

**Regular Meeting
November 17, 2020**

Opening

Call to Order

At 7:03 p.m. School Board President Michael Marasco called the November 17, 2020, Caesar Rodney School District regular meeting to order.

Roll Call

Members present in addition to President Marasco were, Board Members, Dr. Joyce Denman, Mr. Dave Failing, and Executive Secretary Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald. Vice President, Ms. Jessica Marelli, and Mr. P. Scott Wilson were not present.

Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Denman made a motion to adopt the November 17, 2020 agenda as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and after roll call, the motion carried 3-0 with two absent (Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

Approval of the Minutes: October 20, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes and November 2, 2020, and the November 9, 2020, Work Session Meeting Minutes

Mr. Failing made a motion to approve the October 20, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes. Dr. Denman seconded the motion with one correction. The motion carried 3-0 with two absent (Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

Mr. Failing made a motion to approve the November 2, 2020, and the November 9, 2020, Work Session Meeting Minutes. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and after roll call, the motion carried 3-0 with two absent (Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

Presentations

F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School was recognized for being selected as an ESPN Top 5 award winner. A few students and staff members were present. A banner was also presented. Dr. Fitzgerald thanked everyone for joining the meeting tonight for this recognition.

Dr. Fitzgerald amended the roll call. Mr. P. Scott Wilson was present.

Communications

Superintendent

- Dr. Fitzgerald congratulated Dr. Kristina Failing and her team at F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School on their recognition this evening.
- Dr. Fitzgerald reminded the Board that with Monday's return of students to in-person learning at the high school all of our schools now have in-person learning.
- Dr. Fitzgerald shared we are now in the process of creating a new commitment survey for the second semester of the school year. This will give parents the choice of in-person hybrid or remote learning.
- Dr. Fitzgerald informed the Board that we are one step closer to securing the certificate of necessity from the Department of Education regarding the Thomas More property.

- Dr. Fitzgerald thanked our teachers, paras, secretaries, custodians, food service workers, bus drivers, and administrators for all of their hard work during these challenging times. Our students would not be receiving the education they are without all of them stepping up and going above and beyond.
- Dr. Fitzgerald wished everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving.

School Board

Mr. Failing congratulated the F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School for their award. He thanked all staff for getting students back to school. He is convinced we are doing the right things.

Dr. Denman gave extra kudos to all staff for going above and beyond. We are very grateful.

President Marasco agreed with Dr. Denman. He is happy to see students and staff back in the buildings. He is hopeful we will be able to continue with little disruption. He gave kudos to the Spanish class at FMS on their recent publication. He reminded everyone about the stage crew Thespians production this weekend.

Public Comment

Joe Hartman- Mr. Hartman stated he was glad to see students. The positive is it seems safe and everyone is following protocols. He stated the elementary CREA members are struggling with the demands of the education plans. He stated we CREA has been meeting with the administration weekly. He is receiving numerous emails about feeling overwhelm and they need relief. Instead of solutions, they have added more to the plate. He stated CREA members are looking for relief. National ESP week.

Kristal Ray- Mrs. Ray stated the current workload for the teachers is overwhelming. She gave her experience of years teaching. She also gave some details about the new curriculum. She stated we are unable to use these materials as they need constant cleaning, etc. Remote learning students cannot participate in these hands-on programs. It is inequitable. She suggested we place this on hold for the science curriculum. She appreciates the Board listening to the students.

Joanne Moran- She stated she was peaking on behalf of students and teaching. At this time they have been given more tasks and demands instead of support. She stated teachers are doing all of this because they love learning. She stated it is time to speak up because the workload is too overwhelming. She asks the district to reevaluate the new curriculum and teacher workload. Teachers are already spread too thin. She also asks student grading to be reconsidered in this difficult time.

Linda Lyon- Ms. Lyon introduced herself and informed the Board of her current teaching position and workload. She thought she understood the expectations, but she was wrong. She is speaking on behalf of her students and teachers. The curriculum is adding more stress. The social studies and science curriculum is a huge task for teachers. She mentioned students are missing the classroom discussion and most are working on their own. She requests the instruction department reconsider the new curriculum which is drowning teachers and students. The daily request and demands are overwhelming.

Action Items

Personnel Matters

The Board approved Personnel Matters A1.- A 6. as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing made a motion to Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with one absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

1. Teacher Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Lamonte Wilson	CRHS	Mental Health Counselor/Social Worker	Temporary appointment effective 11/23/2020.

Sarah Lancaster	AFE	School Counselor	Temporary appointment effective 11/16/2020.
Anna Farro	JSC	Life Skills	Temporary appointment effective 10/28/2020.
Ivan Morales-Perez	MCI	Elementary	Temporary appointment effective 10/26/2020.
Ivan Morales-Perez	MCI	Elementary	Resignation effective 11/3/2020.
Patricia Walinski	NHS	Elementary	Temporary appointment effective 11/02/2020.
Katelyn Coleman	NHS	Special Education	Temporary appointment effective 01/04/2021.
Salina Magagnotti	SHE	Elementary	Temporary appointment effective 11/16/2020.
Laura Lejman	WBS	Elementary	Temporary appointment effective 11/16/2020.
Lindsey Voss	ILC	Elementary/Special Education	Temporary appointment effective 11/16/2020.
Angela Garza	ABM	Special Education	Resignation effective 11/25/2020.
Meghan Allen	JSC	Special Education	Resignation effective 11/21/2020.
Tony Gangemi	JSC	Special Education	Resignation effective 12/10/2020.
Marshall Brown	ILC	Special Education	Resignation effective 11/14/2020.
Susan Chumley	PMS	School Nurse	Date Change: Resignation effective 11/7/2020.
Shijia Liu	WBS	Chinese Immersion	Resignation effective 10/17/2020.
William Simpson	CRHS	Special Education	Resignation effective 11/10/2020.
David Moore	CRHS	Chemistry	Retirement effective 1/1/2021.

2. Paraprofessional Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Jackson Levins	JSC	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective 10/28/2020.
Lacey Gay	JSC	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective 11/16/2020.
Michelle Tracy	ILC	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective 11/02/2020.
Lindsey Voss	JSC	Paraprofessional	Resignation effective 11/14/2020.
Nichole Phillips	JSC	Paraprofessional	Resignation effective 11/14/2020.
Virginia Kelly	WBS	Paraprofessional	Retirement effective 1/1/2021.

3. Secretarial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Bronta Nichols	DO	Financial Secretary	Appointment effective 11/16/2020.

4. Custodial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
LaVeil Ricks	CRHS	1 st Shift Custodian	Transfer effective 11/23/2020.

5. Child Nutrition Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Taylor Baker	PMS	5.5 hour General Worker	Appointment effective 10/12/2020.
DeShawn Baynard	PMS	5.5 hour General Worker	Appointment effective 10/12/2020.
Jennifer Brady	CRHS	3 hour General Worker	Appointment effective 10/12/2020.
Myrtle Burris	SHE	5.5 hour General Worker	Appointment effective 10/14/2020.
Giacoma Cusumano	MCI	6 hour Cook	Appointment effective 10/12/2020.
Melissa Gary	AFE	5.5 hour General Worker	Appointment effective 10/12/2020.
Janice Harless	CRHS	4 hour General Worker	Appointment effective 10/12/2020.
Detra Herdigein	CRHS	5.5 hour General Worker	Appointment effective 10/12/2020.
Diana Jones	WBS	5 hour General Worker	Appointment effective 10/12/2020.
Paula Madsen	CRHS	4 hour General Worker	Appointment effective 10/12/2020.
Linda Morse	CRHS	4 hour General Worker	Appointment effective 10/12/2020.
Hiromi Priest	PMS	5.5 hour General Worker	Appointment effective 10/12/2020.
Zoila Quinonez de Cruz	CRHS	5 hour General Worker	Appointment effective 10/12/2020.
Joyce Proctor	AFE	6 Hour General Cook	Retirement effective 3/1/2021.
Maria Armstrong	WRB	3 hour General Worker	Resignation effective 10/22/2020.

6. Extra Duty Recommendations/Resignations

Name	School	Activity	Position	Action
Peyton Forse	CRHS	Volleyball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Fall Sports 2020.
Robert Healy	CRHS	Field Hockey	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Fall Sports 2020.
Sean Hastings	CRHS	Cross Country	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Fall Sports 2020.
Chris McPoyle	CRHS	Boys Soccer	Assistant Jr. Varsity	Recommendation for Fall Sports 2020.
Christopher Friend	CRHS	Unified Football	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Fall Sports 2020.
Peyton Forse	CRHS	Volleyball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Fall Sports 2020.
William Victory	CRHS	Boys Basketball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Christopher Friend	CRHS	Unified Basketball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Frank Victory	CRHS	Basketball/Boys	Varsity	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Rayshaun Ward	CRHS	Basketball/Boys	Assistant Varsity	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Mark Hill	CRHS	Basketball/Boys	Jr. Varsity Head Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Rob Easton	CRHS	Basketball/Boys	Freshman	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Tameka Williams	CRHS	Basketball/Girls	Varsity	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Karen Surdukowski	CRHS	Basketball/Girls	Jr. Varsity Head Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Kyle Williamson	CRHS	Swimming	Head Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Conrad Steele	CRHS	Swimming	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Skye Boris	CRHS	Unified Basketball	Head Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Jackson Levins	CRHS	Unified Basketball	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Raykeem Ward	CRHS	Winter Track	Head Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Stephen Campagnini	CRHS	Winter Track	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.

Dan Rigby	CRHS	Wrestling	Varsity	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Chris Harris	CRHS	Wrestling	Assistant Varsity	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Trey Mitchell	CRHS	Wrestling	Jr. Varsity Head Co-Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.
Steve Billbrough	CRHS	Wrestling	Jr. Varsity Head Co-Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2020.

Routine Business

Gifts to Schools

The Board approved Gifts to Schools as presented on the agenda.

Mr. Failing made a motion to approve the Gifts to Schools as presented on the agenda. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with one absent (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman). Dr. Denman thanked the donors.

The following donations were Board approved:

- The District Office received four yearbooks for the District Office from Deborah Miller and her family.
- The John S. Charlton School received a Rifton Dynamic Pacer Gait Trainer (Value \$2,448.00) from the Pendergast family.
- The John S. Charlton School received a Mygo Stander (Value \$4,328.95) from the Rogers family.
- The Major George S. Welch Elementary School received boxes of tissue, assorted sanitizer, and cleaning supplies from Donor's Choose via Amanda Graham.
- Allen Frear Elementary School received a bench with a mounting kit from Erneatka Webster in honor of her son Tyrone Webster.

Policy Matters

2020-21 School Choice Recommendations

The Board approved the 2020-21 School Choice as presented on the agenda.

Mr. Failing made a motion to approve the 2020-21 School Choice as presented on the agenda. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with one absent (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

2021-2022 School Choice

Mr. Failing made a motion to close all schools at 85% capacity to school choice. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with one absent (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Fiscal Matters

Budget/Fiscal Reports

Mrs. Kimberly Judy was present for any questions on the Budget/Fiscal Reports.

The Board approved the Budget/ Fiscal Reports as presented.

Mr. Failing made a motion to approve the Budget/Fiscal Reports as presented on the agenda. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with one absent (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Facilities Matters

Mr. Starke explained Facilities Matters individually as listed on the agenda.

Change Order: David E. Robinson Elementary School

The following change order for the David E. Robinson Elementary School was presented for Board approval:

Change Order #	Contractor	Amount/Increase	Amount/Decrease
#010- Revised concrete plan due to added playground, Relocate stage rack system	Richard Y. Johnson & Son, Inc.	\$62,635.00	

Mr. Failing made a motion to approve the David E. Robinson Elementary School Change Order #010 from Richard Y. Johnson & Son, Inc. as presented on the agenda. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with one absent (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Contract: David E. Robinson Elementary School: Transportation Building

The following contract for David E. Robinson Elementary School: Transportation Building was presented for Board approval:

- a. Assurance Media- Cabling for Transportation Building: \$12,342.83

Mr. Failing made a motion to approve the David E. Robinson Elementary School contract from Assurance Media as presented on the agenda. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with one absent (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Directors' Reports

Directors' reports, which include their Supervisors' reports, were included for the Board's review.

Dr. Denman asked Dr. Noel about DPAS II updates. Dr. Noel stated we have removed some items from the evaluations and adjusted the number of observations.

President Marasco stated he appreciated all of the work with the challenges they have received.

University of DE Study

Mr. John Laznick, University of DE, joined the meeting. A PowerPoint presentation was given. He stated what his department does and how they can study the district's attendance areas, feeder patterns, and make recommendations. Bus safety is considered. They do not recommend splitting neighborhoods. Geographical boundaries and demographics are also considered. He shared the district's current statistics. For the 2021-22 school year, the computer can generate the middle school assignments including St. Thomas More facility. That result would be adjusted depending on other factors for balancing numbers. He shared the first draft of attendance areas for the three middle schools. Draft two would be created after receiving feedback on the first draft. Future growth will be considered.

Dr. Denman asked for further explanation on one of the presentation slides. Dr. Denman asked about School Choice. Dr. Fitzgerald stated we must look at the Immersion students as well as the School Choice students.

Mr. Marasco asked for more clarification on the natural boundaries.

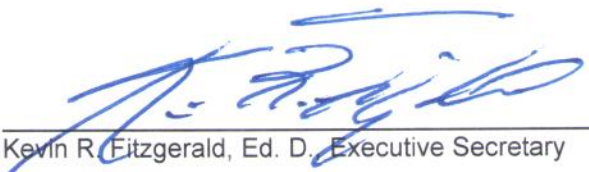
Mr. Failing asked about the number of Immersion Program students. Dr. Fitzgerald stated we must look at the staff for those programs. It is about 80-100 students. Dr. Fitzgerald stated we need public feedback. Mr. Laznick asks for a small group of people to work with for the next draft. A committee will be formed to work on the next draft for the December Board meeting.

Executive Session

At 8:11 p.m. Mr. Failing made a motion to go into Executive Session. The purpose of which is to discuss individual administrators' contract renewals/non-renewals and personnel matters with the meeting to be adjourned without returning to the general session. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with one absent. (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Adjournment

At 8:53 p.m. President Marasco adjourned the meeting.

 11/18/2020

Kevin R. Fitzgerald, Ed. D. Executive Secretary Date

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