
**EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
OPEN SESSION – May 25, 2021**

I. Call to Order – Open Session

The East Providence School Committee met for a meeting on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 6:30 pm at East Providence City Hall Council Chambers. Mr. Monteiro called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Members present were Joel Monteiro, Chair, Jessica Beauchaine, Vice Chair, Max Brandle, Clerk, Jenni Azanero and Charles Tsonos.

II. Executive Session

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried unanimously to move into Executive Session for the purpose of: Hearing: Appeal regarding job elimination of Administrator and legal advice related thereto pursuant to R.I. Gen Laws §42-46-5(a)(1); and Consider & Vote on Motion to Adjourn and Convene into Public Session. Appropriate disclosure was made by the Chair concerning compliance with RIGL 42-46-(5)(a)(1) indicating that any person to be discussed had been appropriately notified in advance in writing and given the opportunity to have the hearing held in public session. The hearing was held in public session at the request of the employee.

III. Re-Convene in Open Session

The Committee reconvened in public session at 7:18 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence were observed. The Chair reported that no votes were taken in executive session, only to convene into public session. Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to seal the minutes. All School Committee members were present. Also present were Superintendent Kathryn Crowley, Attorney Benjamin Scungio and Stenographer Linda Cordeiro.

IV. Hearing: Appeal regarding Job Elimination of Administrator

Attorney Scungio conducted the hearing regarding an appeal of the recommendation of the Superintendent to non-renew the Director of Instructional Technology at the end of her contract on June 30, 2021. Attorney Scungio asked Superintendent Crowley a series of questions. Next, the Committee had no objection to having Ms. Gendron present her appeal. She presented reasons why eliminating her position would have an effect on the district and asked the Committee to reverse their decision to eliminate this position.

Attorney Scungio stated that he is not going to dispute the facts that Ms. Gendron was well liked. This proceeding was not about her or the quality of her work. The Superintendent offered her another position as a secondary math teacher. The decision to eliminate a position is about the budget and the sufficient allocation of assets and resources for the benefit of the students.

A vote to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation to non-renew the Administrator will be taken at another meeting.

V. Action Item

1. Layoff

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the teacher layoff, effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year as submitted.

VI. Announcements

Tour of the high school on Saturday, May 29th 9 am – 2:30 pm. Second floor is not handicap accessible. The 2021 Memorial Day Parade will take place from the Looft Carousel at 9 am.

VII. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Corsi
Executive Administrative Assistant



Max Brandle
School Committee Clerk