

Opening

Call to Order

At 7:02 p.m. School Board President Mr. William G. Bush, IV. called the December 16, 2014 Caesar Rodney School District Regular School Board 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 and Executive Secretary Dr. Kevin R. Fitzgerald.

Adoption of Agenda

Mrs. Heavner made a motion to adopt the December 16, 2014 Regular Meeting agenda as presented. Mrs. Precourt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Heavner, Precourt, Bush, Wilson and Marelli).

Approval of Minutes – November 18, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Marelli made a motion to approve the November 18, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes. Mrs. Heavner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Heavner, Bush, Precourt and Wilson).

Public Comments

There were no public comments at this meeting.

Presentation

Presentation

Fred Fifer III Middle School

Mr. Brian Smith, Fred Fifer III Middle School Principal and Mrs. Tracey Gross, Fred Fifer III Middle School Assistant Principal presented to the Board past, present and future practices of Fred Fifer III Middle School. Mr. Smith focused on instruction and assessment, culture and climate and parental engagement. Mr. Smith said that students are working harder, culture and climate has improved and parent and community engagement is up. Some goals of Fred Fifer III Middle School are to strengthen and cultivate relationships, continue academic success, more parent and community involvement and to make parents more aware of smarter balances. Mr. Smith also provided Chromebooks to each of the Board members and touched on google apps/technology while allowing Board members a hands on experience with a google document.

Recognitions

Megan Szabo – State Teacher of the Year

Senator Brian Bushweller recognized Megan Szabo as State Teacher of the Year by presenting her with a Senate tribute. Senator Bushweller apologized for Senator Bonini's absence due to a prior engagement.

Former Representative Donald Blakey, Representative Lyndon Yearick and Representative Trey Paradee recognized Megan Szabo as State Teacher of the Year by presenting her with a House of Representatives tribute.

Caesar Rodney School Board of Education recognized Megan Szabo as State Teacher of the Year by presenting her with a proclamation.

Dallas Glass

Mr. Dallas Glass was recognized by the Caesar Rodney School Board of Education for his dramatic rescue of victims trapped in an overturned vehicle in a retention basin near Christiana Mall, Newark, Delaware.

Executive Session

At 7:38 p.m. Mrs. Marelli made a motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel Matters. The purpose of which is:

- A. To conduct interviews for the vacant Assistant Principal position at Star Hill Elementary School.
- B. To discuss Administrative contract renewals/non-renewals.
- C. To discuss the Superintendent's contract extension.

Mrs. Precourt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Precourt, Bush, Heavner and Wilson).

At 9:54 p.m. Mrs. Marelli made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Wilson, Bush, Heavner and Precourt).

Personnel Matters

Appointment of an Assistant Principal at Star Hill Elementary School

Mrs. Marelli made a motion to transfer Jean Allen to Star Hill Elementary School as Assistant Principal with an effective date to be determined. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Wilson, Bush, Heavner and Precourt).

Administrative contract renewals/non-renewals

Mrs. Marelli made a motion to approve Administrative contract renewals/non-renewals as presented. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Wilson, Bush, Heavner and Precourt).

Superintendent's contract extension

Mr. Wilson made a motion to table the Superintendent's contract extension. Mrs. Marelli seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Wilson, Marelli, Bush, Heavner and Precourt).

Presentation

Communications

Superintendent

Dr. Fitzgerald congratulated the following:

- Congratulations to Megan Szabo and Dallas Glass – both tremendous role models for our students and children.
- Congratulations to our Instructional Division – particularly Mrs. Alois and Mr. Fuller. We just received an Accelerated Academic Education Grant (\$55,075.00) which will allow us to place a mobile cart of Chrome books in each elementary school to support coding.
- Congratulations to W. Reily Brown, especially Dr. Whitehurst and Mr. Fuller, on receiving a \$20,000.00 Verizon grant for science, math and technology.

Dr. Fitzgerald communicated the following to the Board:

- A quick update on Dr. Lykens and Mr. Farley – both have undergone surgery and are doing well. We are hopeful that Mr. Farley will return before the Christmas break. Dr. Lykens will be out about 4 weeks.
- Thank you to the Base, especially Col. Pike and Lt. Col. Phillips for all their support with security and boilers.
- As the Board is aware, Mike Schonewolf is retiring at the end of the year, so we find ourselves in need of a new football coach and Athletic Director. After the break I would like to advertise for both positions and begin the search for his replacement. He leaves some pretty big shoes to fill with three conference titles and our third State Championship.
- Thank you to the high school for hosting the holiday luncheon and I hope that you have been able to attend some of the holiday concerts. On behalf of the high school choral department I want to invite the Board to attend tomorrow night's Holiday concert and join in the Hallelujah chorus.
- Schools will be closed from 12/22/2014 – 1/5/2015.
- I want to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday. I know that 2015 will be another outstanding year for the Caesar Rodney School District.

School Board

Mrs. Precourt communicated that she attended the December 1st Board of Education meeting. Megan Szabo did a very informative lesson which demonstrated the efforts teachers put into lessons. Mrs. Precourt made the Board aware that the Board of Education would be having another meeting on January 6th. Mrs. Precourt thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mrs. Heavner wanted to "piggyback" off of Mrs. Precourt in expressing appreciation for everyone being here and thanked everyone for all of their hard work and also wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Mr. Bush also wanted to "piggyback" off of Mrs. Precourt and Mrs. Heavner and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Action Items

Personnel Matters

1. Administrative Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Alexis Ray	SHE	Assistant Principal	REVISION: Resignation effective 11/29/2014.

2. Teacher Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Viviane Philmon	FNP	Exceptional Children	Disability retirement effective 11/30/2014.
Gail Forbes	FMS	Special Education	Retirement effective end of SY 2014-15.
Benjamin Erskine	WRB	Music	Temporary appointment effective 12/15/2014.
Cynthia Hoffstadt	CHA	Autism	Temporary appointment effective 1/5/2015.
Kristin Hannah	CRH	Guidance Counselor	Temporary appointment effective 12/1/2014.
Michelle Gissy	DO	Speech Pathologist	Temporary appointment effective 10/20/2014.
Michael Schonewolf	CRH	Social Studies	Retirement effective end of SY 2014-15.

3. Paraprofessional Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Samantha Hunt	CHA	Special Education	Temporary appointment effective 11/17/2014.

4. Secretarial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Amanda Schafer	ABM	PT Clerk	Appointment effective 11/10/2014.

5. Custodial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Chandler Rochford	WEL	Custodian/2 nd Shift	Appointment effective 12/15/2014.

6. Child Nutrition Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Susan Gurney	FMS	3 hr. General Worker	Appointment effective 11/19/2014.

7. Extra Duty Recommendations/Resignations

Name	School	Position	Activity	Action
Tyrone Coleman	CRH	Assistant Varsity Co-Coach	Basketball/Boys	Recommendation Winter Sports for SY14-15.
Mark Hill	CRH	Freshman	Basketball/Boys	Recommendation Winter Sports for SY14-15.
William Wells	CRH	Assistant Coach	Swimming	Recommendation Winter Sports for SY14-15.
David Matthew Shelor	FMS	Assistant Coach	Wrestling	Recommendation Winter Sports for SY14-15.
Michelle Rains	FNP	Assistant Coach	Basketball/Girls	Recommendation Winter Sports for SY14-15.
John Walters	FNP	Assistant Coach	Wrestling	Recommendation Winter Sports for SY14-15.
Maureen Cannon	WBS	Band	Musical	Recommendation effective for SY14-15.
Windsor Allen	WBS	Chorus	Musical	Recommendation effective for SY14-15.
Ashley Miclette	WBS	Student Council Co-Sponsor	Service Organizations	Recommendation effective for SY14-15.
Amanda Hobbs	WBS	Student Council Co-Sponsor	Service Organizations	Recommendation effective for SY14-15.
Holly Strickland	CRH	BPA Sponsor	Service Organizations	REVISION: Recommendation effective for SY14-15.
Michelle Burleigh-Richardson	CRH	Senior Class Sponsor	Service Organizations	REVISION: Recommendation effective for SY14-15.
Joshua Parish	ABM	Volunteer	Cheerleading	Approved effective 12/4/2014.

Mrs. Heavner made a motion to approve Personnel Matters A.1 through A.7 as presented on the agenda. Mrs. Precourt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Heavner, Precourt, Bush, Wilson and Marelli).

Routine Business

Student Travel

Caesar Rodney High Students

Event	Date	Location
DECA International Conference	Friday, April 24, 2015 through Wednesday, April 29, 2015	Orlando, Florida

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

Gifts to Schools

- Caesar Rodney High School received a Musser One-Nighter Vibraphone (Model M-45) valued at \$1,800.00 from Mrs. Vicki Stockslager.
- Air Base Middle School, F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School and Fred Fifer III Middle School received \$25.00 gift certificates from Achieve 3000.
- F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received a \$500.00 donation from the Postlethwait PTO for the purchase of gift cards to a grocery store for 46 Postlethwait families for Thanksgiving.

- d. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received a \$200.00 donation from the Moyer Family for the purchase of gift cards to a grocery store for 46 Postlethwait families for Thanksgiving.
- e. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received a \$100.00 donation from Dave and Jeanette Failing for the purchase of gift cards to a grocery store for 46 Postlethwait families for Thanksgiving.
- f. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received a \$25.00 donation from the Jenkins Family for the purchase of gift cards to a grocery store for 46 Postlethwait families for Thanksgiving.
- g. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received a \$25.00 donation from Barbara Darlington for the purchase of gift cards to a grocery store for 46 Postlethwait families for Thanksgiving.
- h. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received a \$20.00 donation from Derek Prillaman for the purchase of gift cards to a grocery store for 46 Postlethwait families for Thanksgiving.
- i. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received a \$20.00 donation from Sherri Bole for the purchase of gift cards to a grocery store for 46 Postlethwait families for Thanksgiving.
- j. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received a \$100.00 donation from Nancy Mulford for the purchase of gift cards to a grocery store for 46 Postlethwait families for Thanksgiving.
- k. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received a \$25.00 donation from Del Failing for the purchase of gift cards to a grocery store for 46 Postlethwait families for Thanksgiving.
- l. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received a \$25.00 donation from Lisa Dawson for the purchase of gift cards to a grocery store for 46 Postlethwait families for Thanksgiving.
- m. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received a \$110.00 donation from Kris Failing for the purchase of gift cards to a grocery store for 46 Postlethwait families for Thanksgiving.
- n. The 5th Grade Band Program received a Conn trumpet valued at \$350.00 from Lynne Singleton.
- o. John S. Charlton School received a \$500.00 donation from SMSgt. Phillip N. McDonald.

Mrs. Heavner made a motion to approve Gifts to Schools as presented on the agenda. Mrs. Marelli seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Heavner, Marelli, Bush, Precourt and Wilson). Mrs. Precourt communicated that it touches her heart that so many give to the schools and students and hopes that it continues.

Policy Matters

2014-15 School Choice Recommendations

Mrs. Heavner made a motion to approve 2014-15 School Choice Recommendations as presented. Mrs. Precourt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Heavner, Precourt, Bush, Wilson and Marelli).

Fiscal Matters

Budget/Fiscal Reports

Mrs. Marelli made a motion to accept Budget/Fiscal Reports as presented. Mrs. Heavner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Heavner, Bush, Precourt and Wilson).

FY15 Final District Operating Budget

Mrs. Marelli made a motion to approve the FY15 Final District Operating Budget. Mrs. Heavner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Heavner, Bush, Precourt and Wilson).

Discussion Items

Directors' Reports

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

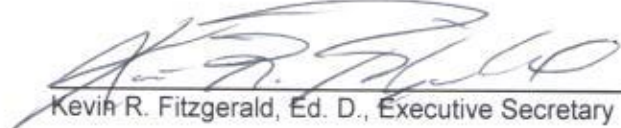
Executive Session

At 10:31 p.m. Mrs. Marelli made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss mediations. Mrs. Heavner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Heavner, Bush, Precourt and Wilson).

At 11:10 p.m. Mrs. Precourt made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mrs. Marelli seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Precourt, Marelli, Bush, Heavner and Wilson).

Adjournment

At 11:15 p.m. Mr. Wilson made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Precourt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Wilson, Precourt, Bush, Heavner and Marelli).


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

Date

1/20/15

The Caesar Rodney School District is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in employment or educational programs, services or activities based on race, color, religion, national origin, veteran or marital status, age, disability, sexual orientation or genetic information in accordance with state and federal laws. Inquiries about compliance should be made to the Title IX, District 504 and ADA Compliance Officers: Paul L. Dunbar
Administration Building, 7 Front Street, Wyoming, DE 19934.
Phone: (302) 698-4800.