
EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING OPEN SESSION – July 24, 2025

I. Call to Order - Open Session

The East Providence School Committee met in open session on Thursday, July 24, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the auditorium at East Providence High School. Members Present: David Luiz, Chair, Antonio deSimas, Vice Chair, Anthony Ferreira, Clerk and Jessica Beauchaine. Ryan Queenan was absent. Assistant Superintendent Lisa Benedetti-Ramzi was also present.

Mr. Luiz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence were observed.

II. Public Comments

1. Chrissy Rossi asked for clarity in understanding the RFQ for stop arm cameras. Stop arm cameras are already incorporated for the inside of the large buses and short buses but she is concerned about the cameras for interior of vans. Mr. Luiz stated that the interior of buses and vans will be equipped with cameras, but the outside of the vans will not be. Mr. Luiz will get more information on cameras for inside the vans.

III. Discussion / Action Items

1. Facilities Update – Mr. Ferreira

Repair to the top of windows at Orlo was finished on June 30th and came out well. The new steel building for storage behind the high school is roughly 90% completed. Facility meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month. Mr. Ferreira stated that he is pleased that the district is keeping in-house workers on these projects.

Ms. Beauchaine requested getting an outside company to clean the high school windows at least once a year. Mr. Ferreira stated it would be cost effective and the outside windows should be professionally cleaned. The windows are very high. The interior windows could be cleaned by our custodians but time to do this would be an issue. It would be good to have someone working full time to work on the two buildings rather than provide overtime. The ventilation system at the high school needs to be cleaned. Mr. Ferreira asked if it could be included in the RFP.

Mr. Ferreira thanked everyone who is working during the summer.

2. Update on RFQ for Bus Cameras

Mr. Luiz stated that an RFQ for school bus stop arm surveillance went out on July 17th. A vote to approve will be on August 5th meeting agenda. He will get clarification regarding cameras for the interior vans. The Mayor has been invited to the meeting on the 5th and someone from the Mayor's office will attend if he cannot. The August 5th meeting will also be a budget workshop but will have this item on the agenda. Mr. deSimas stated that interior cameras were

addressed in the transportation contract. The RFQ is for the stop arm cameras. Ocean State will do the interior cameras, as stated in their contract.

Mr. Luiz stated that he spoke with legal counsel and confirmed that the administration can put the RFQ out to bid, however, the School Committee will need to vote.

3. Martin Middle School Auditorium Ceiling Demolition

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Ferreira and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Martin Middle School auditorium ceiling demolition with amendment to include masonry.

Ms. Beauchaine stated that there was a building committee meeting on Monday evening at MMS at 5:30pm. The only item on the agenda was a vote for the auditorium ceiling demolition. The Committee was given estimated costs for two options. There is contingency money in the budget.

Mr. Ferreira stated that the main issue is that the auditorium ceiling is an old type ceiling. They need to run A/C in the building and do the work for new lights. The ceiling holds up the walls on both sides. Masonry walls will be brought up. Mr. Ferreira stated that he will only support up to \$1M for this project and it's important that this work will be done.

Mr. Luiz stated he is going on record that he won't support more than \$1.5M for this project.

Mr. Ferreira stated that there are no plans right now for basketball courts and is trying to save \$700K to get one. The project is moving along quite well and on time.

Ms. Beauchaine stated that they are not eliminating any alternatives at this time. The rest of the school still has to be completed.

4. Tennis Courts & Track Open to the Public

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Ferreira and carried by unanimous consent to approve the tennis courts and track open to the public as submitted with tennis court signage posted. East Providence students/teams and parents to come first.

Ms. Beauchaine stated that tennis signage should include the following guidelines:

- Tennis courts open to the public from dawn to dusk on days school is **not** in session
- School activities and all school/athletic events take priority to all public use
- Use of tennis courts are at your own risk
- Trash in/trash out – No littering
- Tennis only courts – hockey or other net sports not allowed
- No wheels of any kind, bikes or skateboards
- No smoking or vaping
- No alcoholic beverages
- No dogs or other pets
- Proper footwear/no black-soled footwear
- No glass containers; no food or drink (except water) allowed
- Limited play to one hour when others are waiting

- Courts under 24-hour video surveillance and any persons vandalizing the property or violating the guidelines are subject to prosecution

IV. Announcements

Ms. Beauchaine stated that serving on the School Committee has been very rewarding. She thanked the Committee for being flexible with changing the meeting date to allow her to spend time with her daughter on her 16th birthday.

Mr. Luiz announced that on August 5th there will be a budget meeting and a vote to award the RFQ for school bus stop arm cameras. August 12th is a regular School Committee meeting held at City Hall and the August 28th meeting will be held at the high school.

V. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. deSimas, seconded by Mr. Ferreira and carried by unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Corsi, Executive Assistant



Anthony Ferreira, School Committee Clerk