

**Regular Meeting  
February 18, 2020**

**Opening**

Call to Order

At 7:02 p.m. School Board President Jessica Marelli called the February 18, 2020, Caesar Rodney School District regular meeting to order.

Roll Call

Members present in addition to Mrs. Marelli were Vice-President Mr. Michael Marasco, Mr. Dave Failing, Dr. Joyce Denman, Mr. P. Scott Wilson, Lt. Col. Michael Morales, Base Liaison, and Executive Secretary Dr. Kevin R. Fitzgerald.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Marasco made a motion to adopt the February 18, 2020 agenda and addendum as presented. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Approval of Minutes – January 28, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Marasco made a motion to approve the January 28, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

**Presentations**

Recognitions

New U Nutrition (Colton Vautard, Terri Lynn Moore) was presented with the Spirit of Caesar Rodney Volunteer Award for their donation for the students at Kent Elementary Intensive Learning Center.

Imperial Nutrition (Carlee Merix, Tammy Merix) was presented with the Spirit of Caesar Rodney Volunteer Award for their donation for the students at Kent Elementary Intensive Learning Center.

Dr. Jeffrey Gravatt (CRHS) was recognized for earning his doctoral degree from Wilmington College.

Chef Terri "Riki" Senn was recognized as the 2020 ProStart National Educator of Excellence Award and James H. Maynard Award winner.

Dr. Fitzgerald read a proclamation for School Counselors Week and National FFA Week.

Presentation

Dr. Kristina Failing, Principal F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School, welcomed the Board and introduced their student leadership groups. Mrs. Grimes, Mrs. Sell, and Mr. Freeman gave a PowerPoint presentation on their DE English Language Learners. They participated in a fundraiser collecting shoes for those less fortunate and offered a scholarship.

The Fred Fifer III and F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School Business Professionals of America gave a presentation to the Board on a cafeteria redesign as part of their activities for this school year. Both schools discussed cafeteria colors, tables, and seating, breakfast and lunch menus, budget, technology options, environmental-friendly materials, and the cafeteria line flow. Their menus included gluten-free, vegan and allergenic options.

President Marelli thanked the F. Niel Postlethwait and Fred Fifer III Middle School's students for their presentations and she thanked the FCCLA for the Board dinner this evening.

### Communications

#### Superintendent

Dr. Fitzgerald communicated the following to the Board:

- Dr. Fitzgerald commended Kaitlyn Stotler, a junior at CRHS who is part of the CNA program partnership, for addressing the Joint Finance Committee in support of funding for pathway programs.
- Dr. Fitzgerald shared the Governor signed a Proclamation naming February Black History Month. The ceremony took place at the State Archives and two Star Hill Elementary School students, Kristin Boyce and Kaleeb Tribbitt, interrupted their three-day weekend to lead us in the pledge. Dr. Fitzgerald thanked them and their parents.
- Last week, Dr. Fitzgerald joined Secretary Bunting in addressing Joint Finance Company with the Department of Education and Chief's budgetary requests. He stated it was an interesting afternoon in which many topics from the University of Delaware, the Unit Count and school safety were discussed.
- Dr. Fitzgerald wished Jim Harvey well as he is going to have bypass surgery tomorrow. Our prayers and thoughts are with him as he recovers.
- Today, Dr. Fitzgerald represented Kent County at the equalization committee meeting. Equalization should remain the same for another year (CR receives \$11,635,277) the proposal to unfreeze the formula could have cost us \$1,207,155.
- Dr. Fitzgerald thanked those parents that have reached out to him about ROTC and Middle School Cross Country. He explained that EPER pay is part of the collective bargaining agreement. The number of points and the amount of money associated with each point is negotiated. All EPER positions and point totals are listed in the collective bargaining agreement. Principals make recommendations to the committee to consider the addition of new positions. Such positions are approved when points become available. This occurs after a position is vacated, additional points are negotiated through the collective bargaining agreement or funding is targeted in a referendum. At the last School Board meeting, the EPER committee submitted a recommendation to support nineteen new EPER positions for a total cost of \$85,000. These positions were for after school programs at the Secondary, Middle and elementary levels. Unfortunately, the EPER committee currently has only \$5,040 available to allocate. Dr. Fitzgerald and the Board agrees that all of these programs are beneficial to our students and that we value the work of each staff member. They help make Caesar Rodney special. Unfortunately with limited funds, tough choices need to be made. In fairness, the Board tabled the decision and referred it back to the EPER committee to make a recommendation in line with the funds available.
- Dr. Fitzgerald informed the Board that he has been invited to be a part of the State Police Honorary Commander Program. He will be sworn in next Monday at the Academy.
- Dr. Fitzgerald shared that February 28th is the DSEA Scholarship Fundraiser held at Dover Downs. The event starts at 5 p.m.

#### School Board

Dr. Denman shared she attended the Charlton off-site (18-21 yr olds) program at Wesley College. She was impressed with their use of space for the program. She mentioned a thank you card she received that the Charlton students are manufacturing and selling.

### **Public Comments**

1. Taja Hargis addressed the Board regarding her student with special needs. She asked how students are being evaluated for services. She asked why there is no department for students that do not fall under the Charlton School. She asked about the parent resources available.
2. Daniel Faust addressed the Board regarding communication in the district. He has a background in technology and is in the military. He stated he has four students in the district and asked for district-wide communication via text message instead of paper notifications.

## Executive Session

At 8:23 p.m. Mr. Marasco made a motion to go into Executive Session. The purpose of which is to conduct interviews for the Director of Business and Finance. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

At 10:23 p.m. Mr. Marasco made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

Mr. P. Scott Wilson had to leave.

## Action Items

### Personnel Matters

#### A. Appointment of a Director of Business and Finance

Mr. Marasco made a motion to appoint Kim Judyas the Director of Business and Finance with an effective date to be determined. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

#### B. Personnel Matters

The Board approved Personnel Matters as presented on the agenda and the addendum.

Mr. Marasco made a motion to accept Personnel Matters B.1 – B.7 as presented on the agenda and the addendum. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

##### 1. Teacher Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Charmagne Quarles	CRHS	English	Temporary appointment effective 1/30/2020-06/30/2020.
Carrie Bouchard	CRHS	Social Studies/Spec. Ed.	Temporary appointment effective 02/03/2020-06/30/2020.
Angela Donastorg	WRB	Special Education	Resignation effective 2/22/2020.
Alexa Viguers	DW	Occupational Therapist	Resignation effective 2/22/2020.

##### 2. Paraprofessional Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Denise Ewell-Fleming	ILC	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective 2/24/2020-6/30/2020.
Sara Price	CRHS	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective 02/05/2020-6/30/2020.
Susan Horne	JSC	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective 02/10/2020-6/30/2020.
Yvette Quinones	PMS	Paraprofessional	Resignation effective 2/1/2020.
Maryann Chambers	PMS	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective 2/28/2020-6/30/2020.
Pamela Paris	MCI	Paraprofessional	Retirement effective end of 2019-2020 SY.
Amber Rains	JSC	Paraprofessional	Resignation effective 2/10/2020.

3. Secretarial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Yvette Quinones	PMS	Secretary	Appointment effective 2/3/2020.
Meghan Dickerson	D.O.	Secretary	Appointment effective 3/2/2020.

4. Custodial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Reginal Quail	WBS	Fireman Custodian	Appointment effective 2/10/2020.

5. Child Nutrition Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Tammy Helwig	DABM	5.0hr General Worker	Transfer to 5.5hr GW effective 1/21/2020.
Ann Allen	CRHS	5.0hr General Worker	Transfer to DABM 5.0hr GW effective 1/21/2020.
Keith Weems	FMS	3.5hr General Worker	Transfer to MECC 3.5hr GW effective 1/21/2020.
Myrtle Burris	CRHS	4.0hr General Worker	Transfer to FMS 4.0hr GW effective 1/21/2020.
Jennifer Brady	WRB	3.0hr General Worker/Aide	Appointment effective 1/24/2020.
Annette Britt	MECC	3.0hr General Worker/Aide	Appointment effective 1/21/2020.
David Wolfe	DABM	3.0hr General Worker	Appointment effective 1/27/2020.
Shirley Procopio	CRHS	3.0hr General Worker	Appointment effective 2/4/2020.
Kayla Dodge	SHE	5.5hr General Worker	Resignation effective 1/29/2020.

6. Extra Duty Recommendations/Resignations

Name	School	Activity	Position	Action
Ken Begor	CRHS	Track - Boys/Girls	Assistant Varsity Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Michael Johnson	CRHS	Track - Boys/Girls	Assistant Varsity Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Nikkie Beers	CRHS	Track - Boys/Girls	Assistant Varsity Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Samir Gibrial	CRHS	Track - Boys/Girls	Assistant Varsity Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Dwayne Lavender	CRHS	Soccer/Girls	Varsity	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Michael Tucci	CRHS	Track - Boys/Girls	Varsity	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Bobby Stevenson	CRHS	Boys Lacrosse	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Chris Hurd	CRHS	Track & Field	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Conrad Steele	CRHS	Boys Lacrosse	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Frank McSweeny	CRHS	Track & Field	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Ryan McQuaide	CRHS	Boys Lacrosse	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.

Tess Charney	CRHS	Track & Field	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Aleya Cummings	CRHS	Soccer/Girls	Assistant Varsity	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Teresa Charney	FMS	Track/Co-Ed	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Da'Quan Gibbs	PMS	Lacrosse	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY19-20.
Matthew McKee	CRHS	Baseball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY 19-20.
Seth Brosius	CRHS	Baseball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY 19-20.
Mark Hill	CRHS	Baseball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY 19-20.
Dillon Cole	CRHS	Baseball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY 19-20.
Jeremy Drago	FMS	Baseball	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY 19-20.
Michael Wilson	FMS	Baseball	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports SY 19-20.

## 7. CREA Travel Requests

Name	School	Position	Action
Kellie Rogers	D.O.	Teacher	To attend Understanding Text & Readers: Strategies to Make Sense of Comprehension, Philadelphia, PA 4/28/20-4/29/20
Mary MacPherson	D.O.	Teacher	To attend Understanding Text & Readers: Strategies to Make Sense of Comprehension, Philadelphia, PA 4/29/21
Jared Lelito	FMS	Teacher	To attend Ripken Experience-Spring Training, Myrtle Beach, SC 3/13/20-3/17/20

### Routine Business

### Student Travel

The Board approved Student Travel as presented on the agenda.

### Caesar Rodney High School

Event	Date	Location
National Drills Competition- AFJROTC	Friday, 3/20/2020- Sunday, 3/22/2020	Dayton, OH
Philadelphia Penn Museum and Little Italy- Italian, Latin, and Arabic Club	Wednesday, 4/8/2020	Philadelphia, PA
Cheerleading Training- Cheerleaders	Tuesday, 8/11/2020- Friday, 8/14/2020	Williamsburg, VA
Haverford Invitational- Boys/Girls Track & Field	Saturday, 3/29/2020	Haverford, PA
Bullis Bulldog Invitational- Boys/Girls Track & Field	Saturday, 4/11/2020	Potomac, MD
Penns Relays- Boys/Girls Track & Field	Thursday, 4/23/2020- Saturday, 4/25/2020	Philadelphia, PA
Mutter Museum, One Liberty Tower- Sports Medicine/American Red Cross Class/ Scrubs Class	Thursday, 4/2/2020	Philadelphia, PA
NYC 9/11 Museum, St. Paul's Chapel 911, One World Observatory- American Red Cross Class	Thursday, 4/9/2020	New York, NY

### F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School

Event	Date	Location
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Middle-Level Leadership Competition- BPA	Wednesday, 2/26/2020	Wilmington, DE
Delaware Blue Coat Game- PMS Students	Wednesday, 3/11/2020	Wilmington, DE

#### **John S. Charlton ILC**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
Blue Rocks Game-CR Countywide Programs (JSC and ILC) Students	Wednesday, 5/6/2020	Wilmington, DE

#### **W.B. Simpson Elementary School**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
Brandywine Zoo- 1 <sup>st</sup> Graders	Thursday, 4/30/2020	Wilmington, DE
Winterthur- 2 <sup>nd</sup> Graders	Wednesday, 4/1/2020	Kennett Pike, DE
Franklin Institute- 4 <sup>th</sup> Graders	Thursday, 5/28/2020	Philadelphia, PA
Smithsonian Institute & Washington D.C. Tour- 5 <sup>th</sup> Graders	Thursday, 5/28/2020	Washington D.C.

Mr. Marasco made a motion to accept Student Travel as presented on the agenda. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

#### **Gifts to Schools**

Mr. Marasco on to accept Gifts to Schools as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

- a. The Major George S. Welch Elementary School received four kids' lap desk trays and six soft seats from Donor's Choose via Rhonda Bassett.
- b. Major George S. Welch Elementary School received a composting tumbler (\$135 value) from Amy Behringer.
- c. The Major George S. Welch Elementary School received six soft seats and wireless headphones from Donor's Choose via Laura Santore.
- d. Caesar Rodney High School received a \$1,000 donation from Steve Kayabas, Exxon Mobile Educational Alliance.
- e. Caesar Rodney High School received a \$200 donation from Harbor Freight Tools.
- f. Fred Fifer III Middle School received a donation of \$1,800.00 from an anonymous donor to have an author visit their creative writing class.

#### **Policy Matters**

##### **2019-20 and 2020-21 School Choice Recommendations**

Mr. Marasco made a motion to accept the 2019-20 and 2020-21 School Choice recommendations as presented. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

##### **2020-2021 School Calendar**

Dr. Tamara Toles- Torain presented the 2020-2021 school calendar based on the recommendations from the calendar committee. Dr. Fitzgerald explained the two-week winter break and the date of the last day of school. He stated the calendar needs to be contingent on what the legislation mandates regarding the start date. Dr. Denman asked about the total hours and the possible snow days. President Marelli asked about the high school students' hours. Mrs. Mary Birney explained the total hours for seniors. President Marelli spoke highly on the work of the calendar committee. She stated her concern about having the district's students of need out of the buildings for two weeks.

Mr. Marasco made a motion to accept the 2020-2021 School Calendar as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

##### **POLICY-1st Reading: Caesar Rodney School District Advertisement Policy KHB**

Dr. Fitzgerald read the policy to the Board. Regulations will be discussed at a later time.

Mr. Marasco made a motion to move the POLICY-1st Reading: Caesar Rodney School District Advertisement Policy KHB to a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

#### Fiscal Matters

#### Budget/Fiscal Reports

Mr. Marasco made a motion to table the Budget/Fiscal Reports as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

#### Facilities Matters

#### Construction Bids

Mr. Ken Starke explained the construction bids for the David E. Robinson Elementary School as listed on the agenda.

- a. Caesar Rodney High School- Baseball Stadium Sound System:  
Low base bid in the amount of \$12,497.00. The contractor is Integrity Sound Solutions.
- b. Caesar Rodney High School- Softball Stadium Sound System:  
Low base bid in the amount of \$12,131.15. Contractor is Integrity Sound Solutions.
- c. David E. Robinson Elementary School- Gas Service.  
Low base bid in the amount of \$43,282.00. The contractor is Chesapeake Utilities.
- d. David E. Robinson Elementary School- Fire Service and Water Service:  
Low base bid in the amount of \$62,091.85. The contractor is Artesian.

Security and lighting were discussed.

Mr. Marasco made a motion to accept the construction bids 1 A.-1 D. for the David E. Robinson Elementary School as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

#### Revocation of Contract #20228

Mr. Marasco made a motion to revoke Contract #20228 as presented on the addendum. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

#### **Discussion Items**

#### Directors' Reports

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

#### **Executive Session**

There was no executive session.

## Adjournment

At 10:45 p.m. Mr. Marasco made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

  
Kevin R. Fitzgerald, Ed. D., Executive Secretary  
3/17/20  
Date

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