



## MINUTES

**Providence School Board Business Meeting  
797 Westminster Street  
Providence, RI 02903**

May 22, 2019

### CONVENE MEETING

1. Call to Order – Acting Chair - Vice President Pande called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m.

Board Members Present: Nina Pande, Travis Escobar, Diagneris Garcia, Robert Gondola, Lorraine Lalli, and Mark Santow.

Board Members Nicholas Hemond, Muyideen Ibiyemi and Kinzel Thomas were not present.

2. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Maher thanked the Rhode Island Urban Debate League, and Generation Citizen for playing a critical role in amplifying the students' voices, and bring out their brilliance. He said they are exceptional examples of community partnership.

### APPROVE AGENDA

3. Approve Agenda

**A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented.**

**MSV – Escobar, Lalli (6-0) Motion Approved**

### RECOGNITIONS

4. Rhode Island Urban Debate League
5. Generation Citizen-- Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 Awards

### PUBLIC COMMENT

6. Public Comment

Alondra, Abril and Hawa – students at JSEC shared their findings on student attendance.

Natague and Ayryn – students' voices and schools culture climate.

Pande- encouraged the students to keep returning to share their voices, and share their schools' culture and climate. Also encouraged them to include the Board in their events, so that the Board can be exposed to their works, activities, and to experience their actions, and especially to hear their conversations which helps them made decisions and think differently.

Superintendent Maher- encouraged students to share their voices, advocate for their schools, and to reach out to the Board and invite them to their events.

Lalli- thanked the two groups of students for sharing their findings on students' attendance, and school culture climate. She noted that these are key issues the Board is addressing.

## **SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS**

### 7. School Board Comments

Gondola- extended his thanks to Gail Mastropietro, who is instrumental in advancing the SEL program. She has built a template and is leaving a legacy for the district. He wished her well on her next adventure.

Pande – agreed with Gondola and acknowledged Mastropietro's caring and compassionate work.

Lalli- informed the Board that next week there will be a Policy Committee meeting focusing on Transgender policy implementation which passed three years ago. She emphasized the committee's ongoing role to not only adopt policy but also to monitor policy progress.

Pande- expressed her appreciation to those who adjusted their schedules to accommodate the City and State with the district review process. She's looking forward to guidance documents, and the next steps for Providence. The Board is committed to transparency, and will share the findings. She noted that more voices are needed in the process, and announced the community forums that were being held to gather input.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

8. Personnel Actions
9. Retirements and Resignations
10. Home School Candidates

**A motion was made to approve the consent agenda**

**MSV – Santow, Escobar (6-0) Motion Approved**

## **REPORT ON CONTRACTS**

11. Power School LLC
12. Teaching Strategies GOLD Contract
13. Ideas Consulting Contract
14. Tableau Software, Inc. Contract
15. College Board's College Readiness and Success Contract
16. Dreambox Learning
17. IXL Learning Company
18. MIND Research Institute
19. Zearn Math
20. College Board - Springboard
21. Curriculum Associates, LLC
22. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company
23. Pearson
24. McGraw Hill Education
25. American Reading Company (ARC)

26. Center for Collaborative Classroom (CCC)
27. Great Minds, LLC
28. Learning A-Z
29. Lexia
30. Lightsail, Inc
31. Renaissance Learning (formerly MyON, LLC)
32. Reading Plus
33. Scholastic, Inc.
34. Sylvan Paper (formerly Citelighter)
35. ThinkCERCA
36. ExploreLearning, LLC
37. Newsela
38. NWEA
39. Rosetta Stone (Language Immersion)
40. Blick Arts Materials
41. Chuck Levin’s Washington Music Center
42. The Kennedy Center/Turnaround Arts Summer Retreat 2019
43. Four Point Education Partners
44. Mesa Supplies, Inc.
45. SkillsUSA Rhode Island

**A motion was made to approve items 11 to 45 as one vote  
MSV – Gondola, Santow (6-0) Motion Approved**

46. 2019-2020 Materials Service Contracts  
**A motion was made to approve item 46  
MSV – Gondola, Escobar (6-0) Motion Approved**

**POLICY & PLANNING**

47. Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Policy-First Read  
**Discussion only, there was no action taken.**

**BUDGET REVIEW**

48. Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Proposed School Budget Ordinances  
**After discussion, a motion was made to approve the budget ordinances as presented  
MSV – Lalli, Thomas (6-0) Motion Approved**
49. 2018-2019 February Projection  
**Informational only**

Board Member Robert Gondola exited the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

50. Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §42-46-5(a)(1)--Superintendent Search, and §42-46-5 (a)(2)—Litigation  
**A motion was made to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §42-46-5(a)(1)--Superintendent Search, and §42-46-5 (a)(2)—Litigation  
MSV – Lalli, Thomas – Motion Approved (5-0) on a roll call vote: Escobar, Garcia, Lalli, Pande, and Santow.**

**REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTES**

51. Report on Executive Session Votes- There were two votes taken

**A motion was made to seal the minutes in executive session  
MSV – Lalli, Santow (5-0) Motion Approved**

**A motion was made to come out of executive session  
MSV- Lalli, Santow (5-0) Motion Approved**

**A motion was made to seal the minutes in public session  
MSV – Santow, Lalli (5-0) Motion Approved**

**ADJOURN**

52. Adjourn Meeting

**A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m.  
MSV- Santow, Lalli (5-0) Motion Approved**