

## Myths vs. Facts: Setting the Record Straight and Protecting our Future

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- ⊘ MYTH: PPSD conducted a comprehensive review showing UCAP is underperforming.**  
**✓ FACT: No comprehensive review has been shared or conducted with UCAP leadership as of 5/1/2026.**
- UCAP was not included in any PPSD review process
  - No methodology, review approach, or findings have been shared with UCAP
  - No collaboration with UCAP leadership or external evaluator
- ➔ Bottom line: Claims of a “comprehensive review” are unverified, unsupported, and inaccurate.
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- ⊘ MYTH: UCAP has made no progress in the last 4–5 years.**  
**✓ FACT: UCAP is demonstrating measurable improvement.**
- Improved from a 1-star to a 2-star school and sustained it
  - Family engagement increased significantly (student conference participation up to 74%)
  - Student growth data shows meaningful academic gains
- ➔ Bottom line: UCAP is improving outcomes for students who were not succeeding elsewhere.
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- ⊘ MYTH: UCAP has failed to recruit additional districts or members to join the Collaborative.**  
**✓ FACT: UCAP leadership has actively pursued expansion and stronger governance.**
- Outreach conducted to multiple districts (Warwick, Woonsocket, Pawtucket, Central Falls)
  - Expansion efforts were disrupted when a planned meeting was canceled by PPSD
  - Proposals to strengthen governance (advisory board) were introduced by the Executive Director three times, and dismissed or shut down every time.
- ➔ Bottom line: UCAP has made good-faith efforts to grow and strengthen oversight.
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- ⊘ MYTH: UCAP is not compliant with IEP requirements**  
**✓ FACT: UCAP passed its Special Education audit with only minor, corrected findings**
- Audit identified minor documentation issues only—all corrected
  - No systemic compliance concerns identified
  - IEPs are updated when student needs require it
- ➔ Bottom line: UCAP is meeting its legal obligations and supporting students appropriately.
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- ⊘ MYTH: UCAP “kicks out” large numbers of students**  
**✓ FACT: Most student transitions are voluntary or based on appropriate placement**
- Majority of students leave by choice, not removal
  - A small number are exited when needs exceed UCAP’s model
  - UCAP is designed for disengaged learners—not intensive behavioral placements
- ➔ Bottom line: UCAP ensures students are in the right environment to succeed.
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- ⊘ MYTH: Students would be better served returning to PPSD**  
**✓ FACT: UCAP is accelerating growth for struggling students**
- 51% (Math) and 74% (ELA) met or exceeded growth goals mid-year
  - Previously truant students are now on track for improved attendance
  - Many students are improving academically and behaviorally
- ➔ Bottom line: UCAP helps students catch up—often by multiple grade levels.
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- ⊘ MYTH: Eliminating UCAP would save money**  
**✓ FACT: UCAP is a cost-effective option that prevents higher-cost placements**
- UCAP operates at the standard per-pupil rate
  - Without UCAP, more students may require outplacements costing \$30,000–\$100,000 per student
- ➔ Bottom line: UCAP helps control costs while improving outcomes. UCAP is not a replacement for traditional public schools—it is a critical partner. It helps them get back on track academically, socially, and emotionally.