Regular Meeting
February 16, 2021

Opening

Call to Order

At 7:04 p.m. School Board President Michael Marasco called the February 16, 2021, Caesar Rodney School District regular meeting to order.

Roll Call

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

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Failing made a motion to adopt the February 16, 2021 agenda as presented. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and after roll call, the motion carried 4-0 (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Approval of the Minutes: - January 19, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes
- January 26, 2021 Work Session Meeting Minutes

Mr. Failing made a motion to approve the January 19, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes and January 26, 2021, Work Session Meeting Minutes. Dr. Denman seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0 (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Presentations

Dr. Susan Bunting, Secretary of Education, read the Greg Curran proclamation from the Governor. Mr. Curran's family was in attendance.

Dr. Fitzgerald read the School Counselors Week proclamation.

Dr. Fitzgerald read the National FFA Week proclamation.

Star Hill Elementary School student council gave their rendition of a virtual CRSD Board meeting. They shared several things they love about hybrid learning. Even though there are things they miss about not being in school all of the time, there are many positive things that are happening. They shared their positivity with the Board.

Communications

Superintendent

- Dr. Fitzgerald offered condolences to Greg Curran's family, co-workers, and students. He thanked Dr. Susan Bunting and the Curran family for joining the meeting this evening for the proclamation.
- Dr. Fitzgerald thanked the guidance counselors for the job that they are doing to help our students during these challenging times.
- Dr. Fitzgerald reminded the Board that next week is FFA week. He stated we have an outstanding FFA program and he thanked their sponsors, Lauren Ruskey, Rebecca Sheehan, and Mark Breeding.
- Dr. Fitzgerald once again thank the Camden-Wyoming Rotary for their generosity in donating $7,800 to equip five school buses with Wi-Fi. These buses will be located in areas of the district which have

the poorest connectivity and will be available to any K-12 student. He gave kudos to Mrs. Tara Faircloth, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, for her involvement with this donation.

- Dr. Fitzgerald shared that last week's attendance numbers and today's remains at 92 percent student participation. Regarding Covid numbers, we currently have eight staff members out either in quarantine or isolation and our student numbers remain within the number indicated on the state dashboard.
- Dr. Fitzgerald stated while we haven't been given the number of staff members that have been vaccinated, we do know that everyone in group A should have received their first vaccination by the end of the week.
- Dr. Fitzgerald discussed the Board's interest in the possibility of consolidating the secondary cohorts from three to two. In speaking with our secondary principals, he has asked them to take an actual headcount and to call the parents of students who are signed up for hybrid in-person but are currently not attending. He has given the principals and Mr. Bonner, Supervisor of Transportation, a target date of March 15th for merging the "C" cohort into both "A" and "B". He continued to say he wishes this was an easy task, but it will take some time and logistics. It may necessitate some schedule changes and logistics regarding transportation. By replacing those who have not physically come into the school with students in cohort "C" we believe it can be done. Those students who have not come in will continue to be taught remotely and placed on a waiting list should they wish to return to in-person instruction. We will make the merge of cohorts happen as soon as we possibly can.
- Dr. Fitzgerald spoke about athletics. With fall sports drawing to a close, we are looking forward to all Spring sports season. DIAA has given the go-ahead, and we are again looking at the schedule and transportation needs of our teams. We are also considering some sort of modified Middle School Spring sports season. Again transportation is a concern. We are committed to making sports the best we can for our students this year.
- Dr. Fitzgerald stated that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) has recently come out with their guidance for reopening schools. In listening to Governor Carney and Secretary Rattay, the guidance does not change the Delaware Public Health (DPH)'s stance on transportation, social distancing, cleaning, or mask-wearing. While some minor tweaks have been made since the summer, we are still obligated to follow the Department of Education (DOE) and DPH's mandate of 23 on a bus, between 3-6 ft. social distancing in a classroom, 6 ft. social distancing in the cafeteria and hallways and cleaning every 15 minutes to two hours. Gov. Carney reaffirmed that this is why Delaware schools can be in person while schools in adjourning states are not or are now just returning.
- Dr. Fitzgerald announced we are preparing for next year. The high school scheduling forms were mailed to this year's eighth-graders and are due back on February 19th. Tonight is a question-and-answer zoom for next year's incoming ninth-grade students and their parents. There will be another zoom opportunity tomorrow at noon. Also, parents can email or call the high school regarding scheduling for next year. By the end of the week, we will be posting information regarding kindergarten registration. This year's registration will be online.
- Dr. Fitzgerald informed the Board that we continue to have discussions with the Archdiocese of Wilmington over the use of Thomas More Academy for the next school year and work at the Robinson Elementary School is proceeding but has been affected by the recent weather conditions.
- Dr. Fitzgerald updated the Board on the weather forecast stating it looks like we have more snow in the forecast for this Thursday and Friday.
- Dr. Fitzgerald expressed his appreciation for all staff members for providing the best education they can for our students. He is happy to see all of the wonderful things taking place throughout our district.

<u>School Board</u>

- President Marasco echoed Dr. Fitzgerald's appreciation for all staff. He is excited to see the WiFi buses and the move of the cohorts.
- Mr. Failing also agreed with Dr. Fitzgerald's appreciation. We have a tremendous amount of work ahead and we want to be respectful to our staff. Vaccinations will get us back to normal quickly. Middle School sports are important and must be done right. It is a lot we are asking of our staff at this time.
- Dr. Denman gave a shout-out regarding the recent T3 Expo event. She was impressed by the entire day. She was swelling with rider pride. She compared the beginning Ignite opening with a national keynote address.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Action Items

Personnel Matters

The Board approved Personnel Matters A1.- A4. as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing made a motion to Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

1. Teacher Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Margaret (Peggie) Birch	CRHS	Teacher	Retirement effective end of 2020-2021 SY.
Brian Berns	CRHS	Teacher	Retirement effective end of 2020-2021 SY.
Julie Harris	CRHS	School Counselor	Retirement effective end of 2020-2021 SY.
Robert Hicks	PMS	Teacher	Retirement effective end of 2020-2021 SY.
Donald Miller	PMS	Teacher	Retirement effective end of 2020-2021 SY.
Kathleen Paulison	FMS	Teacher	Retirement effective end of 2020-2021 SY.

2. Paraprofessional Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Jennifer Bones	WBS	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective 02/01/2021.
Alyssa deWolfe	SHE	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective 02/01/2021.
Gannon Childers	JSC ILC	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective 02/01/2021.
Kourtney Vann	MCI	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective 02/22/2021.
Keely Thomas	JSC	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective 02/16/2021.
Diana Barnard	JSC	Paraprofessional	Retirement effective end of 2020-2021 SY.

3. Secretarial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Crystal Shockley	DO	Secretary	Appointment effective 01/19/2021.

4. Extra Duty Recommendations/Resignations

Name	School	Activity	Position	Action
Jeff Gravatt	CRHS	Baseball	Varsity	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Zach Candeloro	CRHS	Baseball	Assistant Varsity	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Matt Millman	CRHS	Baseball	Jr Varsity Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21

Brooks Johnson	CRHS	Lacrosse/Boys	Varsity	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Ryne Johnson	CRHS	Lacrosse/Boys	Assistant Varsity	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Brendon Butler	CRHS	Lacrosse/Boys	Jr Varsity Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Georgina Voss	CRHS	Lacrosse/Girls	Varsity	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Rebecca Handel	CRHS	Lacrosse/Girls	Assistant Varsity	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Jessica Stratton	CRHS	Lacrosse/Girls	Jr Varsity Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Dwayne Lavender	CRHS	Soccer/Girls	Varsity	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Aleya Cummings	CRHS	Soccer/Girls	Assistant Varsity	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Scott Myers	CRHS	Soccer/Girls	Jr Varsity Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Cristine Taylor	CRHS	Soccer/Girls	JV Assistant	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Skye Boris	CRHS	Softball	Varsity	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Gerald Curd	CRHS	Softball	Assistant Varsity Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Lauren Ruskey	CRHS	Softball	Jr Varsity Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Megan Loder	CRHS	Softball	JV Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Dan Candeloro	CRHS	Tennis/Girls	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Jackson Levins	CRHS	Unified Track	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Angela Woody	CRHS	Unified Track	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Jared Lelito	CRHS	Baseball	Jr Varsity Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Mike Tucci	CRHS	Track - Boys/Girls	Varsity	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Ken Begor	CRHS	Track - Boys/Girls	Assistant Varsity Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Dwayne Wilson	CRHS	Track - Boys/Girls	Assistant Varsity Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Samir Gibrial	CRHS	Track - Boys/Girls	Assistant Varsity Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Deb Yingling	CRHS	Track - Boys/Girls	Assistant Varsity Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Mike Johnson	CRHS	Track - Boys/Girls	Assistant Varsity Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Brandon Hatch	CRHS	Varsity Baseball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Mark Hill	CRHS	JV Baseball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Robert Easton	CRHS	JV Baseball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Dillon Cole	CRHS	Varsity Baseball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Matthew McKee	CRHS	Varsity Baseball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21

Keith Millman	CRHS	JV Baseball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Sean Hastings	CRHS	Spring Track	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Chris Hurd	CRHS	Spring Track	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Kristen Finley	CRHS	Girls Soccer	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Michael Tesno	CRHS	Spring Weight Program	Training	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Bruce McFall	CRHS	Tennis/Boys	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY20-21
Susanne Surdukowski	CRHS	Girls Basketball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports SY20-21
Sherry Roscoe	CRHS	Musical	Assistant Show Choir	Recommendation for Year-Round Activities SY20-21
Keith McCarthy	CRHS	Musical	Show Choir	Recommendation for Year-Round Activities SY20-21
Stuart Gardner	CRHS	Cheerleading	Head JV Coach	Recommendation for Year-Round Activities SY20-21
Bobbi Scott	ABM	Student Publications	Yearbook Co-Sponsor	Recommendation for Year-Round Activities SY20-21
D'Lorah Sutfin	ABM	Student Publications	Yearbook Co-Sponsor	Recommendation for Year-Round Activities SY20-21

Routine Business

Gifts to Schools

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

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

The following donations were Board approved:

a. W.B. Simpson Elementary School received the following donations from Donor's Choose:
   1. Flexible Seating- Surf desks x4, Kindermat Crate x1, Wobble Chairs x4, & Balance Balls x4
   2. Technology Tools- Classroom Headphones 10 pack x2, Wireless Keyboard & mouse, Presentation Clicker, Headset, Drawing Tablet, & Laptop Stand
   3. Classroom Set of Books: Elephant & Piggie
   4. Miscellaneous Classroom Supplies- Junior Composition Notebooks x4, Spaceman kit x1, & Mesh Zipper Pouches Pack of 20
   5. Bulk Class Set (30) wired headsets, Monitor - 21.5 inch, and Laptop Stand
   6. 4 Exercise Balls, 5 Yoga Mats, Flexible Pencils, Command Hooks, and Dry Erase Paddleboards
   7. Yoga Balls, Headphones, Whiteboards, and Drawing Board Tablet
   8. Two computer monitors, two wireless headphones, wireless keyboard, and wireless mouse
b. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received pajamas from Vincent Enzo's Pajama Drive for Hope.
c. The Caesar Rodney District Office received the following donations:
   1. 30 desktop computers and mice from Bayhealth
   2. $7,800 to add WiFi to busses from the Camden Rotary Club
d. The CRSD Instruction Office received T-Shirts, a DELL Chromebook, and DELL Optiflex for the T3 Expo from CDI Computers.
e. The Caesar Rodney High School received the following donations for Polar Bear Plunge:
   1. $500- Tre Sorelle Dolce
   2. $200- Jen Mor Florist
   3. $300- The Pool Doctor
   4. $500- U & I Builders
   5. $300- Knight's Fine Jewelry, LTD.

6. $500- Studio JAED

f. The John S. Charlton School received the following donations:
   1. 16 boxed meals- Milford Ruby Tuesday's
   2. 37 fleece blankets- Camden Wyoming Women of the Moose, Chapter 1546
   3. 60 jackets- Knights of Columbus #4182
   4. $3,300- Wightman family and donors for Jen Wightman's KEILC Memorial

Policy Matters

2020-21 School Choice Recommendations

The Board approved the 2020-21and 2021-22 School Choice as presented on the agenda.

Mr. Failing made a motion to approve the 2020-21 and 2021-22 School Choice as presented on the agenda. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Fiscal Matters

Budget/Fiscal Reports

Mrs. Kimberly Judy explained 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 (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Facilities Matters

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

1. The following change orders for Caesar Rodney High School were presented for Board approval:

Change Order #	Contractor	Amount/Increase	Amount/Decrease
#011- Cove base change at E102, E105, E111. ROTC & Art room. Bench at Locker Room E103.	Kent Construction	$10,5738.51	

Dr. Denman made a motion to approve the Kent Construction Change Order #011 as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Change Order #	Contractor	Amount/Increase	Amount/Decrease
#012- Masonry paver repair at the stadium entrance	Kent Construction		$9,900.00

Dr. Denman made a motion to approve the Kent Construction Order #012 as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Change Order #	Contractor	Amount/Increase	Amount/Decrease
#013- Beam enclosure, stadium sign adjustment, blackout tint at curtain wall, additional smoke/heat detector, ceiling at elevator machine rm., additional floor/tamper devises, temporary door, ice machine and casework adjustment, laundry room door, trophy case stain, additional room signs, trim work, CMU	Kent Construction	$48,873.00	

demolition, threshold at connector doors.			

Dr. Fitzgerald asked if Studio JAED met the range of total change order amounts. Mr. Starke stated usually it is 5% and by the end of the day they were in that range and he is satisfied. There is additional money to utilize within the building as needed.

Mr. Failing made a motion to approve the Kent Construction Change Order #013 as presented on the agenda. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Mr. Starke gave an update on referendum money and explained the construction bid.

2. The following construction bid was presented for the Board's review and approval:
    a. Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary School- ($242,051.10) Classroom furnishings including student/teachers' desks and chairs. Contractor is GA Blanco, Inc.

Dr. Denman made a motion to approve the GA Blanco, Inc. contract as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 (Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Directors' Reports

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

President Marasco stated he doesn't envy the Directors. They do an amazing job and do quite a lot.

Dr. Denman stated she received compliments about the Human Resources department and their communication with Delaware State University.

Acquisition of the Thomas More School and the District Realignment

Dr. Michael Noel, Assistant Superintendent/Director of Human Resources, stated we posted the proposal on our website. The community has had a month to review the recommendations. He suggested we hold a Special Board Meeting to be scheduled for the community to express their comment, concerns, or recommendations before final approval.

Dr. Fitzgerald stated instead of a Tuesday Work Session Meeting, we would post a Special Meeting notice sometime in March. Dr. Denman stated it could be listed on the agenda for two meetings. Dr. Fitzgerald stated we would present all of the information to the community and accept questions etc. with a follow-up the next week. Press coverage for the district's plan could be announced as we get closer to the acquisition.

President Marasco stated March 2nd would be the best date for the special meeting. The Board agreed on this date.

Executive Session

At 8:02 p.m Mr. Failing made a motion to go into Executive Session. The purpose of which is to conduct interviews for the anticipated principal of the Thomas More School. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 3-0 (Marasco, Failing, and Wilson).

At 9:46 p.m. Mr. Failing made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 3-0 (Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

Personnel Matters

A. Appointment of the anticipated principal of the Thomas More School.

President Marasco made a motion to appoint Keith Wisher as the anticipated principal position at the Thomas More School with a start date to be determined. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and after roll call, the motion carried unanimously 3-0 with two not present (Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

Adjournment

At 9:50 p.m. Mr. Failing made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0 with two not present. (Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

3/16/21

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

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