

Providence School Department
797 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903

Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 11, 2023 (5:30pm)

Minutes

1.0 Convene Meeting

1.1 Call to Order- Meeting Called to Order by Muyideen Ibiyemi 5:35pm

Board Members: Muyideen Ibiyemi, Toni Akin- Ty'Relle Stephens absent

In Attendance: Jennifer Vorro; Oscar Paz; Wobberson Torchon; Robbert Demuccio; Sadeq Sohrabie; Marcela Astrudillo; Rebecca Klassin; Rebecca Salzman-Fiske; Emily Lysagh; Gina Silvia; Alyssa Jacobson; Colene VanBrunt; James Scott; Jennifer Efflandt; Zachary Scott, Brian Lemay; Salvador Pellerano

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0)

2.0 Approve Agenda

2.1 Approval of the Agenda

Recommendation to approve agenda as presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

3.0 Consent Agenda

3.1 Approval of the Consent Agenda

3.2 Approval of Minutes-April 6, 2023

Recommendation to approve consent agenda as presented

Recommendation to approve minutes as presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

4.0 Items pulled from the Consent Agenda- No Items pulled from the Consent Agenda

5.0 Report on Contracts (list contracts/ Explanation of contracts)

5.1 TNTP

Jennifer Vorro presented for the extension of this contract that is with TNTP, which focuses on New Teacher induction. This program targets supports of professional learning for new to the district teachers. This program started 1 year ago and this year another layer of support been added that includes new teacher summer incentives, capacity building and professional development for new teachers ambassadors and new teacher induction facilitators. This is an effort to

support and retain teachers in nation-wide teacher shortage. Questions asked from the committee members.

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.2 District Management Group (DMG)

Oscar Paz, Deputy Chief of Staff, Wobberson Torchon, Principal of Mt. Pleasant High School and James Scott, Intergovernmental Affairs & Special Projects, provided information regarding this contract. Oscar Paz requested for the amendment of the contract to provide Mt. Pleasant and Central High Schools services. He spoke of the achieved successes. Mr. Torchon provided additional information in regards to the contract on how this would benefit his school (MPHS) Questions asked from committee members. Members asked for additional information.

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.3 Harvard Graduate School of Education

Sadeq Sohrabie presented for the contract for the hiring of two Strategic Data projects fellows and nominating two current PPSD employees to be placed at the fellowship to support the data analysis task across the district. Data fellows would provide much needed data support and analysis to drive decision making at the central office level for school resources and school level to help drive school improvement plans that lead to meeting TAP goals. Zachary Scott and Jennifer Efflandt provided additional information. Questions asked from committee members. Chairman Ibiyemi request the contract be revised and resent with the necessary changes noted.

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.4 McGraw Hill

Marcela Astrullo, K-12 Supervisor of Social Studies and Civic Education, presented on the McGraw Hill Social Studies Curriculum. Questions asked from committee members, upon completion of this contract it was requested that the revision of the contract for which subject to correction of figures be made prior to the next meeting. (Revision was completed)

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.5 Vista Higher Learning

Rebecca Klassin, Coordinator of World Language and Biliteracy presented this contract for renewal of the curriculum. Questions asked from the committee

members. Committee member would recommend developing another system to have for other languages. Committee would like to speak with Ms. Klassin regarding other languages and developing an African Language Curriculum.

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.6 Power School/ Naviance

Gina Silvia, Director of Counseling Alyssa Jacobson presented and provided information for the renewal of this contract since 2020. The service(s) provided from this contract is a platform that provides students in grades 6-12 that have an (ILP) individualized Learning Plan. Naviance is the system in which students develop and document the ILP. Naviance has been used since 2020 and is able to store student data that would better serve the school community with academic, college, career and social emotional development, being able to continue with the same platform will allow student access to data from previous years and continue to build on their ILP. Past school years have met the TAP metrics. Questions asked from committee members.

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.7 American Reading Company

Rebecca Salzman-Fiske, ELA Supervisor presented and provided information to renew the contract with American Reading Company. This is year four of the district implementing (ARC) literacy curriculum for elementary and middle schools. The work focused on growing teachers' instructional planning capabilities. Data provides overall average growth of student independent reading levels through the three years of implementation. Questions asked from committee members.

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.8 McGraw Hill (Study Sync)

Rebecca Salzman-Fiske, ELA Supervisor presented and provided information to renew the contract with Study Sync. The vendor has held professional developments for teachers, coaches and district admin. Assessments have shown growth of student reading comprehension over the past two years. Questions asked from committee members.

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.9 AP Summer Institute Bridgewater

Colene VanBrunt, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning presented and provided information on the start of a new contract. This contract is to support professional development for AP teachers that are required to take College Board training every five years. This contract is to provide in person professional development. Questions asked from committee members.

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.10 AP Summer Institute Georgia Walton

Colene VanBrunt, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning presented and provided information on the start of a new contract. This contract is to support professional development for AP teachers that are required to take College Board training every five years. This contract is to provide virtual professional development to teachers enrolled in this course. Questions asked from committee members

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.11 Newela

Colene VanBrunt, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning presented and provided information on the renewal of this contract. This contract will support the literacy instruction of grades K-12 Social Studies, reading and science. Questions asked from committee members.

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.12 Amplify Science

Emily Lysaght, Science Supervisor presented and provided information on the renewal of this contract. This contract will ensure that schools receive the necessary digital and physical materials that students (K-8 materials) and teachers need to implement the program with fidelity, professional development will be for teacher leaders. Questions asked from committee members

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.13 Savvas Learning Company

Colene VanBrunt, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning presented and provided information on the renewal of this contract. This contract will ensure the purchase of the newest edition textbooks, site licenses, and PD for all nine high schools. The district needs to purchase books in AP Precalculus, Statistics, and AP Statistics courses. Questions asked from committee members

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.14 Kendall Hunt

Colene VanBrunt, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning presented and provided information on the start of a new contract Illustrative Math print materials, site licenses, manipulative kits and professional development. Questions asked from committee members

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.15 Great Minds

Colene VanBrunt, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning presented and provided information on the renewal of this contract. PPSD collaborated with great minds since 2020. This contract would help to purchase an upgrade to a high quality math curriculum and materials for all elementary classrooms and provide professional development. Questions asked from committee members

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.16 East Bay Collaborative

James Scott, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs & Special projects presented and provided information on the start of new contract with East Bay Collaborative for a registered behavior technician training for training of all behavioral interventionists who will be assigned to each elementary, middle and high school in the district.

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

5.17 Effectiff, LLC

Jennifer Efflandt, Director of Multilingual Learners presented and provided information on an amendment of this contract. Effectiff is an interpretation and translation service that the district uses to provide document translations for all district major languages. This service supports the TAP goals related to Family and Community Engagement and MLL services and service in compliance with an agreement with DOJ

Recommendation: Approval of Contract presented

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

6.0 Presentations- Budget Presentation Zachary Scott Integrated Facilities Management Presentation Salvador Pellerano, Brian Lemay

6.1 Budget Presentation Zachary Scott presented budget presentation slide deck shown and discussed with the committee members. Budget for the upcoming year and explanation of how the budget uses expenses.

6.2 Integrated Facilities Management Presentation Salvador Pellerano, Brian Lemay presentation slide deck shown and discussed with committee members. Facilities

Management went over the upkeep of the school buildings and processes of RFP contracts.

Moved Toni Akin, Seconded Muyideen Ibiyemi by (2-0) Motion Approved

7.0 Adjourn

Adjourn Meeting- Adjourned by Muyideen Ibiyemi 7:33p.m.

Next School Board Meeting May 17, 2023