

**Regular Meeting
January 20, 2015**

Opening

Call to Order

At 7:03 p.m. School Board President Mr. William G. Bush IV called the January 20, 2015 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. Marelli made a motion to adopt the January 20, 2015 Regular Meeting agenda and addendum as presented. Mrs. Heavner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Heavner, Bush, Precourt and Wilson).

Approval of Minutes – December 16, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes

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

Executive Session

At 7:05 p.m. Mrs. Precourt made a motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel Matters. The purpose of which is to conduct interviews for the vacant Assistant Principal position at W. Reily Brown Elementary School. Mrs. Marelli seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Precourt, Marelli, Bush, Heavner and Wilson).

At 8:18 p.m. Mrs. Marelli made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mrs. Precourt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Precourt, Bush, Heavner and Wilson).

Public Comments

There were no public comments at this meeting.

Presentation

Presentation

Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary School

Mrs. Jennifer McCarthy, Music teacher at Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary School, and members of her 5th grade chorus performed two (2) songs for the Board. The following Chorus students performed for the Board:

- Sophie Brewer
- Riane Cardita
- Nathaniel Jeffers
- Maggie McCarthy
- Carlton Passley
- Mikaylee Preuss
- Michaela Spangler

Mrs. Kellie Rogers' 5th grade Level III students did a presentation on Computer Coding for the Board. The students touched on facts about coding, how excited and passionate they are about coding and the importance of learning coding as it can be chosen as a career path. The following Level III students presented to the Board:

- Maggie McCarthy
- Sophie Brewer
- Tia Parker
- Mikaylee Preuss

Recognitions

Ruth Fuchs – STEM Award

The Caesar Rodney Board of Education recognized Ruth Fuchs, J. Ralph McIlvaine Early Childhood Center Librarian, for being selected as Delaware's first recipient of the STEM Educator of the Year Award. Mrs. Fuchs created interactive multi-media stations which fostered an understanding and interest in basic science skills to the more than 500 kindergarten students at the J. Ralph McIlvaine Early Childhood Center. Mrs. Fuchs is to be commended for her role in creating an interest in science by having students work with such scientific tools as microscopes and hand lenses.

Mrs. Fuchs presented a power point presentation on STEM accomplishments at J. Ralph McIlvaine Early Childhood Center.

Communications

Superintendent

Dr. Fitzgerald communicated the following to the Board:

- We are shocked and saddened by the information that we received last week from the State Police. I do not believe that anyone will ever understand or be able to explain why anyone would ever do the things that were alleged. I do know that we have over 620 dedicated teachers in this District that do an outstanding job working with and caring for our children. Our concern is with the health and well-being of the victim, the members of the wrestling team and our entire student body. Counseling has been made available and we are looking into other supports as needed – we do have a mental health counselor available in our Wellness Center. The wrestling season will continue – Chris Harris has taken over as interim head coach and two former assistant coaches (Paul Collier and Darrell Gravatt) have stepped forward to assist the program.
- Our thoughts and prayers go out to Katie (Capitan) Anderson and her family on the loss of her husband Jason Anderson after a tragic accident on Sunday on I-476 in Philadelphia. Katie, who is a Caesar Rodney Alumni and has done contractual work as a speech language pathologist along with her son, survived the crash. Jason was a well-respected member of the community who worked for Dover Motorsports.
- Congratulations to Mrs. Windsor-Allen, W. B. Simpson Elementary School Music teacher, for being recognized by the VFW for Delaware Teacher of the Year citizenship award.
- Congratulations to the Caesar Rodney High School Technology Department for being selected as the State winner for the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest. Their project is the power wheels modification for Charlton students with no lower body mobility. They will submit a 2-3 minute video about the project for the National competition.
- I am pleased to announce that DODEA has contacted Dr. Puzzo regarding picking up the option for next year's contract. We are honored to continue to provide educational services to the children of Dover Air Force Base.
- Tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. I will be meeting with the President of the Delaware PTA, Dr. Terri Hodges, if any Board members would like to join us. The conversation will revolve around the new State test.
- The 2nd marking period will end on Friday, January 23rd. Student grades through the access center and reports will be available on February 4th.
- February 4th will also be AP parent night at the high school beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- Scheduling nights will take place on February 11th (Fifer), 18th (FNP) and 25th (ABMS).
- The Polar Bear Plunge for Delaware Special Olympics is Sunday, February 1st.
- Dr. Fitzgerald thanked everyone that attended yesterday's Martin Luther King, Jr. festivities, particularly Board member Mrs. Marelli and our CREA President Mrs. Threatts.
- Dr. Fitzgerald would like to remind the Board that the District Spelling Bee will be held at Star Hill Elementary School on Tuesday, January 27th at 6:00 p.m.

- At the last Board meeting Dr. Fitzgerald suggested moving the February Board meeting. After hearing that there are conflicts with that night Dr. Fitzgerald believes it is best to keep the February Board meeting as previously scheduled and as printed in the calendar on February 17th at the Caesar Rodney High School.
- Dr. Fitzgerald would like to predict a Super Bowl win for the New England Patriots and a Super Bowl ring for CR Alumni and New England Patriot safety Duron Harmon.

School Board

Mrs. Heavner shared that 7th – 12th graders competed for State Band and 13 Caesar Rodney students were chosen.

Mrs. Marelli shared that she attended Smarter Balance on January 6th at Department of Education and it made her realize how much professional development it takes to educate the teachers. Mrs. Marelli also wanted to thank Kevin Thompson and Jeff Davis for the things that they are doing to make CR look good.

Colonel Phillips thanked Dan Farley, Jason Payne and Dave Santore for all of their help during the tightening of security on the base.

Personnel Matters

Appointment of an Assistant Principal at W. Reily Brown Elementary School

Mrs. Marelli made a motion to appoint Dr. Wendy Whitehurst as Assistant Principal at W. Reily Brown Elementary School with a one (1) year contract and effective date of January 26, 2015. Mrs. Heavner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Heavner, Bush, Precourt and Wilson).

Action Items

Personnel Matters

1. Teacher Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Nancy McClements	FMS	Social Studies	Retirement effective end of SY2014-15.
Kathleen Thomas	CRH	Distributive Education	Retirement effective end of SY2014-15.
James Fennemore	WBS	Physical Education	Retirement effective 1/31/2015.
Jacqueline Hampton	FMS	Exceptional Children	Resignation effective 1/9/2015.
Michelle Crowder	AFE	Grade 5	Resignation effective 1/21/2015.
Tim Elmer	CRH	Technology Education	REVISION: Resignation effective 1/23/2015.
Heather Fitzgerald	AFE	Library/Media Specialist	Temporary appointment effective 12/15/2014.
Cecelia Robinson	WEL	Grade 5	Retirement effective end of SY2014-15.
Margaret Darling	CHA	Life Skills	Retirement effective end of SY2014-15.
John Conway	CRH	Special Education	Resignation effective 1/23/2015.

2. Paraprofessional Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Badya Ghyll	CHA	Support	Temporary appointment effective 1/5/2015.
Diana Baird	CHA	Support	Temporary appointment effective 1/5/2015.
Angela Garza	CRH	Support	End of temporary appointment effective 1/5/2015.

3. Custodial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Gretchen Deel	CRH	2 nd Shift Custodian	Appointment effective 1/5/2015.
Los Santa Krejczman	CHA	Custodian	Appointment effective 1/5/2015.
Dale Street	CRH	1 st Shift Custodian	Re-assignment to 1 st shift effective 1/5/2015.
Joshua Knight	DO	Custodian/Groundskeeper	Appointment effective 12/15/2014.

4. Secretarial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Denise Kiessling	CHA	Secretary	Retirement effective 3/31/2015.

5. CREA Travel Requests

Name	School	Position	Action
Scott Myers	CRH	Teacher	To attend Natl Soccer Coaches Assn of America 1/14/2015-1/18/2015 in Philadelphia, PA.
Diane Walls	WEL	Teacher	To attend NAFME Eastern Division Conf 4/9/2015-4/12/2015 in Providence, RI.

6. Leaves of Absence

Name	School	Position	Action
Kathryn Comegys	FNP	Social Studies	LWOP 1/21/2015 through 3/31/2015.

7. Child Nutrition Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Delea Helwig-Macklin	MCI	3 hr. General Worker	Appointment effective 12/8/2014.
Kimberly Hartnett	FNP	3.5 hr. General Worker	Appointment effective 12/8/2014.
Lisa Johnson	FMS	3.5 hr. General Worker	Appointment effective 12/8/2014.
Severa Benson	FNP	3 hr. General Worker	Resignation effective 1/9/2015.
Kathy Thornton	FNP	3.5 hr. General Worker	Transfer effective 1/5/2015.
Becky Patton	NHS	3 hr. General Worker	Appointment effective 1/5/2015.
Tracy Boyer	MCI	3 hr. General Worker	Resignation effective 1/16/2015.

8. Administrative Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Ryan Fuller	DO	RTTT Coordinator	Resignation effective 2/6/2015.

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

Routine Business

Student Travel

Caesar Rodney High Students

Event	Date	Location
Marine Biology Science Classes to Adventure Aquarium	Wednesday, March 18, 2015	Camden, New Jersey
Speech and Debate Team to University of Pennsylvania	Thursday, March 26 through Sunday, March 29, 2015	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Nellie Hughes Stokes Students

Event	Date	Location
5 th Grade Field Trip to Washington Plantation	Thursday, May 28, 2015	Mount Vernon, Virginia

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

Gifts to Schools

- a. McIlvaine Early Childhood Center received a \$500.00 donation from Gale and Associates.
- b. John S. Charlton School received a snowman stocking, Christmas character ornaments, crayons, coloring books and a Christmas character visit from Captain Glenn Dixon and CPL/3 Carol Parton of the Delaware State Police.
- c. John S. Charlton School received a Pride Jazzy Select 6 Powerchair (original cost: \$12,221.56, estimated value: \$6,000.00) from Joni Campagnini.
- d. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received a \$100.00 donation from Tim Finley for families in need at the holidays.
- e. Dover Air Force Base Middle School received a \$500.00 donation from Gale and Associates.
- f. Dover Air Force Base Middle School received a \$75.00 donation from Camden Wal-Mart.
- g. Fred Fifer III Middle School received \$250.00 in gift cards from Dr. Philip Gross, Vision Quest.
- h. Star Hill Elementary School received a 2 gallon reverse osmosis purification system from Allen Martin, Martin's Water Treatment.
- i. Star Hill Elementary School is receiving recess equipment (Step Up, Sit Up, Hip Twist, Push Up and Dip Station) from the Star Hill PTO.
- j. Caesar Rodney School District Visiting Teachers received a donation for 30 Delaware State Park Education Program Vouchers valued at \$10.00 each from Dr. Jon Wickert, DNREC Division of Parks and Recreation.
- k. F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School received a \$50.00 donation from Barbara Darlington for the Postlethwait Middle School food drive.

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

Policy Matters

2014-15 School Choice Recommendations

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

The Board wishes to create the following positions under "Schedule B" of the negotiated agreement with the Caesar Rodney Education Association:

- a. Middle School Lacrosse, Head Coach
- b. Middle School Lacrosse, Assistant Coach
- c. Middle School Volleyball, Head Coach
- d. Middle School Volleyball, Assistant Coach
- e. Middle School Baseball, Assistant Coach

The Board also affirms that the position of a Middle School Baseball, Head Coach, currently exists in "Schedule B" of the negotiated agreement with the Caesar Rodney Education Association.

Mrs. Marelli made a motion to create the above listed positions to send to a committee for point assignment (E.P.E.R). Mrs. Heavner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Marelli, Heavner, Bush, Precourt and Wilson).

Fiscal Matters

Budget/Fiscal Reports

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

Discussion Items

Directors' Reports

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

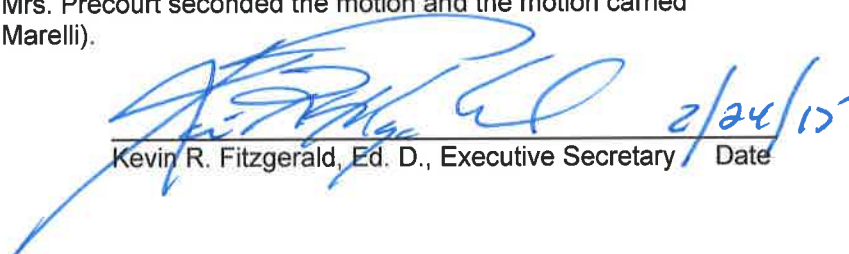
Executive Session

At 9:06 p.m. Mrs. Heavner made a motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel Matters. The purpose of which is to discuss arbitration. Mrs. Precourt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Heavner, Precourt, Bush, Wilson and Marelli).

At 10:20 p.m. Mrs. Heavner made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mrs. Marelli seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Heavner, Marelli, Bush, Precourt and Wilson).

Adjournment

At 10:23 p.m. Mrs. Heavner made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Precourt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously 5-0 (Heavner, Precourt, Bush, Wilson and Marelli).


Kevin R. Fitzgerald, Ed. D., Executive Secretary Date 2/24/15