

May 13, 2025

Support Letter for House Bill 6255
Submitted to the House Committee on Finance
The Honorable Marvin L. Abney, Chair
Rhode Island House of Representatives

Support Letter for Senate Bill 1063
Submitted to the Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government
The Honorable Senator Jacob Bissaillon, Chair
Rhode Island Senate

To the distinguished Chairmen and Members of the Committees:

We, the undersigned, write to request your support for HB6255 and SB1063, which would restore local governance of the Central Falls School District and ensure sustainable, predictable funding for our students.

We are members of the Central Falls Community Advisory Board, a group of leaders who came together to help build a pathway back to local governance. We include Central Falls parents, teachers, administrators, labor leaders, charter sector employees, and community partners. We have lived and worked in Central Falls for decades. We have raised children in the city, attended and taught in its schools, and dreamed of what its people could achieve.

The collective work of the Community Advisory Board challenged every one of us. We took time to learn together and lean into the disagreements that arose. We shared our stories with one another and listened to different perspectives. Our months-long collaboration resulted in strong consensus for the governance model we have proposed.

We are proud of this historic moment in our city's history. The people of Central Falls have been neglected and silenced for too long. We have faced and continue to face incredible challenges, but we are not defined by them. Rather, this community is defined by its remarkable talent and resilience. The people of Central Falls deserve to have a voice in our schools. We have been denied a true and equal voice for thirty-four years. We advocate for public schools that place the concerns of our families and the needs of our children first.

In supporting this bill, you are telling the parents, educators, and students of Central Falls that you believe in us. By standing with us, you are helping the people of Central Falls reclaim their rights to self-determination, equitable education, and a voice in the future of their community.

Sincerely,
Signed by:

Maria Pedraza


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Maria Pedraza
DocuSigned by:

MARIA DUQUE

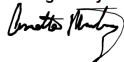
Maria Duque
Signed by:

Aly Chatham


Aly Chatham
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Isabel Amado

Signed by:


Amelie Martinez

Signed by:



Patricia Martinez

Signed by:



Tatiana Baena

Signed by:


Jessica Parkhurst

Signed by:


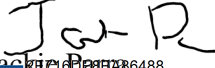
Cindy Montoya

Signed by:



Jim Parisi

Signed by:


Michelle Carvajal

Signed by:


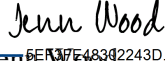
Jackie Parris

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Theresa Agonia

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Denise Debarros

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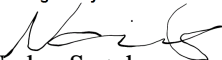
Jenn Wood

Signed by:


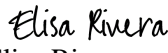
Marta Martinez

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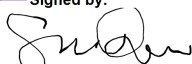

David Upegui

Signed by:


Nadya Sanchez

Signed by:


Elisa Rivera

Signed by:

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Sara Rainone

Signed by:

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Reyna Poche