

**Work Session  
January 31, 2022**

**Opening**

Call to Order

At 6:03 p.m. School Board President Michael Marasco called the January 31, 2022, Caesar Rodney School District Work Session to order.

Roll Call

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

Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Marelli made a motion to adopt the January 31, 2022 agenda as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0 with two absent (Marasco, Marelli, and Failing).

**Discussion Items**

2021-22 SY Updates and School Supports

Dr. Fitzgerald gave an update on the district's current COVID statistics.

President Marasco thanked the custodians for their hard work with snow removal during the recent snowstorm. Dr. Fitzgerald shared with freezing tonight we are unable to return to school tomorrow. This will be a remote learning day for students and 10-month staff has the option to report to their buildings or work from home. We hope to return to school in person on Wednesday. Dr. Fitzgerald shared that Mr. Jim Pennewell, Facility Management Supervisor, and Dr. Jason Bonner, Transportation Supervisor, were present via zoom for any questions. There were none at this time.

**Executive Session**

At 6:07 p.m. Ms. Marelli made a motion to move into Executive Session. The purpose of which is to discuss personnel matters. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0 with two absent (Marasco, Marelli, and Failing).

In attendance were: President Marasco, Mr. Failing, Ms. Marelli, and Mr. John Marinucci of the Delaware School Boards Association (DSBA).

At 6:51 p.m. Ms. Marelli made a motion to out of Executive Session. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0 with two absent (Marasco, Marelli, and Failing).

Superintendent Search

Mr. Marrinucci, DSBA, outlined the process for hiring a new district superintendent. A vacancy announcement and job description will be sent out very soon. Then a regional search will take place. He continued to explain that tonight we expect approval of the vacancy and job description. He shared the timeline. On 2/7/22 a public work session is scheduled to provide comments for the selection criteria. On 2/18/22 the job posting closes. From there the district's Human Resources department (HR) and DSBA will review the applications. This will take place on 2/21/22. At that time they will rank all candidates and present this list to the board on 2/28/22. The School Board will decide when the interviews are needed. The potential candidates will interview during the week of 3/7/22. If it looks a wider search is needed at that time, they will do this.

Mr. Marinucci reminded the Board that the vacancy announcement and job description were provided. He stated the Board should decide if residency is to be included or not in the criteria.

Ms. Marelli stated that she was aware that Mr. Wilson prefers in-district residency. She is happy with just a state of DE residency requirement. Mr. Marinucci stated in other districts there is a stipend for administrators for having residency in the district. Then the choice would be on the candidate if they want to live in the district and receive a stipend or not. This could be added to the job description. Mr. Failing stated this would be more attractive for outside candidates to consider us. President Marasco is comfortable with this.

The ranking of candidates was discussed. Mr. Marinucci stated candidate qualifications will be used to rank all candidates. Typically, this would be difficult to identify with a rubric. There is a lot more involved to run a district than you can identify on a rubric. He feels this can be clearly identified and the board will see the ranking accordingly. Mr. Failing stated they would like to see all candidates' information to be fair. Mr. Marinucci confirmed that all candidates will be listed by rank.

President Marasco stated this is a position we don't fill often and we welcome public comment for the 2/7/22 meeting. This is the time for public input.

Ms. Marelli discussed having an Assistant Superintendent. President Marasco stated as we move forward, we need to have that structure for the future. He feels the lead (new superintendent) would have an Assistant Superintendent on board. Mr. Failing stated years ago we streamlined the District Office staff and now we need to add this position back. He continued to share that we have a lot of experience with our current leaders in place.

#### **Action Item**

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the vacancy announcement and the job description as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0 with two absent (Marasco, Marelli, and Failing).

President Marasco thanked Mr. Marinucci for working with our HR director, Mrs. Amy Bonner.

#### **Adjournment**

At 7:08 p.m. Marelli made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0 with two absent (Marasco, Marelli, and Failing).

  
Kevin R. Fitzgerald, Ed. D., Executive Secretary      2/15/22      Date

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