

**Special Board Meeting  
February 12, 2019**

**Opening**

Call to Order

At 6:01 p.m. School Board President Mrs. Jessica Marelli called the February 12, 2019 Caesar Rodney School District Special Meeting to order.

Roll Call

Members present in addition to President Marelli were Vice-President Mr. Michael Marasco, Mr. Dave Failing, Base Liaison Col. Marshall Preston and Executive Secretary Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald. Mr. P. Scott Wilson was absent.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Marasco made a motion to adopt the February 12, 2019 agenda as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 3-0 (Marelli, Marasco, and Failing).

Approval of Minutes – January 15, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Marasco made a motion to approve the January 15, 2019, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 3-0 (Marelli, Marasco, and Failing).

Mr. P. Scott Wilson was present during the fourth public comment.

**Public Comments**

Mr. Buck Cahall, former educator, spoke on behalf of Dr. Fitzgerald's salary and contract extension. He is a former educator and shared the experiences he has had with the superintendent. He reminded the Board that he is currently the "best superintendent in America."

Mr. Donald Blakey spoke on behalf of Dr. Fitzgerald's salary and contract extension. He shared his relationship with the superintendent and stated Dr. Fitzgerald always goes that extra mile and has solid leadership. He gives all of his support to Dr. Fitzgerald.

Mrs. Elvina Knight, former educator, spoke on behalf of Dr. Fitzgerald's salary and contract extension. She shared her history with the district and expressed her appreciation for everything the superintendent does for CR. She mentioned the growth in the district and complimented him on being a visionary.

Mrs. Connie Welde, former Board President, spoke on behalf of Dr. Fitzgerald's salary and contract extension. She mentioned the front page article in the newspaper and was embarrassed for the district and Dr. Fitzgerald. She reminded the Board we have the best leader and we need to keep him.

Mr. Darrell Sams, Sr. was not in favor of Dr. Fitzgerald's salary increase. He read several statistics of the surrounding school districts and their Superintendent's current salaries. He compared graduation rates and the student enrollment of other districts and stated Caesar Rodney is "average." President Marelli stated although it is not normal for the Board to respond to Public Comment, she wanted to correct Mr. Sams. She informed him the newspaper article he was referring to was not accurate when listing Dr. Fitzgerald's salary. Mr. Sams asked for the corrected salary. President Marelli stated that was inappropriate at this time to explain further but the \$6,000 Mr. Sams is referring to is not above and beyond the salary.

Mr. Johnny Nichols, local businessman and CR parent, spoke on behalf of Dr. Fitzgerald's salary and contract extension. He shared his family ties with the district. He stated with the current construction taking place, we

do not want to seek a new Superintendent if Dr. Fitzgerald should choose to leave. We need to keep good leadership.

Mr. Dave Sweeney, 1999 CR graduate and CR parent, spoke on behalf of Dr. Fitzgerald's salary and contract extension. He shared his family ties with the district and expressed his appreciation for the Chinese Immersion Program and W.B. Simpson Elementary School. He stated Dr. Fitzgerald is at every single school event he attends. He commended him for his strong leadership.

Mr. John Nichols, 1990-1995 School Board Member, spoke on behalf of Dr. Fitzgerald's salary and contract extension. He mentioned the culture of the district today and the leadership Dr. Fitzgerald possesses.

Mrs. Beverly Knight, local businesswomen, spoke on behalf of Dr. Fitzgerald's salary and contract extension. She gave her impressions of the district and community growth. She stated that Dr. Fitzgerald is this community. He is everything to everybody. She referred to him as a "pure gem" and he should be compensated as such.

### **Executive Session**

Mr. Marasco made a motion to go into Executive Session. The purpose of which is to discuss the Superintendent's contract and to conduct interviews for the vacant School Board of Education seat. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Wilson).

### **Action Items**

#### Modification of the Superintendent's Contract

Mr. Failing made a motion to modify the Superintendent's Contract as written. Mr. Marasco seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-1 with Marelli, Marasco, Failing voting for and Mr. Wilson opposed.

#### Board of Education Vacant Seat

Mr. Wilson made a motion to table the vacant seat for the Board of Education. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Wilson). President Marelli stated all candidates were tremendous with various backgrounds. She appreciates all of the applicants.

#### School Constables Job Description

Mr. Marasco made a motion to approve the School Constables Job Description as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Wilson). Mr. Marasco stated he prefers the title constables versus safety monitor. Dr. Fitzgerald asked the Board for permission to post the vacancy and the Board granted permission to do so.

### Personnel Matters

<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Action</b>
Cameron Hayes	PMS	Wrestling	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2018-2019.
Robert Stevenson	FMS	Wrestling	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports 2018-2019.
Gehrig Johnson	CRHS	Lacrosse	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Laulewasika Bendolph	ABMS	Baseball	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Tecumseh Bendolph	ABMS	Baseball	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Frank Victory	ABMS	Soccer/Girls	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Christina Bevenour	ABMS	Soccer/Girls	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Avon Jones	ABMS	Softball	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.



Melissa Wich	ABMS	Softball	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Krista Durbano	ABMS	Track/Co-Ed	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Angela Garza	ABMS	Track/Co-Ed	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Mario Orlando	FMS	Baseball	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Matthew Faircloth	FMS	Lacrosse	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Drew Hughes	FMS	Lacrosse	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Charles Wilt	FMS	Soccer/Girls	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Christine Kirk	FMS	Soccer/Girls	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Patrick Analore	FMS	Softball	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Sarah Smith	FMS	Softball	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
John Wright	FMS	Track/Co-Ed	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Allison Gerni	FMS	Track/Co-Ed	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Tammy Kelly	FMS	Track/Co-Ed	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Sean Armstrong	PMS	Baseball	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Kenneth Lott	PMS	Baseball	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.
Christopher Rice	PMS	Lacrosse	Head Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-2019.

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

**Adjournment**

At 10:06 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 Wilson).


2/19/19

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