



MINUTES

Providence School Board Business Meeting

797 Westminster Street

Providence, RI 02903

March 11, 2020

CONVENE MEETING

1. Call to Order –Acting Chair, Vice President Pande called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call--Board Members Present: Nina Pande, Muyideen Ibiyemi, Travis Escobar, Diagneris Garcia, and Mark Santow.

Board Members Nicholas Hemond and Kinzel Thomas were not in attendance.

2. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Peters shared his three weeks' progress on the job, which included a visit to the schools, and staff engagement, and he also highlighted his cabinet at the central office. With the national pandemic outbreak, Superintendent Peters stressed essential steps and strategies to tackle at schools, and methods of communication with parents. As the Turnaround Superintendent, he spoke briefly on the three focus areas on which he worked closely with Commissioner Angélica Infante-Green, and will be presenting an entry plan later on the agenda.

APPROVE AGENDA

3. Approve Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented.

MSV – Escobar, Santow (5-0) MOTION APPROVED

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. Public Comment

Sarah Gleason- community member and tutor at Hope High School, commented on COVID-19 and concerned that ELL learners are not being reached out to inform the seriousness of the virus.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

5. School Board Comments

Pande- in regard to the pandemic preparation, Pande responded that school safety is the district's number one goal. She emphasized that the Superintendent and his team are working days and nights, behind the scenes, working through logistics, and providing access to resources for students and parents.

Superintendent Peters- echoed Pande and requested that his team members Laura Hartt and Joe DiPina provide more details on the pandemic preparedness.

Laura Hart- before the first case was confirmed in Rhode Island, the team and school leaders have come together to prepare and communicate with parents.

DiPina- have been communicating with PPSD's partners-- Sodexo, Aramark, and First Student on pandemic preparation, from schools and buses being cleaned, to addressing food safety for students.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Home School Candidates

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda

MSV –Escobar, Santow (5-0) MOTION APPROVED

PRESENTATIONS

7. Quarterly Turnaround Update by Rhode Island Department of Education – Presented by Victor Capellan, Senior Advisor to the Commissioner at Rhode Island Department of Education
8. Presentation of Superintendent's Entry Plan- Presented by Superintendent Harrison Peters

ADJOURN

9. Adjourn Meeting

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

MSV – Escobar, Santow (5-0) MOTION APPROVED