



Enclosure 2a
January 28, 2020

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
December 17, 2019

COUNCIL ON ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Chair McConaghy welcomed everyone to the December 17, 2019, meeting of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education. He declared a quorum present, and called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Present: Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, *Barbara Cottam, **Lauren Griffiths, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, and Lawrence Purtill

Absent: Karen Davis, Gara Field, Jo Eva Gaines

[*Arrived at 5:39 p.m.]

[**Ex-officio, non-voting member]

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

On a motion duly made by Amy Beretta and seconded by Colleen Callahan, it was

VOTED: That the Rhode Island Council on Elementary and Secondary Education accepts the agenda for the December 17, 2019, Meeting

Vote: 5 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, and Lawrence Purtill

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

[Board Chair Cottam arrived after the approval of the agenda]

2. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

a. Minutes of the December 3, 2019, Meeting

On a motion duly made by Lawrence Purtill and seconded by Colleen Callahan, it was

VOTED: That the Rhode Island Council on Elementary and Secondary Education accepts the minutes of the December 3, 2019, Meeting

Vote: 5 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, and Lawrence Purtill

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

[Board Chair Cottam arrived after the approval of the minutes]

3. OPEN FORUM

Fourteen individuals spoke in support of the Academy for Career Exploration charter renewal.

Written testimony was entered into the record and is available at the Office of the Board of Education.

4. REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Infante-Green began by reporting that the RI Foundation Long-Term Education Planning Committee, which she, Chair Cottam and Member Purtill, are members of, recently hosted the “Make It Happen: World-Class Public Education for Rhode Island” event, where hundreds of educators, parents, and community members, came together to discuss the future of education in Rhode Island. She shared that a summary of the conversations that took place that day will be published by the RI Foundation and that she would share it with the Council.

Next, Commissioner Infante-Green thanked everyone who helped spread the word, or participated in, the recent fundraiser in collaboration with Boscov’s at Providence Place Mall. More than 500 individuals purchased coupons with all of the proceeds (\$3,000.00) going to Providence Public Schools.

Commissioner Infante-Green ended her report by sharing that last Friday, RIDE released the results of the financial analysis of the Providence School District, conducted by the firm of Ernst & Young LLP. She expressed that the main take away is that although Providence's student population has evolved, the budget has not. She expressed that the mindset of a fixed budget has to change to match the student population and the needs of the district and that RIDE will be looking at existing contracts to ensure that the district is getting its money's worth.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Fast-track Principal Requirements - Continued Discussion

Lisa Foehr, RIDE's Chief of Teaching and Learning, shared proposed language that RIDE drafted to address the concern that Council Members raised at the last meeting around some of the language on the quality of the internship eligibility requirements. She explained that the new language attempts to strike a balance between not being particularly prescriptive on the part of what ultimately the district's rule is around supervising the internship, and approving and acknowledging the internship, while adding some expectations for quality around an internship so that it is designed by the employing agency. She noted that the local Superintendent will clearly evaluate that experience and provide a recommendation only for those educators who demonstrate the competency to successfully meet those expectations. That in turn will allow RIDE to use the language of the regulation to then develop guidance that will help districts look at what a quality internship could potentially be and how that it would align to Rhode Island's leadership standards that the Council previously endorsed.

b. RIDE's Table of Organization and Executive Pay Plan and Salary Ranges

Commissioner Infante-Green expressed that ever since she arrived in Rhode Island, she has made it a priority to shift RIDE from a compliance, to a support-driven agency, which she deems essential to moving the work forward for the benefit of the education system, statewide.

Next, Commissioner Angélica Infante-Green introduced new senior staff members who will be joining the RIDE team over the next couple of weeks; reflected on RIDE's new Organizational Chart that the Council will be asked to approve this evening.

- Ana Riley, Superintendent of Portsmouth Schools, a well-respected educator who has collaborated with RIDE on many key initiatives, will be joining RIDE as the new Deputy Commissioner for Instructional Programs;

- Dr. Kelvin Roldán, who recently earned his doctorate in education leadership from Harvard University and has experience in working in low-performing schools, including those in nearby Hartford, Connecticut, will be filling a new role as Deputy Commissioner for System Transformation, the arm of the agency that oversees school and system improvement.
- Pascale Thompson, RIDE's Associate Director of School Improvement, is being promoted to Director of School Improvement.
- Jennifer Carney, Director of Curriculum for Pawtucket Schools, will be the new Director of the Office of School System and Planning and Improvement, a new office that will focus on supporting and improving districts and school systems.

6. ACTION ITEMS:

a. Approval of RIDE's Table of Organization and Executive Pay Plan and Salary Pay Ranges

On a motion duly made by Marta Martinez and seconded by Amy Beretta, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approves RIDE's Table of Organization, including appointment of Deputy Commissioners, and Executive Pay Plan and Salary Ranges, as presented

Vote: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, and Lawrence Purtill

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

b1. Approval of the Academy for Career Exploration (ACE) Charter Renewal

On a motion duly made by Marta Martinez and seconded by Amy Beretta, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education moves to renew the Charter of the Academy for Career Exploration for one (1) year, with conditions, for the term beginning with school year 2020-21 expiring at the end of school year 2020-21.

Vote: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, and Lawrence Purtill

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

Member Purtill noted that he wants to make certain that the Council receives follow-up information.

b2. Approval of The Green School Charter Renewal

On a motion duly made by Amy Beretta and seconded by Lawrence Purtill, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education moves to renew the Charter of The Green School for 5 years, for the term beginning with school year 2020-21, expiring at the end of school year 2024-25.

Vote: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, and Lawrence Purtill

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

b3. Approval of the New England Laborers Construction and Career Academy Charter Renewal

On a motion duly made by Colleen Callahan and seconded by Lawrence Purtill, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education moves to renew the Charter of the New England Laborers Construction and Career Academy for 5 years, with conditions, for the term beginning with school year 2020-21, expiring at the end of school year 2024-25. The conditions ensure the school closes the non-construction pathway and pursues an alternative accountability framework in partnership with RIDE and Cranston Public Schools.

Vote: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, and Lawrence Purtill

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

b4. Approval of the RISE Prep Mayoral Academy Charter Renewal

On a motion duly made by Amy Beretta and seconded by Lawrence Purtill, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education moves to renew the Charter of the RISE Prep Mayoral Academy for 5 years, for the term beginning with school year 2020-21, expiring at the end of school year 2024-25.

Vote: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, and Lawrence Purtill

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

b5. Approval of the Trinity Academy for the Performing Arts (TAPA)

On a motion duly made by Amy Beretta and seconded by Colleen Callahan, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education moves to renew the Charter of the Trinity for the Performing Arts for 3 years, for the term beginning with school year 2020-21, expiring at the end of school year 2022-23, with conditions.

Vote: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, and Lawrence Purtill

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

c. Approval of Pawtucket's Necessity of School Construction Projects

Chair McConaghy noted for the record that he was abstaining from the vote as his employer may later on pursue work on these projects.

On a motion duly made by Colleen Callahan and seconded by Marta Martinez, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approves the Necessity of School Construction Projects totaling \$234,053,860, pursuant to R.I.G.L. 16-7-41.1, as presented.

Vote: 5 members voted in the affirmative, 0 members voted in the negative, and 1 member abstained, as follows:

Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam, Marta Martinez, and Lawrence Purtill

YEAS: 5

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 1 - Daniel McConaghy

d. Endorsement of Academic Standards for Core Subjects

On a motion duly made by Amy Beretta and seconded by Colleen Callahan, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education renews its endorsement of the content standards, as presented.

Vote: 6 members voted in the affirmative, 0 members voted in the negative, and 1 member abstained, as follows:

Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, and Lawrence Purtill

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

7. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

On a motion duly made by Colleen Callahan and seconded by Marta Martinez, it was

VOTED: That the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education adjourns.

Vote: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Barbara Cottam,
Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, and Lawrence Purtill

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0