

**RESOLUTION BY THE PROVIDENCE SCHOOL BOARD SUPPORTING
HOUSE BILL 7271 AND SENATE BILL 2208 AMENDING LEGISLATION
PROVIDING FOR ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR PUBLIC
SCHOOL STUDENTS THROUGH THE UCAP SCHOOL**

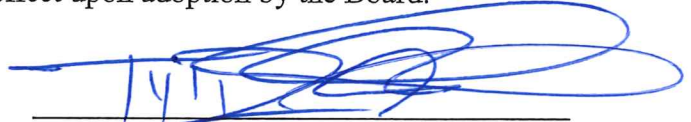
- WHEREAS,** In 1989, the General Assembly adopted legislation now codified at R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-3.1-11, providing for the establishment of an urban collaborative through which public school districts could initiate cooperative efforts to provide alternative education programs and/or diagnostic services for students achieving limited success in traditional public school settings;
- WHEREAS,** The UCAP School opened its doors in 1989, as The Urban Collaborative Accelerative Program (“UCAP”), in accordance with the above-referenced legislative framework, to serve high need students in middle school who were at risk of dropping out by providing personalized instruction to help them “catch up” and return to their districts ready for high school;
- WHEREAS,** The UCAP School currently provides educational services to approximately 114 students, in the seventh and eighth grades, nearly all of whom are Providence residents from the Providence Public School District;
- WHEREAS,** The staff serving at the UCAP School include: the leadership team (which includes the Executive Director and four other administrators), three administrative support persons, one school counselor, two social workers, one special educator, one MLL instructor, one nurse, twelve classroom teachers, and seven instructional support persons (five from City Year);
- WHEREAS,** By letter dated December 30, 2025, Dr. Javier Montanez, Superintendent of the Providence Public School District, provided formal notice of its intent to withdraw from its partnership with UCAP, effective June 30, 2026.
- WHEREAS,** The letter directed that UCAP was to take steps during the “first week in January” to “develop a transition plan” that would communicate with “students, families, and staff members,” and return students to “another Providence school” for the 2026-2027 school year;
- WHEREAS,** On January 7, 2026, the Board adopted various Goals and Guardrails that reflect the vision and values of the Providence Public School District community.
- WHEREAS,** Guardrail No. 2 was adopted to ensure “Community Partnership and Transparency,” and provides: “District decisions will be shaped through

meaningful collaboration with those most impacted, with transparent communication to both participants and the broader public showing how input was considered in the final outcome. **Therefore the Superintendent shall not implement significant changes without first engaging community members most closely impacted by those changes.**" (emphasis in original text);

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD HEREBY ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

Section 1. The Board supports the legislation to amend R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-3.1-11, as set forth in House Bill 7271 and Senate Bill 2208, attached hereto as Exhibit 1, so that any decision regarding participation or non-participation in the UCAP School adheres to Guardrail No. 2.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect upon adoption by the Board.



Ty'Relle Stephens, President
Providence School Board