



Regular School Board Minutes

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
797 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, RI 02903
Wednesday, January 19, 2022 (6:30 PM)

ROLL CALL

Kinzel Thomas
Diagneris Garcia
Mark Santow
Travis Escobar
Elizabeth Goldberg
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi
TyRelle Stephens

Other attendees: Jennifer Efflandt, Nick Figueroa, Laura Hart, Joan Jackson, Alan Kushner (Clerk), Javier Montanez (Superintendent), Rachel Palumbo, Charles Ruggerio (Legal Counsel), Zack Scott, Sandra Stuart

Convene Meeting

1. Call to Order

Call to Order

Recommendation: Call the meeting to order

President Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:35.

2. Roll Call

Roll Call

Recommendation: Roll Call

All current members are present as are Dr. Montanez and Mr. Ruggerio.

3. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent's Comments

Recommendation: No recommendation required.



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Approve Agenda

4. Approval of the Agenda

Approve agenda as presented

Recommendation: Approve agenda as presented.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**TyRelle Stephens**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Approve 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
Travis Escobar	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

Recognitions

5. PPSD Cares Awards

The School Board will recognize January's PPSD Cares Award Recipients.

Recommendation: None required.

PPSD Cares award went to many of the District's nurses. Laura Hart read the names of many honorees.

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.

No Public comments tonight.



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School Board Member Comments

7. School Board Comments

School Board Comments

Recommendation: No recommendation required

There were no comments from the Members.

School Board Committee Updates

There were no updates from Policy nor Finance committee. VP Garcia gave updates on the Health and Wellness Committee progress. Dr. Goldberg made remarks asking for social emotional support from the families of our students.

8. Policy Committee

Policy Committee Update

Recommendation:

9. Finance Committee

Policy Committee Update

Recommendation:

10. Health & Wellness Committee

Policy Committee Update

Recommendation:

Consent Agenda

11. 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 (**Mark Santow**) 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
Travis Escobar	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes



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Muyideen A. Ibiyemi Yes

TyRelle Stephens Yes

12. Approval of Minutes - December 15, 2021

Approval of Minutes - December 15, 2021

Recommendation: Approve minutes as presented

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Mark Santow**) 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

Travis Escobar Yes

Elizabeth Goldberg Yes

Muyideen A. Ibiyemi Yes

TyRelle Stephens Yes

13. Use of Students in Media Policy (2nd read)

The Use of Students in Media policy was amended to reflect current district procedures. Supplemental forms FERPA Form C and the updated Media Waiver are attached to demonstrate this policy in practice.

Recommendation: Administration recommends approval.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Elizabeth Goldberg**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration 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

Travis Escobar Yes

Elizabeth Goldberg Yes

Muyideen A. Ibiyemi Yes

TyRelle Stephens Yes

14. CPI (Crisis Prevention Institute) Contract

School Board Contract Summary Form for CPI (Crisis Prevention Institute)

Staff Analysis: • PPSD trains ~300 people each year to promote the principles of de-escalation and conflict resolution • CPI training, hybrid model, can be completed in one school day (staff complete on-line modules prior to the in-person training) • Past trauma and restorative perspectives are included • Trainings include case studies and opportunities to apply concepts to incidents in the schools • Physical interventions have varying levels of restriction based on a model that includes likelihood and severity



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Recommendation: Administration recommends approval

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Elizabeth Goldberg**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration 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
Travis Escobar	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

15. The School Neuropsychology Institute Contract

Staff recommends approval of this contract to fund tuition for the three lead PPSD School Psychologists to attend the School Neuropsychology Institute to obtain a post-graduate certification. The post-graduate certification would be from August, 2022 through July, 2023. Having the three lead PPSD School Psychologists receive this certification would increase capacity of our district as better serve the needs of our students. This certification would:

- allow our lead School Psychologists to integrate neuropsychological principles into their professional practice;
- provide our lead School Psychologists with a blend of a knowledge base through a competency-based training in contemporary neuropsychological theory, assessment techniques and evidence based interventions;
- provide our lead School Psychologists with competency based skills in administering and interpreting common neuropsychological instruments for school aged children;
- and provide supervised practice of those new skills.

Recommendation: Administration recommends approval.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Elizabeth Goldberg**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration 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
Travis Escobar	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

16. Hire Ventures LLC dba Teacherjobfairs.org Contract

Contract Summary, Invoice

The PPSD has chosen to partner with teacherjobfairs.org due to their ability to connect schools with Teachers worldwide. The digital, face-to-face platform is easy to use and allows us to interface with candidates who



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may not have been able to attend an in-person fair and/or learn about our opportunities. In addition, it is a much safer way to connect during the ongoing global pandemic. We have also found the resume database for prospective teachers to be particularly useful. We attended two virtual teacher recruitment fairs in December for a total cost of \$1,750. These virtual fairs were well attended and we connected with roughly 70 individuals from New Jersey and Maryland that we were able to share our early contract hiring opportunities with. As such, we are here requesting funds in the amount of \$11,150 to attend ten more virtual fairs between January 13, 2022 – February 4, 2022.

Recommendation: Administration recommends approval.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Elizabeth Goldberg**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration 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
Travis Escobar	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

17. Mystery Science Contract

Approval of contract with Mystery Science in support of Classroom Boost Grant at Reservoir Elementary School

Recommendation: Recommended for approval

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Elizabeth Goldberg**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Recommended for 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
Travis Escobar	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

18. Rhode Island Convention Center - Spring 2022 Graduation Contract

Approval of contract with Rhode Island Convention Center for Graduation 2022

Recommendation: Recommended for approval

ORIGINAL - Motion



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Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Elizabeth Goldberg**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Recommended for 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
Travis Escobar	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

Action Items

19. 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 removal.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**TyRelle Stephens**) Moved, Member (**Mark Santow**) 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
Travis Escobar	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

Presentations

20. MLL Presentation

Presentation will be made available prior to the meeting.

MLL Presentation

Recommendation: No recommendation required.

Ms. Jennifer Efflandt gave presentation for Multi Language Learners and answered questions from the Board members.



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Executive Session

21. 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

Executive session was entered at 7:27.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Elizabeth Goldberg**) 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: **1** Nay: **6**. The motion **Failed**.
1- 6

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

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

Upon the matter of non-renewal the motion was to NOT uphold the Superintendent's recommendation the motion passed by 6 aye and 1 nay. Upon the matter of teacher suspension the motion was to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation and that passed by 7 aye and no dissent. Upon the motion to seal the minutes the matter was approved by a vote of 7 aye and no nay. Upon the motion to come out of Executive session that vote was unanimously approved.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Travis Escobar**) Moved, Member (**Mark Santow**) 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: (**7**) Nay: (**0**). The motion **Carried**. (**7**) - (**0**)

23. Report on Executive Session Votes

Report on Executive Session Votes

Recommendation: None required.

Executive session was ended at 10:46.

The vote to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation for the teacher non-renewal was overturned 6-1. The vote to uphold Superintendent's recommendation for teacher suspension was passed 7-0. Motion to seal the minutes was passed 7-0. Vote to come out of Executive Session was passed 7-0



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Adjourn

24. Adjourn Meeting

Adjourn Meeting

Recommendation: No recommendation required

Meeting adjourned at 10:49.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Muyideen A. Ibiyemi**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) 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
Travis Escobar	Yes
Elizabeth Goldberg	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes