

**Work Session Meeting
January 26, 2021**

Opening

Call to Order

At 6:05 p.m. School Board President Michael Marasco called the January 26, 2021, Caesar Rodney School District Work Session 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, and Executive Secretary Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald. Mr. P. Scott Wilson was not present.

Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Marelli made a motion to adopt the January 26, 2021 agenda as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and after roll call, the motion carried 4-0 with one absent (Marasco, Marelli, Failing, and Denman).

Update on School Re-Opening

President Marasco thanked everyone for attending.

Dr. Fitzgerald gave the district COVID numbers as they are current and posted on the state dashboard. The number of students absent and those quarantined is lower. Child care is the concern at this time. If someone tests positive, their household will need to quarantine. This impacts the entire district. The attendance rate has picked up at 92%. Next week begins the second semester. The December parent survey requests will be honored and transportation is currently being worked on. Dr. Fitzgerald gave the current statistics of parent's requests.

The total number of surveys returned was 1,652. Currently students are enrolled as 58.87% selecting Hybrid/In-Person Instruction and 41.13% selecting Remote Instruction. 363 requested changes have been received. This is 259 requesting Hybrid/In-Person Instruction and 104 requesting Remote Instruction.

Dr. Fitzgerald continued to state we are hopeful the guidelines will change and we can get more students back into the buildings. He shared we continue to provide over 3,000 meals to our students per week. Mr. Paul Rogers, Supervisor of Child Nutrition, and his team are doing an amazing job.

Dr. Fitzgerald continued to state that today was the first day of registration for staff vaccines. Over 3,000 were registered in the first 10 minutes. There are currently only 1,000 vaccines allocated for educators. This will cause a delay in the administration of the vaccine. Delaware Public Health (DPH) and the Department of Education (DOE) are doing the best they can at this time. We understand there is a limit to the number of vaccines available. Dr. Fitzgerald reminded everyone about COVID testing available at CR High School.

Dr. Fitzgerald gave the inclement weather procedures in place for this year. The most we can accommodate is a one-hour delay with current transportation. If it requires more than a one-hour delay it would be a full remote learning day. The one-hour delay schedule is currently listed on the website. We do not need snow days this year because we can do instruction remotely, but should we need a full snow day we can go back to the original policy for a normal school year.

Dr. Fitzgerald continued. The high school is continuing the SAT Prep Course virtually for those testing students. Juniors interested should take advantage of this class. Teachers should contact the high school if they need that registration information.

Dr. Fitzgerald gave a shout out to the Instruction Department and all teachers. The T3 Expo is scheduled for this Friday and will be virtual. It is exciting to see so many staff members presenting this year.

Dr. Fitzgerald reminded everyone to participate in the Polar Bear Plunge by joining Team Caesar Rodney.

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

Dr. Denman thanked Dr. Fitzgerald for his detailed presentation.

President Marasco was impressed with the 65 sessions of the T3 Expo. Mrs. Tara Faircloth, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, stated we don't have a cap on registration this year. So everyone gets their pick and there are over 700 people currently registered. Several topics are available. It is amazing to see how many staff members offered to present. Ignite session will be the kick-off. This is where five educators will tell their story with fast-paced slides. All zoom links are available for the Board to join in for the event.

President Marasco stated this is very beneficial for our district. He stated we are doing a great job and he thanked everyone for their continued support during this time of COVID.

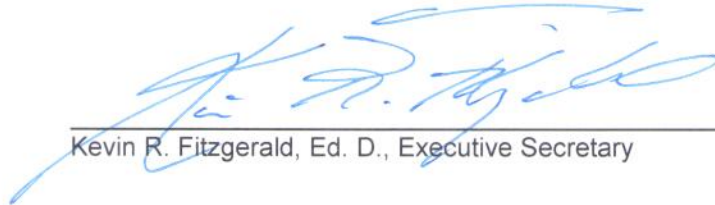
Lt. Col. Brooks Wilkerson thanked Dr. Fitzgerald for the snow day information.

Executive Session

At 6:24 p.m. Ms. Marelli made a motion to go into Executive Session and to adjourn without returning to open session. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0. (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Denman, and Wilson).

Adjournment

At 7:10 p.m., Mr. Marasco adjourned the meeting.



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