



## SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT  
797 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, RI 02903  
Wednesday, October 20, 2021 (6:30 PM)

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### ROLL CALL

Diagneris Garcia  
Kinzel Thomas  
Travis Escobar  
Mark Santow  
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi  
TyRelle Stephens

Nick Hemond was not present at the meeting.

**Additional People in Attendance:** Clerk to the Board: Alan Kushner; Staff Members: Reza Clifton, Laura Hart, Molly Hannon, Joan Jackson, Audrey Lucas, Rachel Palumbo, Charles Ruggerio

### Convene Meeting

#### 1. Call to Order

Call to Order

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required

#### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

#### 3. Roll Call

Roll Call

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required

#### 4. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent's Comments

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required.

### Approve Agenda

#### 5. Approval of the Agenda

Approve agenda as presented

# Providence Schools

**Recommendation:** Approve agenda as presented.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Approve agenda as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Travis Escobar	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

## Recognitions

### 6. Presentation of PPSD Cares Awards

Presentation of PPSD Cares Awards

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required.

Superintendent Montanez gave special thanks to Leviton Dual Language School for their continued good work. He presented CARES Awards to four members of Central High School for exceptional work for their Latinx Heritage Month with special appreciation to Principal Scott Sutherland.

## Public Comments

### 7. Public Comment - Right to Be Heard

Public Comment: Members of the community who wish to address the School Board must sign-up by 4 p.m. the day of the School Board meeting. Instructions to sign-up for public comment during virtual meetings are available on the Providence School Board website:

<https://www.providenceschools.org/domain/118>. An individual may speak for up to three minutes. Comments may also be submitted in writing. Groups or organizations are encouraged to appoint a spokesperson. PLEASE NOTE: The School Board welcomes comments from the public but does not engage in dialogue with the public during school board meetings.

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required.

There was a written public comment from Ms. Cynthia Jones. Dr. Carlson was not present to give her comments.

## School Board Member Comments

### 8. School Board Comments

School Board Comments

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required

President Thomas commented on the exceptionally warm environment he found during his visit to Webster Avenue Elementary School. Dr. Santow commented on the large agenda from the Policy Committee and suggested to update policy on laws and compliance. He also commented on that perhaps the finance



funding formula should be revised. Mr. Escobar remarked that the School Board does mirror the diversity of the city and urged the Board to be advocates of local control.

## Consent Agenda

### 9. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Items listed under Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be approved by a single motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items; however, any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda upon the request of any member of the Board and action upon separately.

**Recommendation:** Approve consent agenda as presented.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Approve consent agenda as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Travis Escobar	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

### 10. Approval of Regular School Board Meeting Minutes - September 22, 2021

Approval of Minutes - September 22, 2021

**Recommendation:** Approve minutes as presented.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Approve minutes as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Travis Escobar	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

### 11. Approval of Finance Committee Meeting Minutes - September 22, 2021

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes - September 22, 2021

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends approval.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Travis Escobar	Yes



Mark Santow Yes  
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes

## 12. Approval of Homeschool Candidate(s)

Approval of Homeschool Candidate(s)

**Recommendation:** Approve candidates as presented.

### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Approve candidates as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia Yes  
Kinzel Thomas Yes  
Travis Escobar Yes  
Mark Santow Yes  
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes

## 13. Social Media Policy Amendment

Review amendment to presented policy.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia Yes  
Kinzel Thomas Yes  
Travis Escobar Yes  
Mark Santow Yes  
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes

## 14. Social Media Regulations Amendment

Review amendment to presented regulations.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia Yes  
Kinzel Thomas Yes  
Travis Escobar Yes  
Mark Santow Yes  
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes



### 15. Basic Education Policy

Review minor edits to Basic Education Policy.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**.  
The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Travis Escobar	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

### 16. Reporting Employee Arrests Regulation

Review new regulations.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**.  
The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Travis Escobar	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

### 17. Special Education Staffing Policy

Review technical edits to Policy.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**.  
The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Travis Escobar	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

### 18. Military Recruiters Policy

Review technical edits to Policy.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**



Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Travis Escobar	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

### **19. Device Take-Home Regulation**

Review amendments to regulations.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Travis Escobar	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

### **20. Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace Policy**

Review minor edits to policy.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Travis Escobar	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

### **21. Board Organization and Meetings Policy - Removal**

Policy being reviewed for redundancy and removal.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**



Diagneris Garcia Yes  
Kinzel Thomas Yes  
Travis Escobar Yes  
Mark Santow Yes  
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes

## 22. Media Relations Policy - Removal

Policy being reviewed for redundancy and removal.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

### ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**.  
The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia Yes  
Kinzel Thomas Yes  
Travis Escobar Yes  
Mark Santow Yes  
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes

## 23. Media Relations -Press Releases, Conferences, Interviews Policy - Removal

Policy being reviewed for redundancy and removal.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

### ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**.  
The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia Yes  
Kinzel Thomas Yes  
Travis Escobar Yes  
Mark Santow Yes  
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes

## 24. Constituent Services Policy - Removal

Policy being reviewed for redundancy and removal.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

### ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**.  
The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia Yes  
Kinzel Thomas Yes  
Travis Escobar Yes  
Mark Santow Yes



Muyideen A. Ibiyemi Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes

#### 25. Entrance Age Requirements Policy - Removal

Policy being reviewed for redundancy and removal.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

##### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Mark Santow**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia Yes  
Kinzel Thomas Yes  
Travis Escobar Yes  
Mark Santow Yes  
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes

### Report on Contracts

#### 26. TSL Contract

TSL Contract

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

Mr. Kevin Gallick presented for TSL. After much discussion it was agreed that certain information would be given to the Board within 24 hours.

##### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Muyideen A. Ibiyemi**) Moved, Member (**Mark Santow**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia Yes  
Kinzel Thomas Yes  
Travis Escobar Yes  
Mark Santow Yes  
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi Yes  
TyRelle Stephens Yes

#### 27. Savvas Contract Amendment

Savvas Contract Amendment

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends board approval.

Molly Hannon presented for SAVAS.

##### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Muyideen A. Ibiyemi**) Moved, Member (**Mark Santow**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Administration recommends board approval'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia Yes





Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Travis Escobar	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes

## Presentations

### 28. Facilities and Capital Update

Presentation on an update of district facilities and capital plan.

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required.

## Adjourn

### 29. Adjourn Meeting

Adjourn Meeting

**Recommendation:** No recommendation required

Adjourn at 7:48

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**TyRelle Stephens**) Moved, Member (**Travis Escobar**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'No recommendation required'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Diagneris Garcia	Yes
Kinzel Thomas	Yes
Travis Escobar	Yes
Mark Santow	Yes
Muyideen A. Ibiyemi	Yes
TyRelle Stephens	Yes