



Building on Hope

Report Details Efforts to Transform the Providence Public School District

The Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) and the Providence Public School District (PPSD) have produced “Building on Hope,” a report that captures the first year of work to transform Providence schools and how much we have planned for the coming year.

- ✓ **The transformation of Providence schools is underway.** While it will take time to reverse decades of neglect, we are building a solid foundation for lasting change.
- ✓ **We made a series of substantive changes that are improving teaching and learning.** From top-notch curriculum, to professional development, to support for multilingual learners (MLLs), we are transforming the learning environment.
- ✓ **We put families and the community at the center.** From the first day of our work in Providence, we invited the community to help shape the transformation plan.
- ✓ **We are persevering through a global pandemic.** When COVID-19 hit our schools, we made sure each student had the tools they needed to keep learning.

The report contains seven sections that align with the major findings of the 2019 Johns Hopkins review of PPSD. Each contains an “Inside Story,” which describes the roots and impact of one major initiative:

- ✓ Implementing Consistent, World-Class Curriculum
- ✓ Strengthening the Family and Community Engagement Effort
- ✓ Funding of English as a Second Language Training and National Teacher Recruitment Campaign
- ✓ Implementing a Network Model for School Leader Development
- ✓ Strengthening and Targeting the District’s Capital Improvement Plan
- ✓ Making Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) a Priority
- ✓ Analyzing and Reorganizing the PPSD Budget for Lasting Change

The report includes key initiatives that will propel change in coming years, including:

- ★ All Providence teachers are now required to attend parent-teacher conferences on a regular basis.
- ★ The “Let’s Talk” online platform makes it easy for families to ask questions and get responses within one business day.
- ★ Over the next five years, \$300 million in capital-improvement and building projects are planned.
- ★ More than 1,800 additional HEPA air filters will be installed in school buildings.
- ★ PPSD is securing 12,422 Chromebooks, 1,300 Wi-Fi hotspots, 2,000+ laptops, 300 webcams/headsets, 120 new SmartBoards, and 800+ sound systems to boost instruction.

Stay Involved! We invite the community to remain engaged with us as we work to transform Providence schools over the coming years. Learn more at www.4PVDKids.com