

**Work Session
May 17, 2019**

Opening

Call to Order

At 12:00 p.m. President Marelli called the May 17, 2019, Caesar Rodney School Board Work Session to order.

Roll Call

Members present in addition to President Marelli were Mr. Michael Marasco, Mr. Dave Failing, and Executive Secretary Dr. Fitzgerald. Mr. P. Scott Wilson was not present.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Marasco made a motion to adopt the May 17, 2019, Work Session agenda. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 3-0 (Marelli, Marasco, and Failing).

Public Comments

There were no public comments at this meeting.

Work Session

Renovations and Construction

Dr. Fitzgerald introduced Mr. Ken Starke, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, who gave an update to the Board on several projects. He began with the High School project. The Freshman Academy is behind due to weather and other issues. This will be addressed next week with the contractors. Dr. Fitzgerald and the Board offered to attend that meeting to express our concerns on the timeline. Recently, there was a gas leak during the AP exam week. The contractor accidentally hit a line while digging. This was handled quickly with no evacuation needed.

Mr. Starke spoke on the athletic fields, locker room and maintenance building. Dr. Sherry Kijowski, CRHS building principal, also spoke on the security and safety of using these facilities. Dr. Fitzgerald expressed interest in having accessibility and security for all sports utilizing these areas during continued construction.

The deferred maintenance will continue inside this summer. We are purchasing LED lights for the library and hallway areas. Work will begin on June 3rd in the library. Fifer And Postlethwait will continue with ceiling and HVAC renovations in some wings. During spring break the administrative areas were worked on.

John S. Charlton has a secured office and HVAC renovation continuing. All students will be located at Allen Frear this summer. After construction, Dr. Fitzgerald asked Mr. Kevin Thompson, Director of Student Services, if this will meet the needs of our Charlton students. Mr. Thompson, stated the full access restrooms have been increased to meet our current needs. The Kent County ILC, which is now a part of JSC, still has specific needs which would be state funded. This is no cost for the district. They have looked at possible expansion in the next five-plus years for Charlton. Mr. Starke explained how we would possibly proceed with asking for a new Charlton school which would be funded by the state. We currently have limitations with our current building and the future enrollment expected. The early childhood program was also discussed.

Dr. Fitzgerald invited the Board to attend the May 31st Legislative Breakfast held in Capital School District. This is the opportunity to discuss the funding and support for our new school. The timeline for this project is to be completed in December 2020. The naming of the school was brought to the attention of the Board by Mr. Starke.

Mr. Starke shared the New Base School Ground Breaking will be on June 3rd. This is the same time as the McIlvaine Graduation. Col. Preston will be speaking. Legislators have been invited. Mr. Starke added if any Board members would like to walk through the construction projects, he is willing to set that up.

Building and Field Usage

Dr. Fitzgerald brought up the Class of 2019 Graduation. He gave some history on our past ceremony and the concerns with our new turf field. Mr. Starke discussed a possible option for turf protection to avoid damage from the chairs. There was a discussion on the limited space, crowd control, storage of the protected materials and other possible issues.

Dr. Fitzgerald shared our current policy for building and field usage. He researched other district's policies. There was a discussion on the protection of our facilities including liability, pricing, insurance, the timeline for usage, feeder programs, etc. Mr. Failing asked where do we as a District stand on our current policy? He stated we should make our message the same for all. The Board was in agreement the prices listed are too low. Mr. Robert Beron, CRHS Athletic Director, shared information about our warranty and insurance coverage. Dr. Kijowski stated our own PE classes have not had access to our new fields. Mr. Beron added we are currently using the fields approximately 200 hours per month which affects the longevity. Mr. Marasco asked what outside organizations request to use our fields. Mr. Beron and Dr. Kijowski shared there are a few local organizations requesting field use. Mr. Marasco stated some of the language needs to be updated in our policy. Discussion continued regarding who will be responsible for opening the fields. Dr. Fitzgerald stated he believes those wishing to use our fields should have a relationship with our coaches as a possible solution for security. President Marelli commended the teams for their grace and professionalism on using outside areas during construction, etc. amidst public concerns, etc. She thanked Dr. Kijowski for hosting today's Board work session.


Executive Session

At 2:30 p.m. Mr. Failing made a motion to go into Executive Session for CREA Negotiations, to discuss land acquisition and personnel matters. Mr. Marasco seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0 (Marelli, Marasco, and Failing).

At 4:24 p.m. Mr. Marasco made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0 (Marelli, Marasco, and Failing).

Adjournment

At 4:25 p.m. Mr. Marasco made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 3-0 (Marelli, Marasco, and Failing).



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



Date