Regular Meeting
January 18, 2022

Opening

Call to Order

At 7:08 p.m. School Board President Michael Marasco called the January 18, 2022, Caesar Rodney School District regular meeting to order.

Roll Call

Members present in addition to President Marasco were Vice President, Ms. Jessica Marelli, Board Members Mr. Dave Failing, Dr. Joyce Denman, and Executive Secretary Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald. Mr. P. Scott Wilson was not present.

Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Marelli made a motion to adopt the January 18, 2022 agenda and addendum as presented. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and after roll call, the motion carried 4-0 with one absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Denman).

Approval of the December 14, 2021, Regular Meeting and January 10, 2022, Work Session Minutes

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the December 14, 2021, regular meeting, and January 10, 2022 work session minutes as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and after roll call, the motion carried 4-0 with one absent (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, and Denman).

Presentations

Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary
Mr. Freeman Williams, Principal, and Mrs. Kerri Carr, Assistant Principal, shared their school motto. They explained the 5 C's to Success: connection, communicate, collaborate, compete, and celebrate. Mr. Freeman spoke about the Stokes PRIDE. Coming out of this pandemic, they are using Positivity, Responsibility, Integrity, Discipline, and Empathy within their school. He continued to speak on how wonderful the staff members are at Stokes and how they are also being recognized. The school-wide clubs and family events were also shared,

Grade 5 ARC Unit 4- Mrs. Tara Faircloth and Dr. Darren Guido
Mrs. Tara Faircloth, Director of Instruction, and Dr. Darren Guido, Supervisor of Instruction, gave a presentation on the Grade 5 ARC Unit 4 curriculum. This program was introduced as the Civil War Era, an American Reading Company 5th Grade Argumentative Research Unit. This adds an additional social studies element to the ELA classes. It is the entire period surrounding the Civil War Era. HB 198 goes into effect next year and this allows us to comply. The individual units and subject areas covered were reviewed. The components of HB 198 were also shared.

Ms. Marelli asked about the length of each unit. Dr. Guido stated it was a marking period.

Dr. Fitzgerald amended the roll call. Mr. P. Scott Wilson was present.

Retirement

Mr. Kevin Thompson, Director of Student Services, was recognized for his retirement of 22 years of service to the district.

Communications

Superintendent

- Dr. Fitzgerald wished everyone a happy new year and he congratulated Mr. Thompson on his upcoming retirement.
- Dr. Fitzgerald thanked Mrs. Laurie Sisk, Base School Liaison, for the grant she submitted for our district to receive two Child/Youth Behavioral Military & Family Life Counselors.
- Dr. Fitzgerald thanked all district staff, administration, students, and especially the nursing staff for the incredible amount of work they are doing each day. He stated we are still doing contact tracing and the CDC guidelines dictate the time for quarantining.
- Dr. Fitzgerald shared that the governor's mask mandate continues. We continue to conduct deep cleaning in all buildings. This is a two-hour process and we are using a vendor for this. The KN95 masks are coming in for grades 6 & above including all staff. This week will be the delivery. We are researching to find a smaller size for our younger students. It is not mandated, but they are available if someone should request one.
- Dr. Fitzgerald shared the district's current COVID statistics. Student attendance is at 72% at the John S. Charlton School (JSC) and 90% at the Magnolia Middle School (MMS) with most schools averaging in the upper 80%.
- Dr. Fitzgerald mentioned the possibility of snow on Thursday and again over the weekend. Friday is an in-service day. We are asking for all staff and students to take home their laptops and Chromebooks on Wednesday, just in case. If we should have a snow day on Monday, this would be a true snow day for students and a virtual planning day for staff.
- Dr. Fitzgerald shared that Thursday marks the end of the second marking period. Report cards will go home on Feb. 2nd. This Friday is the district's T3 Expo which will be held virtually for our staff.

Board Members

President Marasco asked if our students wanted the KN95 mask how would they get them. Dr. Fitzgerald stated they will be available for those who want them once we receive the shipment. He reminded everyone that these masks do have a limited life span.

President Marasco stated he was grateful for the district's staff and everything they are doing during this time.

Mr. Failing stated he was also proud and asked everyone to just hang on.

Dr. Denman gave a shout-out to Mr. Thompson. She shared he always makes CR very proud. She continued to share all staff are heroes and they are out there doing the hard work. The board recognizes this. She commended Mrs. Faircloth and Dr. Guido for going the extra mile and showing the Board the materials being used. She appreciated the review of materials. She also thanked Mr. Freeman for his presentation this evening.

Public Comment

Dr. Rishi Sawhney, the parent of three boys in the district and a local oncologist, addressed the Board regarding the most recent CDC guidelines regarding quarantining. He wanted to bring awareness to the Board on these guidelines. Mr. Sawhney applauds the district for keeping everyone safe and allowing our students to stay in school. His concern is the inconsistency in following the guidelines regarding exposures. His son was in close contact and was told he must stay home for a 10-day quarantine. His son is fully vaccinated and is asymptomatic. He reviewed the Department of Public Health's website and found his fully vaccinated son having close contact while not showing symptoms means there is no quarantine needed. He would like the Board to take this opportunity to work towards a more uniform consistency on the quarantine time needed for students and staff.

Dr. Fitzgerald clarified his communications and stated the T3 Expo this Friday for 10-month staff will be working from home while 12-month staff would be reporting to their buildings.

Executive Session

At 7:52 p.m. Ms. Marelli made a motion to go into Executive Session. The purpose of which is to discuss personnel matters. Mr.Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

At 9:25 p.m. Ms. Marelli made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Action Items

Personnel Matters

The Board approved Personnel Matters A.1- A.8 as presented on the agenda and addendum.

Ms. Marelli made a motion to accept Personnel Matters A.1- A.8 as presented on the agenda and addendum. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

1. Administrator Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Kevin Thompson	DO	Director of Student Services	Retirement effective 02/01/2022.

2. Teacher Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Emily Barth	PMS	Dean of Student Achievement	Appointment effective 01/03/2022.
Holly Curran	CRHS	English	Retirement effective 07/01/2022.

3. Paraprofessional Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Cynthia Louine	NHS	Paraprofessional	Temporary appointment effective TBD-06/30/2022.
Camela Wyatt	JSC	Paraprofessional	Retirement effective 07/01/2022.

4. Custodial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Chiquita Denny	CRHS	1st Shift Custodian	Appointment effective 01/12/2022.
Roy Meadows	MMS	Custodian	Resignation effective 12/25/2021.

5. Child Nutrition Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Carolyn Dean	CRHS	3.50hr General Worker	Appointment effective 01/03/2022.

Christina Caparatta	CRHS	5.50hr General Worker	Resignation effective 01/03/2022.

6. Other Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

Name	School	Position	Action
Lloyd Stafford	CRHS	Constable	Appointment effective 01/10/2022.
Angela Fowler	CRHS	Constable	Appointment effective 01/18/2022.
Chenee' Brooks	DO	Human Resources Coordinator	Appointment effective 01/18/2022.

7. CREA Travel Requests

Name	School	Position	Action
Breanna Holtz	FMS	Teacher	To attend OAH Conference on American History, Boston, MA 03/31/22-04/03/22.
Michael Kenny	AFE	Teacher	To attend 2022 NAEA National Convention, New York, NY 03/02/22-03/04/22.

8. Extra Duty Recommendations/Resignations

Name	School	Activity	Position	Action
Gabriel Gumus	CRHS	Indoor Track/Field	Volunteer	Recommendation for Winter Sports SY21-22
Morgan Rigby	MMS	Wrestling	Asst. Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports SY21-22
Josh Harvey	FMS	Wrestling	Asst. Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports SY21-22
Anthony Davis	FMS	Basketball/Boys	Head Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports SY21-22
Daniel Laguerre	FMS	Basketball/Boys	Asst. Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports SY21-22
Robert Stevenson	FMS	Wrestling	Asst. Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports SY21-22
Ja'Kim Cohen	PMS	Basketball/Boys	Asst. Coach	Recommendation for Winter Sports SY21-22

Routine Business

Student Travel
The Board approved Student Travel as presented on the agenda.

Caesar Rodney High School Students

Event	Date	Location
Ripken Experience- CRHS Baseball	Saturday, March 12, 2022- Wednesday, March 16, 2022	Myrtle Beach, SC

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve Student Travel as presented on the agenda. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Gifts to Schools

The Board approved Gifts to Schools as presented on the agenda.

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve Gifts to Schools as presented on the agenda. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Policy Matters

2022-23 School Choice Recommendations

The Board approved the 2022-23 School Choice as presented on the agenda.

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the 2022-23 School Choice as presented on the agenda. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Grade 5 ARC Unit 4

The Board approved the Grade 5 ARC Until 4 as presented.

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the Grade 5 ARC Unit 4 as presented on the agenda. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Fiscal Matters

Budget/Fiscal Reports

Mrs. Kimberly Judy explained the Budget/Fiscal Reports.

The Board approved the Budget/ Fiscal Reports as presented.

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the Budget/Fiscal Reports as presented on the agenda. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Financial Report as of December 31, 2021

Mrs. Kimberly Judy explained the Financial Report as of December 31, 2021.

The Board approved the Financial Report as of December 31, 2021, as presented.

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the Financial Report as of December 31, 2021, as presented on the agenda. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

President Marasco stated there were technical issues that needed to be corrected. The sound issues were corrected.

Directors' Reports

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

Ms. Marelli wished Mr. Thompson good luck.

President Marasco thanked Mr. Thompson for his work keeping our schools open and finding nurse coverage. He also asked Mrs. Amy Bonner, Director of Human Resources, for an update on Kelly Services on staff starting right away. She stated they are in communication with them and this is something that will happen for the district allowing us to get bodies into buildings faster. President Marasco asked Mrs. Faircloth about the immersion students coming into the high school. Chinese Immersion students are testing beyond year one. We are partnering with a university to test students allowing them to enter higher-level language classes.

Possible Land Acquisition

Ms. Marelli made a motion to table this discussion. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

Executive Session

There was no second executive session.

Adjournment

At 9:34 p.m. Ms. Marelli made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Marelli seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Wilson, and Denman).

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

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