

Providence School Department
797 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903

Regular School Board Meeting

Wednesday August 2, 2023 (6:00PM)

1.0 Convene Meeting

1.1 Call to Order- Meeting Called to Order by President Erlin Rogel called the meeting to order at **6:02 p.m.**

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance: Recited

1.3 Roll Call: Carolina Roberts-Santana; Ty'Relle Stephens; Mark Santow; Muyideen Ibiyemi were absent. There was a quorum

1.4 Superintendent's Comments:

Superintendent spoke regarding the upcoming DMG contract. He referenced the misinformation shared in regards to why the district chose this particular vendor.

2.0 Approve Agenda

2.1 Approval of the Agenda

Recommendation to approve agenda as presented

Moved, Travis Escobar Seconded by Toni Akin (5-0) Motion Approved

3.0 Consent Agenda

3.1 Approval of Minutes –June 21, 2023

3.2 Recommendation to approve minutes as presented

Moved, Travis Escobar Seconded by Night Jean Muhingabo (5-0) Motion Approved

4.0 Public Comment

4.1 Public Comment- Right to be heard

Jeremy Sencer; Cynthia Jones; Dr. Jackson Reilly; Jaime David; Dr. Stephen Peters; Dr. Melissa Watson

Jeremy Sencer (PTU) He spoke in regards to the current DMG contract. He referenced the presentation was weak and lazy; students should have submitted work. He feels that the work of DMG should be done in-house (within the district) not from an outside vendor. He had questions that he directed towards the board that should've been answered prior to this meeting.

Cynthia Jones (PPSD) she spoke in regards to Susan Chin and Dorothy Smith running all the elementary schools. She referenced that at the time Susan Chin would have been managing the DMG contract.

Dr. Jackson Reilly (N. Greene Middle School Principal) He spoke in regards to the work that DMG has done at his school.

Dr. Stephen Peters (DMG) Performance Coach that worked with E-Cubed, he spoke on the work that he was able to do with working with the school.

Dr. Melissa Watson (DMG) School Leader who worked with maintaining the support needed for on time support.

5.0 School Board Member Comments- Open floor for all board members

5.1 School Board Comments

Night Jean Muhingabo spoke regarding the DMG contract; he wanted to know more details as to why the district need to spend 6.8 million on a contract?

Toni Akin spoke that she was pleased that N. Greene School has a drop in the use of cell phones while in the classroom with hoped that the district will adopt this policy district-wide and statewide to allow students a more focused learning environment.

Erlin Rogel welcomed the new Policy Advisor, Andrea Gustafson to her first school board meeting; she will be helping to develop work policies and conjunction with the school board and collaboration with central staff. Congratulated board member Carolina Roberts-Santana on her achievement. Mirrored Jeremy Sencer's comments on "It's not about anyone individual, it's more about the information and process."

6.0 School Board Committee Updates-Updates from all board members

6.1 Policy Committee- No meeting scheduled for the month of July; Carolina Roberts-Santana was not present to give an update on the revised attendance policy that is on the agenda for a first read on the agenda. Sandra Stuart and Marc Catone had an update given to the board on her behalf.

6.2 Finance Committee- Toni Akin spoke regarding the last Finance meeting; approving fifteen contracts including the DMG contract.

6.3 Health & Wellness Committee- Night Jean Muhingabo spoke regarding the planning of future meetings for the upcoming year; noted that several teachers from Central High School were interested in joining the sub-committees and encouraged all to join.

6.4 CTE Committee- No meetings were held or scheduled for the month

7.0 Policy and Planning

7.1 Attendance Policy (First Read)

Attendance policy voted for the first read and will be on the next school board agenda for the second read with the possibility of adoption.

8.0 Items Pulled from Consent Agenda

9.4 DMG Contract- Motion to remove and vote as a standalone item.

Night Jean Muhingabo asked questions in regards to the contracts. Answers were provided by Joan Jackson and Scott Sutherland

Motion to stand alone Travis Escobar, seconded by Night Jean Muhingabo.

Motion moved Toni Akin, seconded George Matouk (4-1)

9.0 Report on contracts

9.1 Savvas Learning Company **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (5-0)**

9.2 Cengage Learning **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (5-0)**

9.3 TNTP **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (5-0)**

9.4 District Management Group (DMG) **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (4-1)**

9.5 Edmark Reading Program **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (5-0)**

9.6 Educated Edge Coaching **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (5-0)**

9.7 Educated Edge Training **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (5-0)**

9.8 IIRP- Institutional Institute RP **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (5-0)**

9.9 Autisim Support **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (5-0)**

9.10 GoREACT **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (5-0)**

9.11 Bridges of Academic Success **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (5-0)**

9.12 Effectiff, LLC **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (5-0)**

9.13 Nonviolent Schools of RI **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (5-0)**

9.14 Valeo **Moved by Travis Escobar, seconded Toni Akin (5-0)**

10.0 Executive Session

10.1 Votes taken to go into Executive Session
Moved by Night Jean Muhingabo, seconded by George Matouk (5-0) Motion approved

11.0 Adjourn

11.1 Adjourn Meeting- Meeting

Next Policy Committee Meeting September 6, 2023