

Providence School Department  
 PLANT MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS  
 25 Bough Street  
 Providence, Rhode Island 02909

November 15, 1976

IN CITY COUNCIL  
 DEC 16 1976

READ:  
 WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
 THE SAME BE RECEIVED.  
*E. Vincent*  
 CLERK

City of Providence  
 Committee on Public Welfare  
 c/o City Clerk

Gentlemen,

Reference is made to the "hearing" held by your Committee on Public Welfare on November 11, 1976 at which time Messrs. Charles Matoian and Carmine Asprinio of the Providence School Department personally appeared to reply relative to the teachers' grievances pertaining to heating and ventilation in Providence Schools (City Council Resolution No. 85).

The following is furnished in furtherance of referenced hearing for the schools noted in the grievance.

- a. Central High School - The heat was uncontrollable because of some malfunctioning and vandalized thermostats. Thermostats have been replaced and repaired under a contract approved by City Board of Contracts and Supply.
- b. Classical High School - Wild heat (excessive) became a problem in a few specific areas. The lack of sufficient air pressure fed from the Hanley Complex Central Heating Plant air compressor was causing erratic operation of some thermostats. Separate air compressors have been installed within Classical High under a contract approved by the City Board of Contracts and Supply. Other items such as replacement of burned-out motors in several rooms has been accomplished by School Department maintenance personnel.
- c. Roger Williams Middle School - Temperatures were not being raised early enough on Monday mornings; a change in schedule of the Roving Night Firemen corrected the problem by starting the boilers at an earlier time.
- d. Nathanael Greene Middle School - The water leg (base of boiler) began to leak, requiring extensive repairs. Boiler was repaired expeditiously but during its down-time the other two (2) boilers did not raise temperatures early enough, especially on Monday mornings. The firing schedule of the Roving Night Firemen was changed to start the boilers at an earlier time.

- e. Edmund Flynn School - The deteriorated, bottom portion of one boiler required replacement with new steel. During its down-time (investigative studies, contracting, contractor procurement of steel, and repair) we were forced to operate with the remaining boiler. Cold, overnight temperatures caused a slight delay in raising temperature throughout the school to the standard 68° prior to school opening each morning. Boiler was repaired as quickly as possible and problem eliminated.
  
- f. Academy Avenue School - A malfunctioning of the oil burners and resulting lack of sufficient heat in the school necessitated our removal of occupants to George West School for one morning pending contractual repair of the burners and controls. Their malfunctioning occurred quickly, without any advanced notice but were repaired within a few hours of their failure.

There are many heating problems which occur in our schools during the winter season, usually at times of low critical temperatures. Our procedures provide for repairs as expeditiously as possible considering the contractual procedures and subsequent procurement of materials. In spite of the numerous, unforeseen problems which arise, we have, for the past two (2) winters managed to keep our schools heated and operational every scheduled school day. Additionally, this season we have had no school outage to date.

There are presently numerous projects underway to replace thermostats, air compressors and replacement of boiler tubes and other components of heating systems which can and are being accomplished on a daily basis. Additionally, there are numerous projects which must be projected and accomplished on a "long range" basis. Projects of such nature have been included in the recently submitted Federal Public Works Program, and for the heating category alone our projects total approximately \$971,000. in twenty-one (21) schools. We realize that the requested total might not be approved, and we are, therefore, prepared to establish priorities for correction of deficiencies to the maximum extent possible within our resources of "bond issue monies".

Yours truly,

  
Carmine P. Asprinio  
Plant Engineer

cc: Mr. Matoian  
Dr. Jones

NO 11 1961 100 40

PHOTOGRAPH

67

**CITY OF PROVIDENCE**

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

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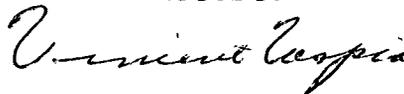
**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

*No.* 85

*Approved:* March 12, 1976

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Public Welfare is requested to investigate the complaint of the Providence Teacher's Union, American Federation of Teacher's --- Local 598, relative to problems involving heating, ventilation, and respective control systems and other general conditions, within certain Providence Public Schools, all in accordance with accompanying communication of the Providence Teacher's Union Local 598, dated January 20, 1976, a copy of which is hereto attached.

A true copy,  
Attest:



Vincent Vespia,  
City Clerk.

City of Providence



Rhode Island

Department of City Clerk

**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: November 1, 1976

TO: Superintendent of Providence Public Schools, Jerome Jones

SUBJECT: SCHOOL PHYSICAL PLANTS

CONSIDERED BY: Committee on Public Welfare

DISPOSITION: Attached is copy of Resolution of the City Council on the above subject for your study, the same being self-explanatory.

The Committee on Public Welfare requests your attendance at its meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 11, 1976, at 7:30 o'clock P.M. (E.S.T.) in the Conference Room, located on the third floor level of City Hall, at which time the subject matter will be considered by it.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Clement T. [unclear]".

City Clerk

City of Providence



Rhode Island

Department of City Clerk

**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: November 1, 1976  
TO: George N. Moorachian, Business Manager  
SUBJECT: SCHOOL PHYSICAL PLANTS  
CONSIDERED BY: Committee on Public Welfare

DISPOSITION: Attached is copy of Resolution of the City Council on the above subject for your study, the same being self-explanatory.

The Committee on Public Welfare requests your attendance at its meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 11, 1976, at 7:30 o'clock P.M. (E.S.T.) in the Conference Room, located on the third floor level of City Hall, at which time the subject matter will be considered by it.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Vincent Vespa".

City Clerk