

Regular Meeting January 19, 2021

Opening

Call to Order

At 7:04 p.m. School Board President Michael Marasco called the January 19, 2021, Caesar Rodney School District regular meeting to order.

Roll Call

Members present in addition to President Marasco were Vice President, Ms. Jessica Marelli, Board Members, Mr. Dave Failing, Dr. Joyce Denman, Executive Secretary Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald, and Mr. P. Scott Wilson arriving late.

Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Marelli made a motion to adopt the January 19, 2021 agenda as presented. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and after roll call, the motion carried 5-0 (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Approval of the Minutes: - December 15, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - January 4, 2021 and January 12, 2021 Work Session Meeting Minutes

Mr. Failing made a motion to approve the December 15, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes
Dr. Denman seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0 unanimously (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the January 4, 2021, and January 12, 2021, Work Session Meeting Minutes. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and after roll call, the motion carried 5-0 unanimously (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Presentations

Dr. Susan Bunting, Secretary of Education, read the Jennifer Wightman proclamation from the Governor. Mrs. Wightman's family was in attendance.

Caesar Rodney High School Principal, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, gave a brief presentation on the 2021 Polar Bear Plunge which raising money for the Special Olympics. She was joined by Dr. Tina Sander-Loftus, John S. Charlton Principal, and Dr. Kristina Failing, F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School Principal. This year the plunge will be virtual and online. They shared the sign-up information and encouraged everyone to register the CR team. The "Cool Schools Challenge" compares all school districts on their fundraising efforts. T-shirts will be given to those who raise \$10 for Special Olympics and sweatshirts for \$75. February 7th is the last day to register.

Communications

Superintendent

- Dr. Fitzgerald offered Mr. Wightman and the Wightman family our thoughts and prayers and he thanked Dr. Susan Bunting for joining us this evening for the proclamation.

- Dr. Fitzgerald also thanked Secretary Bunting and the Delaware Department of Education for their work in developing and implementing a Covid vaccination plan. The first stage of the plan 1B will go into effect next week.
- Dr. Fitzgerald informed the Board that we are currently planning on re-opening the John S. Charlton onsite program this Thursday. He stated we continue to monitor each school. He shared that today attendance across the district averaged 92% which is up from last week.
- Dr. Fitzgerald congratulated Mr. Muller and the performers of Sherlock Holmes – A Radio Mystery – on a great job. He appreciates the innovative ways in which Mr. Muller engages his students and keeps theater alive during these times.
- Dr. Fitzgerald congratulated our winter sports teams for a successful opening of the season. He gave a special shout out to the basketball team for beating Dover. He shared that DIAA will meet on Thursday and hopefully spring sports will continue.

School Board

- Dr. Denman also shared her appreciation for the radio mystery. She was impressed with the student's accents. She was captivated by the story.
- Mr. Failing shared his appreciation for the Wrightman family. He stated we will always be here for them during this time. He was happy with the Polar Bear Plunge presentation. He continued to speak on the Covid updates given to our district. He stated everyone should be up to date on the status of the state. The Governor should have given us more knowledge of what is happening. He states communication is very important. He doesn't diminish those who are behind the scenes but stresses communication is key.
- Ms. Marelli shared her children went back to school for their fifth and sixth days of school for this school year. They were nervous and had a lot of anxiety before that next day back. She thanked the entire district for everything they have done to get her children back to school. When they came home, even with all of that anxiety, her children were so glad they went back to school. She stated there was so much that went into those days, and she stated it was a very good and positive experience.
- President Marasco stated he also agreed with Ms. Marelli's statements.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Action Items

Personnel Matters

The Board approved Personnel Matters A1.- A6. as presented on the agenda. Ms. Marelli made a motion to Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

1. Teacher Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Rosa'Lynn Burton	CRHS	Special Education	Temporary appointment effective 1/4/2021.
Jamie Owens	ILC	Special Education	Temporary appointment effective 1/4/2021.
Xudong Xue	WBS	Chinese Immersion	Temporary appointment effective 01/04/2021.
Anthony Davis	JSC	Mental Health Counselor	Temporary appointment effective 02/01/2021.

Doris Ridenour	WRB	Elementary	Retirement effective end of 2020-2021 SY.
Diane Casella	JSC	Special Education	Retirement effective end of 2020-2021 SY.
Andrea Davis	JSC/ILC	Social Worker	Resignation effective 1/16/2021.
Kelly Connell	JSC	Speech Language Pathologist	Resignation effective 1/16/2021.

2. Paraprofessional Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Deborah Moseder	SHE	Paraprofessional	Resignation effective 1/16/2021.
Jason Andrews	JSC	Paraprofessional	Resignation effective 1/9/2021.
Sharon Widener	MCI	Paraprofessional	Retirement effective end of SY 21

3. Secretarial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Lisa Hale	DO/Transportation	Financial Secretary	Appointment effective 12/21/2020.
Shelly Bailey	DO/Transportation	Financial Secretary	Resignation effective 12/19/2020.

4. Child Nutrition Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Cheryl Griffin	SHE	3 hour General Worker	Retirement effective, 7/1/2021.
Keith Weems	MCI	3.5 hour General Worker	Resignation effective, 1/5/2021.
JaQuasia Reid-Norwood	NHS	3 hour General Worker	Resignation (correction) effective, 11/30/2020.

5. Other Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Deborah Moseder	DW	Jr. Maintenance Technician	Appointment effective 01/18/2021.

6. Extra Duty Recommendations/Resignations

Name	School	Activity	Position	Action
Noelle Mouhtarim	CRHS	Swimming	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports SY20-21.
Mike Tesno	CRHS	Winter Weight Program	Head Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports SY20-21.
Jayden Wolford	CRHS	Unified Basketball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports SY20-21.
Hillary Baird	AFE	Musical	Chorus	Recommendation for Year-Round Activities SY20-21.

Routine Business

Gifts to Schools

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

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the Gifts to Schools as presented on the agenda. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

The following donations were Board approved:

- a. Star Hill Elementary School received \$1,000 from Exxon Mobile Educational Alliance, NUR Service Station, LLC.
- b. Star Hill Elementary School received the following donations from Donors Choose.
 - 1. \$573.78 for classroom supplies: Stephanie Ivory
 - 2. \$990.33 for classroom supplies: Samantha Lensbower
 - 3. \$556.00 for classroom supplies: Kelli Stubbs
 - 4. \$762.26 for classroom supplies: Alex Conklin
 - 5. \$995.00 for the "Flexible and Fun in First Grade" project
 - 6. \$998.00 for the "Covid Can't Stop Our Learning" project
 - 7. \$524.00 for the "Booking it to Your Front Door" project
- c. W. Reily Brown Elementary School received the following donations from Donors Choose.
 - 1. \$975.11 for classroom supplies: Allyson Yates
 - 2. \$691.93 for classroom supplies: Kimberly Young
 - 3. \$992.71 for classroom supplies: Amber Bush
 - 4. \$598.46 for classroom supplies: Doris Ridenour
- d. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received \$1,000 from Exxon Mobile Educational Alliance, Steve Kayabas/ NJ Energy Group.
- e. Major George S Welch Elementary School received box storage, Money Handson Student Pack, Handson Math Teaching Kit, Reading Comprehensive Daily Practice: Missy Snyder
- f. Allen Frear Elementary School received the following donations from Donors Choose.
 - 1. \$1,250.00 for Hybrid/Virtual Leaners: Mrs. Birney
 - 2. \$1,014.00 for Letter tiles and Lots of Smiles materials: Mrs. Upp
 - 3. \$1,000.00 for Learning at home art supplies: Mr. Kenny
 - 4. \$991.00 for Wobble while we work flexible seating: Mrs. Price
 - 5. \$991.00 for Wiggle safety at our seat flexible seating: Chang Laoshi
 - 6. \$850.00 for Living the Best Ukulele Life: Ms. Baird
- g. W.B. Simpson Elementary School received the following donation from Donors Choose:
 - 1. DELL docking station
 - 2. Logitech expansion microphones
- h. Caesar Rodney High School received:
 - 1. \$500 from Steve Kayabas, ASA Gass LLC
 - 2. \$500 from Steve Kayabas, Gas Boy of NJ LLC
- i. J. Ralph McIlvaine Early Childhood Center received \$1,000 for learning materials from Donor's Choose.
- j. John S. Charlton School received the following donations.
 - 1. 60 children's winter coats: Knights of Columbus Dover Council 4182
 - 2. \$7,259.65 Donation: Newcomers Club of Dover
 - 3. \$500 Donation: Family Allergy & Asthma Care, Dr. Shankar & Mrs. Lakhani
- k. The Caesar Rodney School District received 350 books for elementary-aged students to be distributed when picking up meals at the district's meal pick up locations from the Hatchett Book Group.

Policy Matters

2020-21 School Choice Recommendations

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

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the 2020-21 School Choice as presented on the agenda. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Fiscal Matters

Budget/Fiscal Reports

Mrs. Kimberly Judy explained the Budget/Fiscal Reports, Financial Position Report as of December 31, 2020, and the FY21 Final District Operating Budget. Ms. Marelli asked for the cost savings due to the pandemic and asked they also be added for next month.

The Board approved the Budget/ Fiscal Reports as presented.

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the Budget/Fiscal Reports as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Financial Position Report as of December 31, 2020

The Board approved the Financial Report as of December 31, 2020, as presented.

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the Financial Position Report as of December 31, 2020, as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

FY21 Final District Operating Budget

The Board approved the FY21 Final District Operating Budget as presented.

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the FY21 Final District Operating Budget as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

President Marasco thanked Mrs. Judy for her hard work on the reports.

Facilities Matters

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

1. The following change order for the John S. Charlton School was Board approved:

Change Order #	Contractor	Amount/Increase	Amount/Decrease
#001- Steel and electrical revisions and additional BAS controls.	Joseph T. Richardson, Inc.	\$8,828.00	

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the Joseph T. Richardson, Inc. Change Order #001 as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

2. The following change order for Fred Fifer III Middle School, F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School, Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary, and Star Hill Elementary Schools was Board approved:

Change Order #	Contractor	Amount/Increase	Amount/Decrease
#002- Fee adjustment to the PO for the four schools	Tetra Tech	\$66,000.00	

Dr. Denman asked if the middle schools were the same fees.

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the Tetra Tech Change Order #002 as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

3. The following contracts for the David E. Robinson Elementary School were Board approved:

- a. ProWatch Reader Licenses, Advantech = \$5,150.00

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the Advantech Contract as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing

seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

b. Flooring wax, Hudson Cleaning = \$9,400.00

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the Hudson Cleaning Contract as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Directors' Reports

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

Ms. Marelli stated that she was very excited to see the Child Nutrition Happy Meals listed as being available for our students. She was impressed with everything listed in all of the Director's Reports. She stated it was amazing to see everything that is being done daily in our district. It is very impressive.

University of DE Study

Dr. Michael Noel, Assistant Superintendent/Director of Human Resources, introduced Mr. John Laznick, University of DE.

Mr. Laznick gave an update on draft two of the school feeder patterns. He shared the guiding principles for redistricting for the middle schools with anticipation of acquiring the St. Thomas More building. The geographic areas and current school programs have been considered. Building permit history in the district was shared with the Board. Future development and planning data were also given. Active construction and timelines were reviewed by Mr. Laznick and shared with the Board. Birth history data in the middle school attendance areas were given.

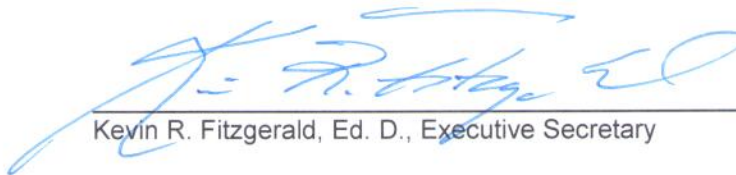
President Marasco stated this report was great and Mr. Laznick has done an amazing job. Dr. Noel thanked Mr. Laznick and the committee. He would like to have this information posted on the district's website in hopes of receiving more feedback. The Board agreed to have this information available for the public.

Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

Adjournment

At 8:15 p.m. Mr. Failing made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Marelli seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0. (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).



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