

**Regular Meeting  
June 16, 2020**

**Opening**

Call to Order

At 7:05 p.m. School Board President Jessica Marelli called the June 16, 2020, Caesar Rodney School District regular meeting to order via ZOOM Webinar.

Roll Call

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

Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Denman made a motion to adopt the June 16, 2020 agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

President Marelli amended the agenda to add an item to say goodbye to Lt. Col. Michael Morales, Base Liaison, and welcome Col. Williams.

Dr. Denman made a motion to add II item B to say goodbye to Lt. Col. Michael Morales, Base Liaison, and welcome Col. Williams. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

Approval of Minutes – May 19, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes

Dr. Denman made a motion to approve the May 19, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

**Presentations**

Mrs. Tara Faircloth gave a brief presentation on Consent Law for grades 7, 8, and High School.

Dr. Fitzgerald thanked Lt. Col., Michael Morales, for his service and time given to Caesar Rodney. He also welcomed Col. Williams to his time with the School Board. Lt. Col. Michael Morales was grateful for his time and was happy to be a part of the School Board.

**Public Comments**

Amanda Eric, a senior at Caesar Rodney High School, spoke on behalf of her peers. They feel unsupported during this time. They hope to report future racism, other concerns, etc. and asked the Board to listen to what they may have to say.

Chesah Hodge, DE State University student, thanked the Child Nutrition team for the opportunity to intern at CR. She is sincerely appreciative of the opportunity to serve during the pandemic.

Joe Hartman, CREA President, and CRHS teacher thanked Amanda for her speech. He continued to say the message sent recently from the administrative team at the high school and Dr. Fitzgerald was very powerful. The CREA

representatives are supportive of “Black Lives Matter.” He continued to say he was proud of the work teachers have done during remote learning. He also thanked Lt. Col. Morales for his service.

## Action Items

### Administrative Contract Renewals

The Board approved the contract renewals as presented.

Dr. Denman made a motion to renew the contract renewals as recommended. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

### Coordinator of Equity and Diversity

Mr. Marasco stated this could add value to our district, students, and staff. The description and responsibilities need to be reviewed. He stated he would like a committee to fine-tune the position including administrators and students.

Dr. Denman asked if this would be a 12 or 10-month position. Dr. Michale Noel stated it is a 12-month position.

Mr. Failing stated he is in support of the position along with creating a committee. He stated we need to take our time and make it very successful. He stated he would like to see the proper chain of command followed when there is a concern.

President Marelli stated the position and committee must be united. All groups must be represented.

The Board approved the creation of a position to be titled Coordinator of Equity and Diversity.

Mr. Failing made a motion to approve the creation of a position to be titled Coordinator of Equity and Diversity. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

Mr. Marasco stated what are the next steps to create a committee. Discussion continued regarding the details and more conversations will need to take place. President Marelli stated we need to begin the process now. A workshop will be scheduled in seven days to begin the process.

### Personnel Matters

The Board approved Personnel Matters C.1 - C.3 as presented on the agenda.

Mr. Marasco asked about a teacher appointment and received an explanation.

Mr. Failing made a motion to accept Personnel Matters C.1 – C.3 as presented on the agenda. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

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

Name	School	Position	Action
Jiani Wu	PMS	Chinese Immersion	Appointment effective 8/20/2020.
Stephen Campagnini	FMS	Level IV ELA	Appointment effective 8/20/2020.
Dillion Otto	FMS	Level IV SS	Appointment effective 8/20/2020.
Brenda Scanlon	CRHS	Mathematics	Appointment effective 8/20/2020.
Michelle Flanders	JSC	Life Skills/Spec. Ed.	Appointment effective 8/20/2020.
Mark Kreitzer	CRHS	Special Education	Resignation effective end of 2019-2020 SY.



Lauren Hamory	CRHS	Science	Resignation effective end of 2019-2020 SY.
Allison Gerni	FMS	Social Studies	Resignation effective end of 2019-2020 SY.
Lori Gordon	ILC	Special Education	Resignation effective end of 2019-2020 SY.
Shelbi Wallis	WBS	Special Education	Resignation effective end of 2019-2020 SY.
Wendy Dotson	PMS	Special Education	Resignation rescinded for end of 2019-2020 SY.

2. Custodial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
William Scott	NHS	Custodial/Fireman	Transfer effective 6/8/2020.

3. Extra Duty Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Activity	Position	Action
Ryan Bowman	CRHS	Football	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Fall Sports SY 2020-2021.

Routine Business

Gifts to School

The Board approved Gifts to School as presented.

Mr. Marasco made a motion to accept the Gifts to School as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

Policy Matters

2019-20 and 2020-21 School Choice Recommendations

The Board approved the 2019-20 and 2020-21 School Choice Recommendations.

Dr. Denman asked about the 2019-2020 recommendations. Dr. Toles-Torain explained these were address changes.

Mr. Marasco made a motion to accept the 2019-20 and 2020-21 School Choice recommendations as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

9<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

Mrs. Faircloth stated we piloted this year and received positive feedback and support.

The Board accepted the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Science curriculum as presented.

Mr. Marasco made a motion to accept the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Science curriculum as presented. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

Strategies for Teaching Based on Autism Research (STAR)

Mrs. Faircloth explained the curriculum. Data stays with the students as they move on. We have received good feedback. Mr. Thompson stated he supports this initiative.

The Board accepted the Strategies for Teaching Based on Autism Research (STAR) curriculum as presented.

Dr. Denman made a motion to accept Strategies for Teaching Based on Autism Research (STAR) curriculum as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

Fiscal Matters

Budget/Fiscal Reports

Mrs. Kim Judy, Director of Business and Finance, explained the Budget/Fiscal Reports.

Mr. Marasco made a motion to accept the Monthly Budget/Fiscal Reports as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with 1 absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

**Discussion Items**

Directors' Reports

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

Mr. Marasco asked about the re-opening of school committee. Mr. Thompson stated some COVID 19 facts and he stated we are looking at our options. When the state comes back with their recommendation we will be ready with our plans. Mrs. Faircloth also works with the same subgroups. They also have several plans as we await guidance from the CDC. Dr. Toles-Torain is also working with a subcommittee regarding health and well-being. They meet weekly and also share the information. Dr. Fitzgerald commended the Directors on working with their committees. He stated we are very concerned about the guidelines. They are going to provide recommendations to the districts and each district will be different. The ultimate goal is to bring our students back to our buildings. We remain hopeful for the opening of school for the new year. Discussion continued regarding connections and internet servicing throughout the state.

P. Scott Wilson was present for the discussion on the Director's Reports.

Mr. Failing asked about the revenue and tax rates. Mrs. Judy explained we are moderating this closely.

The Board members thanked all Directors for their outstanding service during this time. They have done an amazing job.

**Executive Session**

At 8:03 p.m. Mr. Failing made a motion to go into executive session to discuss land acquisition. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Denman, and Wilson).

At 9:05 p.m. Mr. Marasco made a motion to come out of executive session. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

**Adjournment**

At 9:06 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).

 7/7/2020  
Kevin R. Fitzgerald, Ed. D., Executive Secretary Date

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