

# Providence Public School Board

**RESOLUTION:**

Calling on the Rhode Island Department of Education & Providence Public School District to preserve Gilbert Stuart Middle School, renovate the building, and transform it into a dual language program.

**WHEREAS**, Gilbert Stuart Middle School has been a central educational institution in Providence, serving generations of students and fostering a sense of community among families and staff;

**WHEREAS**, there is a critical need for dual language programs in Providence, as nearly 50% of families speak a language other than English at home, yet fewer than 5% of students currently receive bilingual education;

**WHEREAS**, dual language programs improve student outcomes, enhance family engagement, promote cultural competency, and prepare students for success in a diverse and interconnected world;

**WHEREAS**, research shows that renovating existing school facilities is often more cost-effective and community-centered than demolition and replacement, allowing for continuity of education and preservation of neighborhood history;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed plans for Gilbert Stuart Middle School lack sufficient transparency and have not provided a detailed timeline or process for engaging the community in decisions about the school's future;

**Be it resolved**, that the Providence School Board strongly urges the Rhode Island Department of Education and the Providence Public School District to preserve Gilbert Stuart Middle School, commit to its renovation, and transform it into a flagship dual language school serving the needs of Providence students and families;

**Be it further resolved**, that the Providence School Board calls on RIDE and PPSD to share a clear and detailed renovation timeline with the community and ensure ongoing communication and transparency throughout the process, guaranteeing that families, students, and staff are meaningfully included in shaping the school's dual language program and future.

Providence Public School Board

Presented this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ (Month, Year)

President Erlin Rogel \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_