

Providence Public School Board

Resolution Urging RIDE to Halt the Non-Renewals of 17 Non-Tenured Educators

WHEREAS, the Providence Public School District (PPSD) is committed to fostering an inclusive, equitable, and diverse environment for all students and staff;

WHEREAS, at the February 26 School Board meeting, students, families, and educators testified to the dedication and strong performance of 17 non-tenured educators who have since received non-renewal notices;

WHEREAS, nationwide efforts to restrict Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) initiatives and LGBTQ+ rights threaten the ability of schools to provide safe and affirming environments for all students;

WHEREAS, these trends highlight the need to retain educators committed to diversity, ensuring equitable support for all students, especially those from marginalized communities;

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) oversees PPSD and must ensure all employment decisions are fair, transparent, and free from discrimination;

WHEREAS, the non-renewal of these 17 educators raises concerns about PPSD's ability to uphold its commitment to equity and inclusion;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Providence School Board:

1. Calls for a Full Review – Urges the rescission of these non-renewals for proper vetting and Board approval to ensure fair and objective evaluations.
2. Requests a Temporary Pause – Seeks a moratorium on all non-renewals until the decision-making process is thoroughly reviewed.
3. Commits to Policy Reforms – Directs the Board and district leadership to strengthen anti-discrimination policies and ensure employment decisions align with PPSD's equity commitments.
4. Demands Policy Updates – Calls for a review and revision of non-tenured educator and non-renewal policies to establish clear, fair, and consistent procedures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, upon approval, this resolution shall be formally submitted to Rhode Island Commissioner of Education Angélica Infante-Green and Superintendent Dr. Javier Montañez, urging immediate corrective action.

Introduced by Chairman: Night Jean Muhingabo