
**EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
OPEN SESSION – February 8, 2022**

I. Call to Order Open Session

The East Providence School Committee met in Open Session on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium at East Providence High School. Mr. Monteiro called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Present: Joel Monteiro, Chair, Jessica Beauchaine, Vice Chair, Max Brandle, Clerk, Jenni Azanero and Charles Tsonos, Superintendent Kathryn Crowley, Assistant Superintendents Dr. Sandra Forand and Dr. Celeste Bowler.

II. Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried unanimously to move into Executive Session in the main office conference room for the purpose of: Discussion re: Personnel Pursuant to RIGL §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 discussion held in public session. No request had been made.

III. Re-Convene in Open Session (Regular Meeting)

Mr. Monteiro called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence were observed. The Chair reported that no votes were taken in executive session, only a vote to return to public session. Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Mr. Tsonos and carried by unanimous consent to seal the minutes.

IV. Student Liaison – Grant Wosencroft gave an update on the school activities and events going on at the high school. Mr. Monteiro announced that Grant Wosencroft attended the Building Committee meeting last evening to work on his pathways.

V. Consent Agenda

Communications/Correspondence – The schools' monthly absence report for teachers was included in the packet.

Homeschool Requests – There were six requests to homeschool.

Approval of Minutes: January 11, 2022 Executive Session School Committee Meeting
January 11, 2022 Regular School Committee Meeting
February 1, 2022 Executive Session Special School Committee Meeting
February 1, 2022 Open Session Special School Committee Meeting
January 10, 2022 Building Committee Meeting

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the consent agenda as submitted.

VI. PTO/PTA/EPLAC Reports – Mary Nascimento reported that some recognitions were made at the last EPLAC meeting held on January 26th. The East Providence Local Advisory Committee will be having their 14th Annual Special Needs Recognition Program. They are seeking nominations for outstanding educators, paraprofessionals, support staff, inclusion programs, students and/or community resources that have provided outstanding services for special education students. Once all nominations have been received and the recipients have been chosen, there will be a recognition program reception in May 2022 at the East Providence High School. Nominations are due by March 30th.

VII. Public Comments I – Agenda Items – Anthony M. Pedulla asked about the maintenance plan that was discussed at the December 2020 school committee meeting. Mr. Monteiro will give an update on the maintenance plan during the building committee report.

VIII. Superintendent's Report

1. RI LEAP Support Network – Dr. Bowler reported that the District is participating in a RIDE initiative called the LEAP District Support Program which is designed to help the District build structures for improvement and sustainability and strategically invest resources to meet the needs of school communities which have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. By participating, the District will receive supports and resources which include: matching funds added to ESSERIII (up to \$3M); participation in a series of workshops; LEAP fellow to assign to assist; and ongoing work with Proving Ground from Harvard, facilitating the workshops. The District has a delivery team which will participate in nine workshops over a two-year commitment ending in 2024. The focus will be on math which aligns with Excellence in Learning, one of the five LEAP priorities.
2. 2022-2023 School Calendar – Vacation weeks are the same weeks as the State. No PD days. RIDE didn't offer those days. Primary and election day on September 13th and November 8th will be off. Tentative date for graduation is June 2nd and the last day of school is June 15th.
3. 2022-2023 Middle School Program of Studies – Mr. Messier and Mr. Perry presented the program of studies for the 2022-2023 school year. Some changes were made from last year.
4. 2022-2023 High School Program of Studies – Mr. Black, Mr. Currier and Mr. Hanlon presented the secondary programs of studies at the high school for the 2022-2023 school year. They highlighted the additions and changes that were made to the courses being offered. Once approved, the program of studies will be posted on the website. Special education programs will be presented at the next regular meeting.

5. 2022 RI Student Survey – The RI Department of Behavioral Healthcare Disabilities & Hospitals (BHDDH) is partnering with the University of Rhode Island’s Cancer Prevention Research Center to administer the RI Student Survey (RISS) to students in grades 6 – 12 between February and June 2022. The survey is done every year. There is no fee to participate.

IX. Human Resources Report – Mr. Williamson

Appointments – Marina Ramos, Paraprofessional at Oldham ELC, effective 1/14/2022; Erika Jensen, Paraprofessional at Martin Pre-K, effective 2/7/2022; and Daniel Pietrantonio, Math Teacher at East Providence High School, effective 2/2/2022.

Resignations – Michael Werth, Math Teacher at East Providence High School, effective 2/1/2022; Michelle Gallego, Paraprofessional at Martin Pre-K, effective 1/26/2022; Nicholas Shattuck, Assistant Athletic Director, effective end of the 2021-2022 school year; Katina Gustafson, Art Teacher at Riverside Middle School, effective 2/11/2022; and Stacy Bentz, Administrative Assistant in Transportation/Maintenance, effective 2/3/2022.

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Mr. Tsonos and carried by unanimous consent to approve the resignations as submitted.

Retirements – Laurie Reid, Grade 2 Teacher at Kent Heights, effective 6/30/2022.

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Mr. Tsonos and carried by unanimous consent to approve the retirement as submitted.

Leave of Absence – Teacher at Whiteknact, effective 1/25/2022.

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Tsonos and carried by unanimous consent to approve the leave of absence as submitted.

Non-Renewals – There were four non-renewals in the district.

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the non-renewals as submitted.

Recalls – None

X. Director of Finance Report

1. Monthly Financial Update – Mr. Enos presented the financial report. The District is twelve weeks into the fiscal year. A few expenses are still coming in for fiscal year 2021. Fiscal Year 2020 will be ready for approval at the March meeting.

XI. Building Committee Report – Mr. Monteiro

1. Building Project Update – Mr. Monteiro highlighted several key points on the high school building project from the February 7th OPM report. Mr. Pedulla inquired earlier about the \$9,000 for a company to develop a maintenance plan for the high school. Mr. Monteiro responded that part of the contract was met. The intention was to create a maintenance schedule for systems in the building. The company didn't end up having a plan put together so the district received a credit from them. In the meantime, looking at purchasing a service contract with available funds from the project. This will delay the district's needs to maintain the systems. If they go in that direction, money could be saved in operating costs.

Mr. Murphy, Physical Plant Manager, created work order sheets for the staff for day to day management.

Mr. Tsonos stated that he has not been made aware of any district wide maintenance issues.

Mr. Tsonos asked if there will be any tours of our schools if requested by a parent. Parents can contact the school principal to set up a tour.

2. Building Committee Membership – The new principal of the high school (Mr. Black) has been added to the building committee roster which is required by the state.

XII. Discussion Items

1. Residency of Students Policy – Ms. Beauchaine researched many other school districts. At the beginning of the school year, a residency form is sent home. The only affidavit of residency being used is for the landlord to fill out if the parent doesn't have a lease. Looking into having an as-needed truant officer to do residency checks. A new residency affidavit was reviewed which states the parent has been advised that a false affidavit submitted for attending an East Providence school will result in appropriate civil and/or criminal proceedings. Once a student starts school, they have to remain for the semester. No student comes into the district without all the necessary paperwork.

2. High School Stadium – Ms. Beauchaine suggested that the high school stadium which houses soccer, track and lacrosse should be named "Townie Stadium". She requested this item be placed on the next meeting agenda as a first passage.

XIII. Action Items

1. Bill List:

Voucher No. 1059 dated 10/29/2021 - \$317,299.20

Voucher No. 1060 dated 10/29/2021 - \$10,243.11

Voucher No. 1061 dated 10/29/2021 - \$98,299.87

Voucher No. 1010 dated 1/26/2022 - \$113,520.03

Voucher No. 1012 dated 2/3/2022 - \$1,603,709.68

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the warrants as submitted.

2. 2022 Building Committee Membership

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the updated Building Committee roster as submitted with the addition of the new high school principal.

3. 2022-2023 School Calendar

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the proposed 2022-2023 school calendar as submitted.

4. 2022-2023 Middle School Program of Studies

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Martin and Riverside Middle Schools 2022-2023 Program of Studies as submitted.

5. 2022-2023 High School Program of Studies

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the East Providence High School 2022-2023 Program of Studies as submitted.

Mr. Monteiro reported that the following invoices have been vetted and approved by the Building Committee at their last meeting.

6. Ai3 Invoices for Services

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Ai3 January 2022 Invoice for Basic Services in the amount of \$29,484.68 as submitted.

7. Peregrine Invoice for Services

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Peregrine Group LLC January 2022 Invoice for services in the amount of \$59,000.00 as submitted.

8. Gilbane Invoice for Services

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Gilbane Construction Co. January 2022 invoice for services in the amount of \$1,195,392.90 as submitted.

9. Stephen Turner, Inc. Invoice for Services

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Stephen Turner, Inc. January 2022 invoice for services in the amount of \$4,215.70 as submitted.

10. Thielsch Engineering Invoice for Services

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Thielsch Engineering January 2022 invoice for services in the amount of \$970.00 as submitted.

11. Construction Invoices for EPHS

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the EPHS construction invoices for January 2022 in the amount of \$1,289,063.28 as submitted.

12. Invoices for Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the FF&E January 2022 invoices in the amount of \$77,222.07 as submitted.

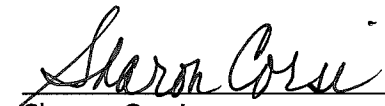
XIV. Public Comments II – Non-Agenda Items – No public comments.

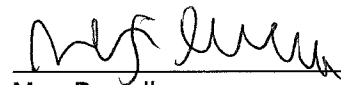
XV. Announcements – The high school boys basketball team will be playing LaSalle tomorrow evening.

XVI. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Sharon Corsi
Administrative Assistant


Max Brandle
School Committee Clerk