. He gave a special thanks to Governor Gina M. Raimondo, Commissioner Angélica Infante-Green, members of the Providence School Board, administrators, teachers and especially students for giving him an opportunity to serve for the past year.

This month also marks one-year of the state intervention in Providence schools, and later there will be a presentation on turnaround achievements and status.

APPROVE AGENDA

3. Approve Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda

MSV –Thomas, Santow (8-0) MOTION APPROVED

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. Public Comment-Right to Be Heard

Cynthia Jones – addressed the Board on a personnel matter.

Cynthia Battle – submitted comment that was read into the record on 3 issues: positive COVID cases in the schools, how absences are handled in schools, and a request for remote schooling, especially during the coming holiday period.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

5. School Board Comments

President Hemond echoed the superintendent's comments about Ms. Graf and her contribution to the district. He also gave an update on the Board appointment status, and noted that he is working on planning a School Board retreat, which will most likely be held virtually.

Board Member Santow made comments relative to the items referenced in Ms. Battle's comments, and requested an update on charter school seats from the administration.

Vice President Pande expressed her condolences to the family of Jorge Cardenas, who passed away recently and recognized his contribution to the district and support for our students.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Approval of Minutes - August 18, 2020 and September 16, 2020

7. Home School Candidates

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda

MSV – Pande, Goldberg (8-0) MOTION APPROVED

REPORT ON CONTRACTS

8. Great Minds - Amendment

9. Rosetta Stone- Language Immersion (Amendment)

10. Learning A-Z Contract Amendment

11. Imagine Learning Contract Amendment

12. Ellevation Contract Amendment

13. Cengage Contract Amendment

14. Audio Enhancements - Classroom Audio Systems

15. Aramark - COVID Modification

16. Transportation Advisory Services

A motion was made to approve items 8, and 10 to 16 as one vote.

MSV – Pande, Ibiyemi (8-0) MOTION APPROVED

A motion was made to amend item 9 to include an additional 900 licenses for high school students.

MSV – Pande, Ibiyemi (8-0) MOTION APPROVED

A motion was made to approve item 9 as amended

MSV – Pande, Ibiyemi (8-0) MOTION APPROVED

PRESENTATIONS

17. School Reopening Plan – presented by Superintendent Harrison Peters, Zack Scott Chief Operating Officer
Item 17 was informational only, no votes taken.

Vice President Nina Pande subsequently left the meeting

ADJOURN

18. Adjourn Meeting

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

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