

**Regular Meeting
March 19, 2019**

Opening

Call to Order

At 7:00 p.m. School Board President Jessica Marelli called the March 19, 2019 Caesar Rodney School District regular meeting to order.

Roll Call

Members present in addition to Mrs. Marelli were Mr. Michael Marasco, Mr. Dave Failing, Mr. P. Scott Wilson, Base Liaison Preston Marshall and Executive Secretary Dr. Kevin R. Fitzgerald.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Marasco made a motion to adopt the March 19, 2019 agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing and Wilson).

Approval of Minutes – February 19, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Marasco made a motion to approve the February 19, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing and Wilson).

Presentation

Recognitions

1. Patricia McCarty was recognized for receiving the Spirit of Caesar Rodney Volunteer Award for her contributions to the J. Ralph McIlvaine Early Childhood Center.
2. Beverly Knight was recognized for receiving the Spirit of Caesar Rodney Community Award for her continued support throughout the district.
3. Sarah Potter was recognized for receiving the Southern Regional Education Board Outstanding Math Coach Award.

Presentation

The students of F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School shared their video presentation on Unified Sports. They also introduced some of their peers with special needs and shared the information as a team. They explained why unified is important. They explained how to sign up to be a coach. Dr. Kristina Failing, Principal of F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School, introduced the other leadership teams. She introduced Mary Zober, Leadership Content Class teacher who leads those teams. The G.R.I.T. leadership team gave a presentation on what G.R.I.T. stands for: Guts, Resilience, Integrity and Tenacity.

President Marelli thanked the F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School Leadership Teams for their presentations, Mrs. Wilson and the FCCLA class for preparing tonight's dinner.

Communications

Superintendent

Dr. Fitzgerald communicated the following to the Board:

- Dr. Fitzgerald congratulated Sarah Potter then thanked Trish McCarty and Beverly Knight for making CR a special place. He thanked Mrs. Wilson and her FCCLA class for preparing dinner tonight. He also thanked the F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School students and Mrs. Zober for their presentations.
- Dr. Fitzgerald congratulated the High School's Culinary Arts Team for winning the State's Pro Start competition – next they travel to Washington, D.C. for the National Competition.
- Dr. Fitzgerald congratulated the cast and crew of the high school's production of "The Sound of Music."
- Dr. Fitzgerald congratulated our Unified Sports Team for a great season and a trip to the Bob Carpenter Center. He wished all of our spring sport teams a great season.
- Dr. Fitzgerald shared that today we showed off our Spanish Immersion Program to the Education Minister from Spain. This Thursday at the high school starting at 6 pm there will be a Spanish Immersion Festival.
- Also on Thursday, VOX will be performing at Legislative Hall at 12:45 pm.
- Dr. Fitzgerald reminded the Board that the third marking period ends on Thursday, the 21st. Friday will be a half day and Monday the 25th is an In-Service Day. He reminded the Board of some upcoming dates: Wednesday, March 27th the high school will be administering the SAT to all 11th graders. Although, this test is free for our students it has some problems. Since it is mandatory for all students it gives a false representation of how CR ranks with others on this test. Report cards will be issued on April, 3rd.
- Monday, March 25th, Dr. Fitzgerald will be in Wilmington for his quarterly meeting with the Governor and Secretary of Education.
- Dr. Fitzgerald reminded the Board that this is the time of the year when we start preparing for the Spring Unit Count. This gives us our estimated unit count for next school year. At this point we have grown 170 students since September 30th. In other words, we are providing educational services for 170 in which we have not received funding. He understands that the House Education Committee is starting to look into that issue.
- Dr. Fitzgerald thanked Representative Williams for her legislation to fund Special Education basic units in the K-12 formula and Representative Longhurst who has introduced legislation to add mental health counselors and psychologists to elementary schools. Dr. Fitzgerald shared that he has drafted a letter to our Kent County Legislators asking them once again for assistance with our elementary school project. Dr. Fitzgerald gave an updated status on receiving money for the New Elementary School. We are still hoping to receive funding. He plans to mail the letter tomorrow to our legislators.

School Board

President Marelli, stated she was seeing the spring sports teams practicing on their alternative fields. She thanked the parents and coaches for their patience during construction. Dr. Fitzgerald added they have held their first meeting regarding graduation and getting spectators in and out of the stadium.

Public Comments

There were no public comments at this meeting.

Action Items

Personnel Matters

1. Teacher Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Natalie Minard	DO	Speech Language Pathologist	Temporary appointment effective 2/25/2019-6/30/2019.
Jane't Long	MCI	Kindergarten	Temporary appointment effective 3/11/2019-6/30/2019.

Kristin Wulterkens	WBS	School Counselor	Resignation effective 3/23/2019.
Rongrong Tu	FMS	Chinese Immersion	Resignation effective end of 2018-2019 SY.
Yu Miao	WBS	Chinese Immersion	Resignation effective end of 2018-2019 SY.
Michael Lewis	JSC	Psychologist	Resignation effective 4/6/2019.
Kathryn Shaffer	WRB	Special Education	Resignation effective end of 2018-2019 SY.
Michelle Bittel	AFE	Elementary	Resignation effective end of 2018-2019 SY.

2. Paraprofessional Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Heather Pare	NHS	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective 3/11/2019-6/30/2019.
Jane't Long	MCI	Paraprofessional	Resignation effective 3/9/2019.

3. Secretarial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Evon Haley	ABM	Clerk	Resignation effective 4/13/2019.

4. Custodial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Terrance Brown	NHS	2nd Shift Custodian	Resignation effective 2/21/2019.

5. Child Nutrition Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Rosa Shade	NHS	3hr General Worker	Appointment effective 2/25/2019.
Brittany Madsen	SHE	3hr General Worker	Resignation effective 2/20/2019.

6. Other Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Jason Minto	DO	Community Relations and Information Specialist	Appointment effective 2/27/2019.
Brian Smith	DO	Assessment/Data/Social Media Coordinator	Retirement effective 7/1/2019.

7. Extra Duty Recommendations/Resignations

Name	School	Activity	Position	Action
Jackson Levins	CRHS	Unified Track	Assistant Co-Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-19.
Angela Woody	CRHS	Unified Track	Assistant Co-Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-19.
Michael Johnson, Jr.	CRHS	Track - Boys/Girls	Assistant Varsity Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-19.
Art Carney	CRHS	Softball	JV Assistant Co-Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports

				2018-19.
Megan Loder	CRHS	Softball	JV Assistant Co-Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-19.
Dillon Cole	CRHS	Baseball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-19.
Matthew McKee	CRHS	Baseball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-19.
Craig Stevens	CRHS	Soccer Girls	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-19.
Brittney Stewart	CRHS	Lacrosse Girls	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-19.
William Salyars	DABM	Softball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-19.
Rory Talamini	PMS	Track/Co-Ed	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-19.
Matthew Worcester	PMS	Softball	Volunteer Coach	Recommendation for Spring Sports 2018-19.

8. CREA Travel Requests

Name	School	Position	Action
Lucy Dutton	WRB	Paraprofessional	To attend NASME, New Orleans, LA 5/1/2019-5/4/2019.

Mr. Marasco made a motion to approve Personnel Matters A. 1- A. 8 as presented on the agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing and Wilson).

Routine Business

Student Travel

Caesar Rodney High Students

Event	Date	Location
University of DE, FFA State Convention- FFA Students	Monday, March 11, 2019- Tuesday, March 12, 2019	Newark, DE
International Career Development Conference- DECA Students	Friday, April 26, 2019- Tuesday, April 30, 2019	Orlando, FL
Hershey Park Senior Trip-12 th Grade Students	Thursday, May 23, 2019	Hershey, PA

F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School

Event	Date	Location
Delmarva Shorebirds- Band and Chorus Students	(Corrected Dates) Tuesday, May 21, 2019 & Tuesday, May 28, 2019	Salisbury, MD

Fred Fifer III Middle School

Event	Date	Location
Delmarva Shorebirds- Band and Chorus Students	Tuesday, May 21, 2019 & Tuesday, May 28, 2019	Salisbury, MD

Dover Air Base Middle School

Event	Date	Location
Delmarva Shorebirds- Band and Chorus Students	Tuesday, May 21, 2019 & Tuesday, May 28, 2019	Salisbury, MD

Allen Frear Elementary School

Event	Date	Location
Smithsonian Museums- Class Trip	Tuesday, May 28, 2019	Washington D.C.

Welch Elementary School

Event	Date	Location
Salisbury Zoo- Kindergarten Students	Friday, May 3, 2019	Salisbury, MD

W.B. Simpson Elementary School

Event	Date	Location
Philadelphia Museum of Art- 5 th Grade Chinese Immersion Students	Wednesday, March 27, 2019	Philadelphia, PA
Freer Sackler Museum - 3 rd and 4 th Grade Chinese Immersion Students	3 rd Grade: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4 th Grade: Tuesday, April 9, 2019	Washington, D.C.

McIlvaine Early Childhood Center

Event	Date	Location
Salisbury Zoo- Kindergarten Students	Tuesday, May 7, 2019/ Wednesday, May 8, 2019/ Thursday, May 9, 2019	Salisbury, MD

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

Gifts to Schools

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

Policy Matters**2018-19 and 2019-2020 School Choice Recommendations**

Mr. Marasco made a motion to approve 2018-19 and 2019-2020 School Choice Recommendations as presented. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing and Wilson).

Second Step Curriculum

Mr. Marasco made a motion to accept the Second Step Curriculum as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing and Wilson).

Fiscal Matters**Budget/Fiscal Reports**

Mr. Scott Kessel, Director of Business & Finance, explained the Budget/Fiscal Reports.

Mr. Marasco made a motion to accept the Budget/Fiscal reports as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing and Wilson).

Bond Application

Mr. Scott Kessel, Director of Business & Finance, explained the Bond Application.

Mr. Marasco made a motion to accept the Bond Application as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing and Wilson).

Executive Session

At 7: 46 pm. Mr. Marasco made a motion to go into Executive Session. The purpose of which was to discuss land acquisition and the New Elementary School Bid. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing and Wilson).

At 8:41 pm. 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 Wilson).

Action Items

A. New Elementary School Bid

Mr. Marasco made a motion to approve the New Elementary School base bid as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing and Wilson).

President Marelli stated this was a difficult decision for the Board. Four years ago they committed to build a school and they need to build it even though it is not what they anticipated it to be. There are alternates in place.

B. Board of Education Vacant Seat

Mr. Wilson made a motion to remove the motion from the table. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing and Wilson).

There were no nominations for the vacant position. Therefore, the motion dies.

Discussion Items

Directors' Reports

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

Mr. Failing asked about the IPADs on the buses. Mr. Scott Kessel stated the IPAD will give a count of students, track maintenance, etc. He mentioned that Mr. Jason Bonner, Supervisor of Transportation, was vital in the implementation of this technology.

President Marelli asked about Illustrative Math Pilot. Mrs. Tara Faircloth explained Illustrative Math is only at the middle schools but could expand. There will be more feedback available at the end of the year.

State of DE Parental Leave Policy

The State of DE Parental Leave Policy was included for the Board's review. Dr. Michael Noel, Assistant Superintendent/Director of Human Resources, explained the state policy and stated we have a few staff members who will be utilizing this leave. There is state funding for substitutes but only at the state rate. Dr. Noel estimated the cost for the District. Dr. Fitzgerald explained this is a regulation/procedure and not Board Policy which requires three readings. Dr. Noel explained this is 12 paid work weeks and would pause over the summer for 10 month employees. This also applies for spouses. 12 Month employees would start at birth/adoption and runs the full 12 consecutive weeks. They do not need to be concurrent with a spouse. Dr. Noel stated there is no accrued sick time needed. This protects their sick leave to use at a later time. Dr. Fitzgerald reminded the Board of the shortage of qualified substitute teachers.

Middle School Looping Update

Mrs. Tara Faircloth, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, provided the changes being made at the middle school due to scheduling. She explained the reasoning behind not looping at the middle school level for 7th to 8th grades next year. Dr.

Kristina Failing and Ms. Kim Corbeil, Middle School Principals, shared that the teachers will be working more with their departments cross-teaming. Teacher collaborations are currently being utilized. Growth and scheduling was discussed. Grants are coming in for training teachers with Special Education and English Language Learners. New scheduling in ESchool will take place. Dr. Fitzgerald mentioned overcrowding issues. He asked about the possibility of shrinking class sizes and wants consideration on adding an extra class period as a possible pilot.

Executive Session

At 9:06 pm. Mr. Marasco made a motion to go into Executive Session. The purpose of which was to discuss Personnel Matters. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing and Wilson).

At 10:00 pm. 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 Wilson).

Adjournment

At 10:02 p.m. Mr. Marasco made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 4-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing and Wilson).


Kevin R. Fitzgerald, Ed. D., Executive Secretary
4/8/19
Date