

Pawtucket School Committee Regular Meeting
Jenks/JMW Complex for the Performing and Visual Arts Media Center
350 Division Street, Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860
Tuesday, December 10, 2024 @ 6:00 PM
Agenda

Update: Tonight's scheduled public meeting will be conducted in-person, and can be viewed virtually using Zoom, a free tool for virtual meetings. Please find information on how to view below using a computer or telephone.

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- I. Open Call-Public Session
Meeting will come to order

The Chairman Mr. Charbonneau called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

- a. Roll call

Ms. Bonollo-here; Ms. Carney-absent; Mr. Chellel-here; Ms. Dube-here; Ms. Fernandes-here; Ms. Grant-here; Mr. Charbonneau-here

Also, in attendance was Mrs. Patricia Royal, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Lee Rabbitt, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Lahna Tate, Chief of Schools; Mr. Dale McGhee, Chief Financial Officer; Dr. Mark Andrade, Chief of Operations and Facilities; Mr. Diony Garcia, Legal Counsel; Ms. Megan Havrilla, Colliers Project Leaders; Mr. Gordan Zaniol, Shawmut Design and Construction and Mr. Jonathan Levi, Jonathan Levi Architects.

- b. Pledge of Allegiance

The Chairman Mr. Charbonneau led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Special Reports of Student Representatives

- Charles E. Shea High School
- William E. Tolman High School
- Jacqueline M. Walsh School for Performing and Visual Arts

The students informed the community of recent and upcoming events.

III. Recognition

- RI High School Steam Educator Award, Ms. Verda Jones

Mrs. Royal commented good evening everyone. It is with great pride and joy that I stand here tonight to acknowledge and celebrate an extraordinary educator who has impacted her students, her school and our community. Mrs. Verda Jones, a remarkable teacher at Shea High School, has been recognized as the Rhode Island High School STEAM Educator Award recipient. This prestigious honor highlights her passion, dedication and unwavering commitment to her students.

Ms. Jones, this recognition is a testament to the incredible work you do each day to inspire young minds. Your passion for teaching is visible, and your ability to ignite curiosity and creativity in your students is nothing short of extraordinary. You have transformed your classroom into a space where science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics come alive, sparking new ideas and opening doors to endless possibilities for your students.

Your deep care for your student goes beyond academics. You see their potential, nurture their talents and give them the tools to dream big and achieve greatness. You challenge them to think critically, encourage them to take risks, and celebrate their successes, big or small.

To be honored as the RI High School STEAM Educator Award recipient is no small feat. It reflects the profound impact you have had on the lives of your students and the entire Shea High School community. You have shown us what it means to lead with purpose and teach with heart; we are deeply grateful for that.

On behalf of the Pawtucket School Department, the School Committee and the entire Shea High School family, I extend our heartfelt congratulations to you, Ms. Jones. Thank you for your passion and dedication and for caring so deeply about the success and well-being of your students. You inspire all of us to aim higher and work harder for the students we serve.

We are so proud of you and honored to celebrate this well-deserved recognition with you tonight. Congratulations again, and thank you for all that you do!

IV. Public Participation

Comments from the public are invited at this time. Persons wishing to speak must sign in with the Committee Chair before speaking prior to the commencement of the meeting. The Committee is precluded from acting on items raised by Public Comment which are not already on the agenda. Public comment will be included in the minutes of the meeting.

Mrs. Elizabeth McLellan, Baldwin Teacher, commented hello, my name is Elizabeth McLellan. I am one of the three (3) teachers to help facilitate the Disney Program. I came here to say thank you. I made a video and hopefully you can hear it. All students are very excited to have this program this year. We had a former student now in middle school request to come back and help. I want to let you know we are all excited at Curvin and Baldwin to continue to fund this every year. On Wednesday, May 28th students will be performing 121 Dalmatians.

Mr. David Fagnoli commented good evening. Thank you as always for the opportunity to speak. I'm going to start off quickly with a few congratulations for those who move forward to the next committee. I think this school committee has done a great job and will miss pieces chipped away from this committee. I would like to speak to the Pawtucket Teachers' Alliance and the way they handled the general election. (Inaudible) I'm here to speak more as a father of a bisexual daughter. The things speaking at the election site calling me a homo phob, trans phob, you are so lucky I didn't come after you. We're going to come after you as a community and

acknowledge the successes as well. I'd like to congratulate those school committee members who have kept up our RICAS scores. Since 2016, they've done nothing but go on a downward spiral and that comes down to you here and also at RIDE. I wish I was here at the last meeting to celebrate a perfect Math score. He deserves more than a standing ovation. I know a lot of members have been sitting at this table for a long time and these things are not new. We are forming a new alliance and will be sharing what is going right and what is going wrong. I've come to you about my own children and that goes to the new school committee members who wouldn't even shake my hand.

Mr. Camron Segalla commented first I want to start out by congratulating Ms. Verda Jones, an absolute super teacher who inspired me to reach my fullest potential. Now, I want to speak to the new group, Pawtucket Parents and Student Alliance and give some positive shout outs to the surveys. A parent at Little wants to shout out Ms. Gariepy. Another parent at Greene wants to shout out Ms. Olivio. This parent stated she wants to work with us but didn't leave their contact information. Another parent from Little wants to shout out Mr. Beaupre. This parent wants to work with us so please reach out. Another parent wants to shout out Ms. Nichols and Curtis teacher, Ms. Morins. A former parent of Potter and Goff wanted to shout out several teachers including Mr. Lancellotti, Mr. Semenkov and Mrs. Usher and a few more.

Mr. Charbonneau commented I have to interrupt you and I apologize. There are no names to be used.

Mr. Segalla continued a parent at an elementary school reported an administrator instituted a silent lunch and is throwing out lunches and telling students there is no talking and threatening them and then has them stand on the walls. "My children have been threatened several times." Middle school administration too frequently cross boundaries. A lot of these were anonymous. If you allow, we can give this to Administration and they can do what they want with it. A negative experience, a Shea student has to walk to school. The child has to walk a half hour each way and I tried to get a bus and couldn't. Nathanael Greene reports negative experience with administration at Greene. A parent at Goff reported a negative experience with a Goff administrator and reported nothing but negative feedback for my child. Goff negative experience with support staff, my child is on the spectrum and was reported to Pawtucket Police. My child is bullied and reported this and nothing was done. My child responded physically and got in trouble. Another negative experience at Goff with the social worker. Negative reports on my child. They denied access to peers the next year after Covid and is always changing teams and child is frequently suspended. At Greene a negative experience with administration who are not present and makes the school a prison. We aren't allowed to bring treats for student anymore, silent lunches and students must wait outside before school starts on cold days. We did hand all this over to the school committee and school department and redacted the names to protect them.

I'm not interested in exposing teachers and employees' names. We're trying to do something positive and trying to bring it and resolve it.

Since this is the last time I'll see Mr. Charbonneau, Ms. Dube and Ms. Fernandes, I wish you all the best in the future.

Ms. Barbara Stover and Ms. Catherine Howard commented good evening, I'm Barbara Stover and am an MLL Support teacher at Curvin McCabe. Ms. Howard commented I'm a third grade MLL teacher at Winters and the musical director. I wanted to thank you for taking this opportunity of the importance of Disney Musicals at Schools. I'm glad to hear Baldwin will be performing and Winters will be as well. We worked three hours per week this year and there's no funding for this program right now. Fundraising is fundamental in continuing the musicals. What we hope funding will be continued for teachers. It is a massive undertaking for teachers to take on. This program is intense. Ms. Howard plans each rehearsal and myself works out blocking time at home. We are paid for three (3) hours of rehearsal. There's so much more that goes on at home but we're not asking for that. This opportunity to be available to the arts programs. Many students don't have the opportunity to participate in the CTE Programs. We have many MLL students who participate in these programs. We have 100% return rate each year because they love it so much. They come to school to be in this program. It helps all students with their language and confidence, encouraging each other. They cheer each other on. It is a worthy program but as stated before it requires so much more than three (3) hours. Now is the time to plan for those resources for this program to continue in all three (3) schools. Thank you.

Ms. Khrystyne Bento commented hello. I wasn't going to speak. I want to say thank you for listening to the complaints from parents and students. It's very important that we remember the parents and students and we need to remind the teachers who come here too, in this room if they had a hard time hearing what he had to say, speaking on what the community had to say. In this

building one of their colleagues called a student a nigger. I have yet to hear one teacher or anyone in the Pawtucket Teachers' Alliance speak to that teacher. In this room I've only heard one member speak to it and that is Marsha. Thank you very much. We have union members who want to defend this child. I have yet to hear a teacher speak to this child. I want to speak to Ron Beaupre. I'm asking you, let's get rid of her. There are niggers in all buildings of the city. If she doesn't like the black and brown students, let her go to the communities like Cumberland. I say let the trash take itself out.

V. Presentation:

- Pawtucket High School Project Progress and Design Update

Ms. Megan Havrilla; Mr. Levi and Mr. Zaniol stepped up to the podium.

Ms. Havrilla commented good evening, my name is Megan Havrilla from Colliers Project Leaders. Tonight, we're going to give you an update on the Pawtucket High School project. It's been two (2) weeks since we've been here last. We will touch up on the schedule and where we plan to go into the new year. We were working on schematic design and it will take a few good weeks to get where we need to be.

Also, we completed an early release package submitted to RIDE in December and are keeping everyone engaged in this project to complete those lines of communication and create a public communication plan and want to prepare the public for it. The stakeholders are here to really plan out what's in store. We'll be hearing from Jonathan Levi.

Mr. Levi commented so, it's good to see you all. I've heard some of the school committee members are moving on and I'm happy to share with you what we've been working on. A combination of two (2) things from so many contributors from the district as to what their needs are. Changing spaces and the quantity of spaces that creates the schematic design with a lot of adjustments yet to come. A lot of design work that has yet to come. I'm extremely excited for this new landmark building in the City of Pawtucket. I want to overlay what will be a comprehensive design with CTE and academic aspect of the school. We're looking at the site that's McCoy Stadium being transformed and all the different site influences and parking areas for students and teachers.

The building separates itself into two (2) buildings, south and west. The main feature is the cafeteria and learning commons. The north campus that is front facing as you move along Division Street. The west area is a large garden area used by students and sports. The south campus will be the food pantry and construction projects and a new cafeteria with learning commons embedded in. This is the diagram that gives the essential pattern of the building. From the north to the south we're calling it "Tech Boulevard" that will include CTE Pathways. East to west are small learning communities with 180 students who will be known by name sandwiched between them are academic courtyards.

The second-floor plan is the main floor entry with Division Street at the bottom. If you remember that site was a former pond, and that site is 12 feet lower. We are going to raise the grade at the northwest corner of the center so you will enter the school at the second floor. Directly adjacent is the main administration areas. Those to the left are typical wings of learning communities. We also have two (2) neighborhoods representing classrooms including music. Downstairs at level one (1) the cafeteria strip and call a learning common as well that will serve as educational purposes when food is not being served. Tech Boulevard has small learning commons.

One of the things I want to mention is how uniform and typical the wings of the school are. The small learning communities are there as well. Up to the fourth floor there are four (4) more. The boulevard block is the small learning community inspired by your teachers. This is the signature element of 21st Century education which is about collaborative projects and see how they relate into that collaboration area. Teacher planning space will have their own desk and own separate space. Every wing will have a science classroom and signature theme. The clusters of space are administration. The space adjacent to the library and main principal space.

Family resources are in the center food pantry and will have their own lobby and assistant principal and health offices.

One other important cluster is folks coming in for community uses. Public stations, a bakery area and cosmetology area with glass. They'll have their own restaurant for serving the public. This enlargement gives us a way of looking at the main vestibule area where the main floor and auditorium will be.

I made a few sketches, one being a small learning community. They'll be 16 of them with a lot of light coming through. Great daylight makes for better student performance and the health and well-being of our students.

There's an amphitheater to host performing students with the west facing sun and private courtyard and one CTE for construction and automotive. That's what we tried to do with Tech Boulevard and when you go through the main entrance. The Superintendent mentioned travel time and the size is the equivalent of nine (9) football fields. We tried to minimize travel time which should take two (2) minutes. Your maximum travel time will be 2.5 minutes. They want to know if they stand at one end of the corridor they can see and supervision of smaller learning areas.

This is the hallmark of our new school embedded in every corner of the high school showing all CTE programs. You can see how well they are separated. We incorporated into everyday life so students are not made to stay in any one area. CTE has its own separate dedicated areas, art, music and health are clustered all together and making this a functioning working space for the community and a fun space for student activities. We will be able to create a series of most opportunities for school and how health opportunities will be combined. A variety of other separate vestibules of community with CTE Facing family food pantry, media center both at the second-floor level.

Thank you for your patience in going through that detail and all of your support.

Mr. Zaniol commented the schedule as Megan mentioned we expect to get the schematic design back in February and will bring that back to you in February. We'll be mobilizing the site. Demolition will start in March and will communicate with the public in late spring/early summer the ground stabilization. I want to say in closing thank you to the school committee members who are leaving. Thank you for having the confidence to give us this project and we look forward to working with you.

Mr. Chellel asked how long for the demolition?

Mr. Zaniol commented three (3) months.

Mr. Chellel commented am I reading this wrong? It says it's supposed to start in January.

Mr. Zaniol commented no, we have three (3) months in the schedule. We have a schedule to take all concrete down to be crushed into smaller pieces and will use it under all the roads. At least 60% of the stadium will stay on site as concrete fill.

Mr. Charbonneau commented for the record, the one thing I will ask is that there be a timeline so we know the spend down to go out to bond.

VI. New Business Discussion/Action Items

- a. Disney Productions Budget and Compensation
- b. RIDE MOA for Arts Initiative ACT II School Building Authority Capital Fund

Agenda items VI. a. and b. were taken together.

Mr. Pimentel commented good evening everyone. I was asked to present on the Disney Musical in Schools. As you heard from some of our leadership it is in conjunction with the Providence Performing Arts Center. The school applies for the program and if accepted, there is a three-year commitment and the school agrees to three (3) members and commits to fundraising. The district agrees to fund stipends to these teachers and materials and supplies. After three (3) years it goes away. Baldwin was the first school. Curvin and Winters are in there third year. Next year they'll be in year four (4) and the district will not be funding that. In rare circumstances grants come up. We do fund these programs.

Before you is a request to approve a MOA. This is round two. Previously, RIDE funded \$381,404 for the arts program. RIDE is providing districts across the state with Arts Initiative Funding. This is a second round of funding. RIDE provided funding in June of 2022. Pawtucket has been awarded \$381,404.00 towards our arts programs which improve mental health and help connect students to their creativity and passion in their learning environments. The scope of this initiative includes projects that enhance culinary arts, performing arts, visual arts, music and design to ensure that learning spaces are used optimally. The district can use funding to purchase items such as musical instruments, auditorium upgrades, artists-in-residence, murals, sculptures, professional development, individual sponsorships, audio/visual or culinary equipment, and other investments that help provide high-quality arts education. The grant funds can only be used for eligible expenses incurred between November 1, 2024 and September 30, 2025. The allocation of funds will be determined by Artistic Needs for our schools in collaboration between the district and each school. I will work with both the Superintendent and each school to determine the needs and allocation of funding.

Ms. Dube moved to approve the RIDE MOA for Arts Initiative ACT II School Building Authority Capital Fund. Ms. Grant and Mr. Chellel seconded.

Ms. Dube commented I have a question on the timeline. The items must be fully purchased by 2025? They have to happen within that timeline?

Mr. Pimentel commented yes.

Ms. Grant commented I want to thank you for speaking on the Disney Productions. I want to clarify going forward from this point the schools if they want to continue to apply for this, they should go into it with thought. They need to go into it with their own funding. Our three (3) schools will be over after this year?

Mr. Pimentel commented correct.

Ms. Grant commented the other question I have is I know we're approving the MOA. When it comes to the high schools and include JMW to be sure they're included in getting some of the arts.

Mr. Pimentel commented yes.

Ms. Bonollo commented the amount of money required by teachers, can you get an approximate number?

Mr. Pimentel commented yes, I was a former arts teacher.

Roll call:

Ms. Bonollo-yes; Mr. Chellel-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Fernandes-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Charbonneau-yes
Motion carries.

c. Approval of Arts Panel Review Committee Appointment-Mr. Rico Pimentel

Dr. Tate commented good evening committee members. In accordance with the Pawtucket City Charter and its resolution that created the Arts Panel Review Committee, a representative of the Pawtucket School Department is to be designated by the Superintendent of Schools with the approval of the school committee for a term of three (3) years.

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent, Mrs. Royal that the School Committee approve the appointment of Mr. Rico Pimentel to the City of Pawtucket Arts Panel Review Committee for a three (3) year term. This term will expire on June 1, 2027.

Ms. Fernandes and Ms. Dube moved to approve the appointment of Mr. Rico Pimentel to the Arts Panel Review Committee. Ms. Grant seconded.

Roll call:

Ms. Bonollo-yes; Mr. Chellel-left momentarily; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Fernandes-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Charbonneau-yes
Motion carries.

d. Coach Stipends

Mr. McGhee commented good evening. I'm here this evening to give the sports' coaches a 4% increase to their stipends for the fall, winter and spring seasons. The athletic coaching staff has not had an increase in stipends in 16 years. The total cost combined to cover all three seasons is \$11,000 for 100 coaches. I want to speak to the coaches. As we noticed coaches don't coach for the money. They mentor our student athletes and I think we show them a little respect and they haven't had an increase in 16 years.

Mr. Charbonneau commented we have to come up with a vehicle so our coaches don't have to wait another 16 years and would ask the district to revisit this again.

Mr. Chellel asked where are we on this?

Mr. McGhee commented we're still on the lower level.

Mr. Chellel commented this gentleman up here, Mr. Laliberte coached me in high school. I was headed in the wrong direction. I would want this paid as high as Providence, Cranston and Woonsocket and what's going to happen with Tolman and Shea and are we looking at this again in a few years?

Ms. Fernandes moved to approve the coach stipends increase. Ms. Bonollo and Ms. Grant seconded.

Roll call:

Ms. Bonollo-yes; Mr. Chellel-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Fernandes-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Charbonneau-yes

Motion carries.

e. Home School List 2024-2025

Mrs. Rabbitt commented before you this evening is a list of the student identified by gender, school and grade who have applied for homeschooling this year. In accordance with school committee policy, we are requesting your approval of this list. The current number of requests is 92 which is down 25 from the previous year's total of 117.

Ms. Grant moved to approve the home school list 2024-2025. Ms. Dube and Ms. Bonollo seconded.

Ms. Fernandes asked who approves these?

Mrs. Rabbitt commented the Superintendent

Roll call:

Ms. Bonollo-yes; Mr. Chellel-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Fernandes-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Charbonneau-yes

Motion carries.

VII. Discussion Items:

- a. Monthly Vendor Report
- b. Budget Transfer Report
- c. Work Order Summary
- d. Enrollment Report

There was no discussion on these agenda items.

VIII. Superintendent's Update

Mrs. Royal commented I want to thank our students who came up and spoke. We have a phenomenal group of students. It is not written in the secondary teachers' contracts to participate in parent/teacher conferences. Data chats make a revision of data plans and monthly develop a plan. Today we had a principal's and work engagement with students. Our leaders are excited and we're looking for positive outcomes. This year Goff and Jenks participate in qualifying events of ocean life and Legos and rose to the occasion and we're very proud of them.

Congratulations to our students who participated in the peace poster contest. Thank you for acknowledging our students.

The students at Baldwin got to take a virtual tour and the students were inquisitive and very, very excited. We have a special presentation this evening if Dr. Tate will come to the podium.

As you all know this is a very special night. This is the last meeting as I stand here tonight with heartfelt gratitude, to express my deep appreciation for each member of the Pawtucket School Committee and the incredible work you have done to serve our school district community. I am truly honored to serve. I am profoundly grateful for the support I've received from every one of you. You will always be in my heart.

I am truly honored to have the opportunity to serve the Pawtucket School Department, our students, families, and all our stakeholders. This role has been a privilege, and I am profoundly grateful for the support and mentorship I have received from each of you throughout this journey.

The times I have spent with each of you are invaluable. Your guidance, encouragement, and belief in our shared mission have inspired me to push forward and take our school district to the next level. Together, we have moved the needle to advance our vision and mission to improve student learning outcomes and create a brighter future for all.

A special, special thank you to Chairman Jay Charbonneau for his years of dedicated service to this community. Your steadfast support and unwavering belief that we, as a committee, can improve student learning outcomes have been pivotal in our work. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to the students, families, and the school department. . I remember when Jay stepped up and told me I'm charging you with one thing, to improve student learning outcome and I took that mission to heart and I've stayed focused on that.

To Deputy Chairwoman Erin Dube, your wisdom and support have been a guiding light for me. Your hard work and dedication to ensuring we have effective, well-written policies and procedures that support this district's critical work are indispensable. You guided this district with your knowledge and I thank you. Thank you for your partnership and dedication to ensuring our district's success.

I also want to personally thank Joanne Bonollo, (Ms. Bonollo commented, I'm not leaving). Jim Chellel and Kim Grant who has a special passion for special education and Marsha Fernandes, thank you for always thinking of our students. I thank you for always supporting our students. Jen Carney thank you for your steadfast belief in me and for recognizing my passion for serving this district's students, families, teachers and staff. Your support means the world to me, and your collective efforts have significantly impacted me.

To the committee members who will no longer be serving, I cannot thank you enough for your contributions to this community. Your hard work, dedication, and commitment to our schools have left an indelible mark. I wish you nothing but success in your future endeavors. Please continue supporting the critical work in our district, as your voice and experience remain invaluable to our collective mission.

I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity to work with such an esteemed committee. Thank you for your trust in me and tireless efforts to ensure that the Pawtucket School District thrives. Together, we are creating a legacy of excellence that will benefit generations of students to come. Thank you.

IX. School Committee Members' Update

Ms. Fernandes commented I don't know what to say. I've learned a lot over the last couple of years. Thank you for supporting me. I have three (3) kids in the school system and I hope the new school committee votes for what is right. Remember it's about the kids. I wish you a lot of luck.

Ms. Bonollo commented I have to say Mr. Charbonneau, you will be sincerely missed on the facilities committee for your expertise. I asked how do you know so much and you said I read a book. I don't think they'll be anyone to compare. Erin, you are the voice of reason. When you were chair, you made sure we had meetings on a regular basis. When I went astray, you nursed me back. Sometimes you succeeded, sometime not. Childhood hunger is a big thing in this district and you made sure every child gets the same without judgement.

Marsha we've been on both sides. I wish you well. I know you're not going away. Some of the things your brought were enlightening.

Mr. Chellel commented I wish Jen Carney was here. In my job I get blamed for half the things I don't even say. When I had a family issue last year she reached out and guided me. We didn't always agree. I want to thank Jen for her run for office and passion to do what's best for this district.

Marsha, I know even through you said don't listen to Jim Chellel publicly, you are a wonderful person and mother. I'll never forget the first time I met you and asked you to read that to me. Your passion came through at every meeting.

Erin, I'm just going to echo everything to echo everything everyone said. If I voted against you, no one has ever said a bad word about you. Everyone is going to miss you, your passion and leadership. Thank you for your dedication and service to this district.

Mr. Charbonneau, I'm going to miss your leadership. It's very different and you got this district to move forward because you kept us all together. When we came to these meetings, they were organized. You are a great father. You're a great person and I thank you for your friendship and thank you for your partnerships. I hope you all have a great holiday season.

Ms. Grant commented I wish you all well. It's been great serving with all of you and hope everyone has a good holiday season.

Ms. Dube commented I won't be very long. I said my peace a few meetings ago. We are seven people up here. We represent 70K in this city. I'm honored to be a voice for those people, community members, for our families, for our staff and it has been an honor to serve along side all of you. I've already spoken on the importance of policy. I know it wasn't touched before a decade ago and I hope that everyone understands the lasting impact policy can have that you can step off the committee and know that 200+ policies that you wrote continue to exist afterwards. The other thing that continues to exist is facilities. So, it has been an honor to serve along side Mr. Charbonneau. He makes it look easy. New committee members are going to learn pretty quickly, it's not easy. I know because even when I was Chair I realized just how much Mr. Charbonneau is making sure we stay on track with the financing, with ensuring the City continues to be on track. It doesn't happen in other communities because they don't have Jay Charbonneau that's why it doesn't happen in other communities. You need to be prepared to step into the role and be aggressive to get the buildings we need for our students. Because it will be very easy for things to stop if you decide that it's too hard or not politically expedient to be aggressive at that moment. I'd like to point to that school and remind people that there was a push from the City to delay the Stage I of that school. This committee voted to decline and push forward. That's why the date is what it is now and not pushed forward more. So, it's been an honor.

Mr. Charbonneau commented It's certainly been an honor to sit here for 10 years. I'm an emotional guy and if I get emotional, I make no apologies for it. My father always told me you learn more in your defeats than you do in your victories and boy, is that true. But, you know what? We're about life-long learners here. So, I will continue to learn from this. You're an incredible leader. What I've seen you go through these last year and a half and hold your ground and move forward and keep doing what's best for the children that depend on us every day. My vote for you was one of the best I cast. So, it has been an honor to serve with all of you. To those of you who have supported me since day one, I say a heartfelt thank you. Happy Holidays everybody.

X. Adjournment

Ms. Fernandes moved to adjourn. Ms. Dube and Ms. Grant seconded.

Voice vote:

Ms. Bonollo-yes; Mr. Chellel-yes; Ms. Dube-yes; Ms. Fernandes-yes; Ms. Grant-yes; Mr. Charbonneau-yes

Motion carries.

The Chairman Mr. Charbonneau adjourned the meeting at 7:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Clerk