

**Regular Meeting  
October 27, 2015**

**Opening**

Call to Order

At 7:03 p.m. School Board President Mr. William G. Bush, IV called the October 27, 2015 Caesar Rodney School District Regular meeting to order.

Roll Call

Members present in addition to Mr. Bush were Vice-President Mrs. Melody Heavner, Mrs. Cheryl Precourt, Mr. P. Scott Wilson, Mrs. Jessica Marelli, Lt. Col. Michael Phillips and Executive Secretary Dr. Kevin R. Fitzgerald.

Adoption of Agenda

Mrs. Heavner made a motion to adopt the October 27, 2015 agenda as presented. Mrs. Marelli seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Heavner, Marelli, Bush, Precourt and Wilson).

Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve the September 15, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Mrs. Marelli seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Wilson, Marelli, Bush, Heavner and Precourt).

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments at this meeting.

**Presentation**

Recognitions

Liam O'Connor

Liam O'Connor, a Caesar Rodney High School student, was recognized and presented with a proclamation for his numerous community services. For more than two years as a volunteer for DNREC's Division of Fish and Wildlife, Liam coordinated more than 450 youth and adult volunteers who contributed more than 1,000 hours of service to conservation projects at the Norman G. Wilder Wildlife Area. Liam's projects have included building, posting and monitoring 26 bluebird, 6 wood duck and 4 kestrel nesting boxes; removal of a half-acre of invasive plants and tree plantings; and collecting nearly two and half tons of trash.

Friends of Caesar Rodney

The following members of the Friends of Caesar Rodney were recognized and presented with the Spirit of Caesar Rodney Certificate of Recognition for their dedication and service to the children of the Caesar Rodney School District.

Andrea Balcena

John Buckley

Sally Butto

Jill Cox – Jill was unable to attend this meeting.

Candice Fifer

Shari Gary

Kathy Haynes

Sylvia Henderson - Sylvia was unable to attend this meeting.

Carol Smith

Ken Hoffman

Elisha Jenkins

Deepa Komdepudi

Tracey Miller – Tracey was unable to attend this meeting.

Rev. Dr. John G. Moore, Sr.

Fran Purnell – Fran was unable to attend this meeting.

Dean Reid – Dean was unable to attend this meeting.

Luke Rhine – Luke was unable to attend this meeting.

Amanda Smith – Amanda was unable to attend this meeting.

John Van Gorp

## Presentations

### W. B. Simpson Elementary School

Mr. Michael Kijowski, W. B. Simpson Elementary School Principal, expressed his enthusiasm to the board in regards to W. B. Simpson being awarded the National Blue Ribbon School and stated that the reason they obtained this had to do with significant gains in closing the achievement gap, which was directly related to the perseverance, hard work and relationships built by the staff with their students.

Mr. Eric Kraus, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade W. B. Simpson teacher, shared that part of building relationships comes from a responsive classroom setting which also helps in building the community. Mr. Kraus' class is also part of W. B. Simpson's looping program.

Jamieson Martin, 3<sup>rd</sup> grader at W. B. Simpson shared with the board that he has been involved in the looping program from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and likes having his friends from last year in his class and likes staying with the same teacher. Jamieson expressed that he felt that W. B. Simpson was a great school that has nice and good teachers.

Jamieson's mom (W. B. Simpson Assistant Principal Jennifer Martin) shared with the board how well Jamieson has done at Simpson compared to his old school in another district and is very happy that he was allowed to attend Simpson.

In closing, Mr. Kijowski explained that students were given a "blue" water ice and staff a blue ribbon pin for the announcement of the award. Mr. Kijowski treated the board to "blue" water ice (donated by Mr. Mike Marasco) and blue ribbon pins in celebration of their National Blue Ribbon School accomplishment.

### Dr. Lykens - Smarter Balanced Assessment

Dr. Scott Lykens, Director of Instruction, presented Smarter Balanced Assessment data, including statewide projected, actual and Caesar Rodney School District proficiencies to the board in regards to the testing. Dr. Lykens was very appreciative of the parents and community that sent their children to take the test as that will give the district a baseline. Smarter Balanced Assessment is a new and different test about student learning. Attached to these minutes is the 2014-15 Smarter Scores: Caesar Rodney School District hand out provided at the meeting.

## Communications

### Superintendent

Dr. Fitzgerald communicated the following to the Board:

- Thoughts and prayers are with Jossette Threatts and her family after the sudden death of her husband, Lester. Lester was our chief custodian at John S. Charlton School. Services will be held Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup> at Wyoming United Methodist Church.
- Once again, congratulations to Ms. Sandy Krugh on being our District Teacher of the Year. Sandy represented us well at the State Teacher of the Year ceremony.
- Dr. Fitzgerald commended Mr. Kijowski and the staff of W. B. Simpson for their "Good Neighbor Breakfast".
- Thank you to the Homecoming, Centennial and Rider Pride Day committee for their work on a truly memorable celebration.
- Thank you to the Delaware State News for the special insert that they created celebrating the District's centennial and thank you to the Dover Post for their coverage of the festivities.
- Dr. Fitzgerald congratulated the 104 new National Honor Society members that were inducted into the National Honor Society on October 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Fitzgerald shared that the players from former State Championship football teams have been invited back for this Friday's football game.
- The District is in the process of inviting former football coaches back for the Dover/CR game.
- Dr. Fitzgerald shared his excitement in the fact that the auction held on Rider Pride Day was a huge success and that the license plate "CR 1" brought \$11,500.00.
- Dr. Fitzgerald thanked the "Friends of Caesar Rodney" again and everyone involved in the successful referendum, especially our community for their overwhelming support. Out of the 3110 votes cast the District received 1,939 – 62%. The District is now awaiting the Board of Elections to certify the election and then permission from Department of Education to move forward.
- The District will be offering assistance to our senior citizens in filling out the senior tax relief forms.



- Congratulations to Dr. Kijowski and the faculty and staff of the high school for the "High School Preview Night". Including adults there were approximately 600 – 700 in attendance.
- The State would like to send three administrators from Caesar Rodney to Portland to examine Middle School Immersion. The report is due to the Governor in early December.
- Tomorrow I will be attending the Vision Coalition's annual conference on education at the University of Delaware and then will be returning for Dr. Godowsky's confirmation hearing.
- Dr. Fitzgerald brought two areas of concern to the Board's attention:
  1. A shortage of bus drivers has created a problem for our contractors which has led to issues of late pick-ups or crowded buses. Earlier this year we faced the issue of routes being turned back to the district. We are working with our contractors but may find ourselves in a situation in which we will need to modify the start and end of the student day next year to allow for double runs.
  2. We are receiving requests from teachers to allow Twitter. I have asked Dr. Lykens to review the educational value before we make a decision.
- A few dates to remember:
  1. On November 3<sup>rd</sup> the State Board is holding a workshop on the development of an evaluation tool for Superintendents from 5:30 – 8:15 at Fraizers.
  2. November 5<sup>th</sup> is the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> marking period.
  3. Also on that day Fifer and Postlethwait will hold their annual football game. The game is at 5:30 in the Rider Stadium.
  4. November 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> is College Application Week.
  5. The Dover/CR football game is November 13<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:30 at the Rider Stadium.
  6. November 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> the Miracle Worker will be performed at CRHS beginning at 7:00 p.m.

### School Board

Mr. Bush expressed condolences to Jossette Threatts on the unexpected passing of her husband, Lester, who was a respected member of the Caesar Rodney family. Mr. Bush also thanked everyone who helped out with the referendum. It was a team effort and the kids will benefit from it.

Mrs. Precourt congratulated the administration and staff of W. B. Simpson on their National Blue Ribbon School accomplishment and thanked them for all of their hard work. Mrs. Precourt also felt that the elementary schools went above and beyond in the parade and that Rider Pride Day was amazing and gets better every year.

Lt. Col. Phillips shared that in regards to the construction there would be a coordination meeting 11/30 through 12/4 and the team would be meeting with DODEA on 11/18. Goals were coming up with a time frame and going over plans.

### **Executive Session**

At 8:34 p.m. Mrs. Marelli made a motion to go into Executive Session. The purpose of which was to conduct interviews for Architectural Services at John S. Charlton School. Mrs. Precourt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Precourt, Bush, Heavner and Wilson).

At 10:05 p.m. Mrs. Marelli made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mrs. Heavner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Heavner, Bush, Precourt and Wilson).

### **Personnel Matters**

Mrs. Marelli made a motion to appoint StudioJaed as the Architectural Services Firm for the John S. Charlton School Construction Project. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Wilson, Bush, Heavner and Precourt).

### **Action Items**

#### Personnel Matters

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

Name	School	Position	Action
Kim Corbeil	FMS	Assistant Principal	Appointment effective 9/21/2015.
Tracey Gross	CRH	Dean of Instruction	Appointment effective 9/21/2015.



2. Teacher Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Barbara Christopher	MCI	Exceptional Children/Kindergarten	Temporary appointment effective 10/5/2015.
Matthew Tange	CRH	German	Temporary assignment effective 10/12/2015.
Kimberly Chick	WEL	Grade 2	Temporary assignment effective 10/19/2015.
Mario Orlando	FNP	Exceptional Children	Temporary assignment effective 10/26/2015.
Chelsiee Poore	MCI	Kindergarten	Resignation effective 10/2/2015.
Jenna Pierce	CRH	German	Resignation effective 10/12/2015.
Allison Schaffer	WEL	Grade 2	Resignation effective 10/16/2015.
Misty Yencer	WEL	Title I	Resignation effective 10/16/2015.
Julie McParlin	CRH	English	Retirement effective 11/30/2015.

3. Paraprofessional Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Rhonda Cook	WBS/ILC	Student Support	Temporary appointment effective 10/5/2015.
Patricia Moore	WBS	Instructional	Temporary appointment effective 10/19/2015.
Bobbi Johnston	AFE	Instructional	Temporary appointment effective 10/19/2015.
Jennifer Pulmano	AFE	Instructional	Temporary appointment effective 9/28/2015.

4. Custodial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Craig Tenaro	DO	Maintenance Mechanic	Appointment effective 9/28/2015.
Terrance Brown	ABM	Custodian	Appointment effective 10/29/2015.
John Helsel	ABM	Custodian/Fireman	Appointment effective 10/26/2015.
Steven Freeman	ABM	Custodian/Fireman	Resignation effective 9/15/2015.

5. Child Nutrition Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Rachel Spragg	NHS	3 hr. General Worker	Appointment effective 8/31/2015.
Joan Page	WRB	3 hr. General Worker	Appointment effective 9/21/2015.
Tammy Kresge	FMS	3 hr. General Worker	Appointment effective 9/21/2015.
Daniela Cusumano	CRH	5 hr. General Worker	Appointment effective 9/23/2015.
Elsie Ramos	ABM	3.5 hr. General Worker	Appointment effective 10/13/2015.
Diane Metsch	CRH	3.5 hr. General Worker	Appointment effective 10/5/2015.
Heather Howard	WRB	3 hr. General Worker	Resignation effective 10/2/2015.
Katina Scott	WRB	3 hr. General Worker	Resignation effective 9/25/2015.
Hettie Allen	ABM	3 hr. General Worker	Resignation effective 10/6/2015.
Heidi Marvin	FMS	5.5 hr. General Worker	Resignation effective 10/28/2015.

6. CREA Travel Requests

Name	School	Position	Action
David Delong	ABM	Music	To attend State Music Day, Smyrna, DE on 10/2/2015.
Lauren Delong	WRB	Music	To attend State Music Day, Smyrna, DE on 10/2/2015.
Lauren Meixell	WRB	Art	To attend DAEA Annual Fall Conf, Gunning Bedford, MS on 10/2/2015.

7. Leave of Absence Request

Name	School	Position	Action
Melissa Dimartino-DeHart	CRH	English	LWOP effective 5/11/2016 for remainder of SY2015-16.

8. Extra Duty Recommendations/Resignations

Name	School	Activity	Position	Action
Kim Cole	AFE	Service Organization	Odyssey of the Mind	Recommendation for SY2015-16.
Kristen Bury	NHS	Service Organization	Odyssey of the Mind	Recommendation for SY2015-16.
Laura Howard	NHS	Service Organization	Student Council Co-Sponsor	Recommendation for SY2015-16.
Kevin Truitt	NHS/Gr4	Service Organization	Math League	Recommendation for SY2015-16.
Natalie Ganc	NHS/Gr5	Service Organization	Math League	Recommendation for SY2015-16.
Christine Kirk	FMS	Musical	Band/Gr 7&8	Recommendation for SY2015-16.
Emily Chick	FMS	Cheerleading	Assistant Coach	Recommendation for SY2015-16.
Christine Kirk	FMS	Musical	Chorus Sponsor	Recommendation for SY2015-16.
Stephanie Rosa	WEL	Service Organization	Odyssey of the Mind Sponsor	Recommendation for SY2015-16.
Daniel Arndt	FNP	Cross Country	Volunteer	Recommendation effective 9/22/2015 for fall sports SY2015-16.
Joseph Gravatt	ABM	Football	Assistant Coach	Recommendation effective 9/22/2015 for fall sports SY2015-16.
Andrea Haberman	CRH	Service Organization	Freshman Co-Sponsor	Recommendation for SY2015-16.
Russell Yeager	ABM/Gr7	Service Organization	Math League	Recommendation for SY2015-16.

Mrs. Marelli made a motion to approve Personnel Matters A.1 through A.8 as presented on the agenda. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Wilson, Bush, Heavner and Precourt).

Routine Business

Student Travel

**Caesar Rodney High Students**

Event	Date	Location
CRHS Music Department Marching Band Performance Disney Parade	Tuesday, February 9 through Sunday, February 14, 2016	Orlando, Florida
Social Studies-Speech and Debate Team Model Congress	Thursday, November 19 through Sunday, November 22, 2015	Washington, DC
CRHS Positive Behavior Rewards - Professional Basketball Game (Philadelphia 76ers)	Friday, October 30, 2015	Philadelphia, PA
History of Sports Class Tour of Stadiums and Fields	Tuesday, December 1, 2015	Philadelphia, PA and Wilmington, DE

**Star Hill Elementary Students**

Event	Date	Location
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Team visiting Smithsonian Museum	Wednesday, October 28, 2015	Washington, DC

**Allen Frear Elementary Students**

Event	Date	Location
2 <sup>nd</sup> Graders to attend the Herr's Potato Factory	Thursday, December 10, 2015	Nottingham, PA



**Welch Elementary Students**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip	Wednesday, November 18, 2015	Herr's Snack Factory Nottingham, PA
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip	Friday, November 13, 2015	Constitution Center Philadelphia, PA

Mrs. Marelli made a motion to approve Student Travel as presented on the agenda. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Wilson, Bush, Heavner and Precourt).

Gifts to Schools

- a. Star Hill Elementary School received a LaserJet Pro 400 Color Printer from the Star Hill PTO.
- b. Caesar Rodney School District received a donation of 16 winter coats for our McKinney-Vento students from Wyoming United Methodist Church.

Mrs. Marelli made a motion to approve Gifts to Schools as presented on the agenda. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Wilson, Bush, Heavner and Precourt).

Policy Matters

2015-16 School Choice Recommendations

Mrs. Marelli made a motion to approve 2015-16 School Choice Recommendations as presented. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Wilson, Bush, Heavner and Precourt).

Fiscal Matters

Budget/Fiscal Reports

Mrs. Precourt made a motion to table the Budget/Fiscal reports until the next regular board meeting (Dr. Puzzo was absent and Mrs. Precourt had questions on the financial reports). Mrs. Marelli seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Precourt, Marelli, Bush, Heavner and Wilson).

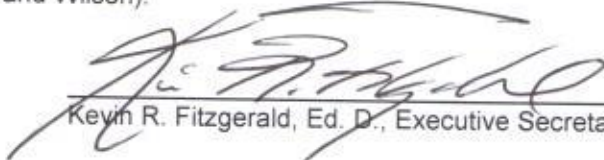
**Discussion Items**

Directors' Reports

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

**Adjournment**

At 10:15 p.m. Mrs. Marelli made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Heavner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Heavner, Bush, Precourt and Wilson).

  
Kevin R. Fitzgerald, Ed. D., Executive Secretary      11/17/15  
Date