Regular Meeting
May 17, 2022

Opening

Call to Order

At 5:28 p.m. School Board President Michael Marasco called the May 17, 2022, Caesar Rodney School District regular meeting to order.

Roll Call

Members present in addition to President Maraco were Vice President, Ms. Jessica Marelli, Board Members Mr. Dave Failing, Dr. Joyce Denman, Mr. P. Scott Wilson, and Executive Secretary Dr. Christine Alois.

Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Marelli made a motion to adopt the May 17, 2022 agenda as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Denman, and Wilson).

Approval of the April 12, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the April 12, 2022, regular meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Denman, and Wilson).

Approval of the April 25, 2022, and May 2, 2022, Work Session Minutes

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the April 25, 2022, and May 2, 2022, Work Session Minutes as presented. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Denman, and Wilson).

Executive Session I

At 5:30 p.m. Ms. Marelli made a motion to go into Executive Session I. The purpose of which is to interview for the Director of Student Services and to discuss personnel matters. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0. (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Denman, and Wilson).

At 7:15 p.m. Ms. Marelli made a motion to come out of Executive Session I. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0. (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Denman, and Wilson).

Presentations

A. Presentations
The Board recognized the following staff, students, and community members.

1. Lilly Bartlett- Arbor Day School Poster Winner (1st Place State)
2. Ben Austin- Arbor Day School Poster Winner (Grades 1 & 2)
3. Ellana Oberdick- Arbor Day School Poster Winner (Grades 3 & 4)
4. Nathan Going- DNREC Earth Day Video Contest Winner (Grades 9-12)
6. Caleb Johnson, Chris Brookes, Josh Johnson, and Ammar McNair- Special Olympics Unified Team
7. Chef Rikki Senn & CRHS Pro Start Culinary Team- National Winners
8. Mr. Ray Gingrich- Spirit of CR Volunteer Award
9. Dr. Kristina Failing- 2022 Delaware Secondary School Principal of the Year
10. 2022-2023 Teachers of the Year
11. 2022-2023 Behavioral Health Professional of the Year

B. Recognitions
   The Board recognized the following.
   1. National School Nurses Week
   2. Teacher Appreciation Week
   3. School Lunch Heroes

C. W. Reily Brown Elementary School gave a brief presentation to the Board.

Communications

Superintendent

- Dr. Alois shared some important dates with the Board.
  - Last Senior Day- May 25th
  - Schools Closed- May 27th & 30th holiday
  - JSC Graduation HS /Adult- June 1st @ 5 pm
  - CRHS Senior Awards Night- June 2nd @ 5:30 pm
  - CRHS Graduation- June 4th @ 9 am (Board Members arrive earlier)
  - MECC Graduation- June 6th
  - WEL Graduation- June 8th
  - Last Student Day- June 9th
  - Last Teacher Day- June 13th
  - Several moving up ceremonies are scheduled throughout the district

- Dr. Alois shared that on Friday, all 5th, 8th, and a bus of HS students will travel to Dover Air Force Base for the airshow. They will watch the Blue Angles and Thunderbirds practice and participate in a STEM fair. (1500 students approx.)

- Dr. Alois stated we are launching the Strategic Planning this coming Friday. The District is working with Insight Education Group to develop a plan with feedback from all stakeholders from May-October 2022. A survey will be going out to all. Then we will select a Steering Committee with approximately 25-30 members chosen by individual knowledge and skill as well as affiliation to a variety of stakeholder groups. We will choose to equitably represent the demographics of the district’s student population, various areas of the district, range of schools, grade levels, positions, and years of experience, creating a balance of internal and external. Not everyone can be on the steering committee and much more commitment is required. There are up to eight in-person meetings to be scheduled. We will also have focus groups that will be more towards August to review and give feedback on the Steering Committee’s work.

- Dr. Alois reminded the Board at the December 2022 School Board meeting, that the Board voted to move forward with restructuring feeder patterns in Caesar Rodney’s elementary schools for the 2022-2023 school year. Upon review of the numbers provided for this restructuring, the transition to a new superintendent, and the launching of a district-wide strategic planning process, the school district will be modifying its original plan as an intermediary step in addressing several needs. Completion of the district’s five-year strategic plan will help to best position the district to provide plans for future restructuring related to the community’s wants and needs.

- Dr. Alois then shared our Covid numbers are increasing, but buildings are doing an excellent job of communicating when more than two cases are popping up in a classroom and discussing precautionary steps... hand washing, social distancing, extra cleaning, etc.
Board Members

Mr. Failing stated he is excited to be here this evening with all of the wonderful things we have recognized throughout our district.

President Marasco congratulated the organizations and sports teams on their seasons. He also congratulated the seniors as they graduate from CR this year.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Action Items

Appointment of the Director of Student Services
The Board appointed Dr. Jennifer Wolford as the Director of Student Services with a start date to be determined.

Ms. Marelli made a motion to appoint Dr. Jennifer Wolford as the Director of Student Services. Mr. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Denman, and Wilson).

Personnel Matters
The Board approved Personnel Matters B.1.- B.8. as presented on the agenda.

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

1. Administrative Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tamara Toles-Torain</td>
<td>D.O.</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent</td>
<td>Resignation effective 04/30/2022.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Teacher Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emily Hotsko</td>
<td>ABMS</td>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>Appointment effective 08/17/2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles DeWeese</td>
<td>CRHS</td>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>Appointment effective 08/17/2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lindsay Bellis</td>
<td>CRHS</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Appointment effective 08/17/2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rahsel Holland</td>
<td>CRHS</td>
<td>ELA</td>
<td>Appointment effective 08/17/2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julianna Neel</td>
<td>CRHS</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Appointment effective 08/17/2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Lockwood</td>
<td>MECC</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Temporary appointment effective 04/25/2022-06/30/2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katelyn Shulties</td>
<td>WRB</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Resignation effective 04/22/2022.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Paraprofessional Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stephanie Boyd</td>
<td>JSC</td>
<td>Paraprofessional</td>
<td>Retirement effective 07/01/2022.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Custodial Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jimmy Jones</td>
<td>NHS</td>
<td>Custodian Fireman</td>
<td>Transfer effective 5/9/2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Way</td>
<td>CRHS</td>
<td>Custodian</td>
<td>Resignation effective 04/16/2022.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Child Nutrition Appointments/Resignations/Retirements/Transfers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Schoepp</td>
<td>CRHS</td>
<td>5.50 hr. General Worker</td>
<td>Transfer effective 04/25/2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joanna Sherman</td>
<td>CRHS</td>
<td>5.50 hr. General Worker</td>
<td>Resignation effective 04/06/2022.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Staff Travel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tina Sander-Loftus</td>
<td>JSC</td>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>To attend the Project SEARCH Conference-July 25-29.2022 in Baltimore, MD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Megan Polichetti</td>
<td>JSC</td>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>To attend the Project SEARCH Conference-July 25-29.2022 in Baltimore, MD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Flanders</td>
<td>JSC</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>To attend the Project SEARCH Conference-July 25-29.2022 in Baltimore, MD.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. CREA Travel

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Oswald</td>
<td>FMS</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>To attend SREB-Making School Work, Grapevine, TX 7/19/2022-7/22/2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiffany Citro</td>
<td>FMS</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>To attend SREB-Making School Work, Grapevine, TX 7/19/2022-7/22/2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Smith</td>
<td>FMS</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>To attend SREB-Making School Work, Grapevine, TX 7/19/2022-7/22/2022.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Extra Duty Appointment/Resignations/Retirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Routine Business

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

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

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. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Denman, and Wilson).

Policy Matters

2021-2022 and 2022-2023 School Choice Recommendations

The Board approved the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 School Choice as presented on the agenda.

Ms. Marelli made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 School Choice as presented on the agenda. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Denman, and Wilson).

Fiscal Matters

Budget/Fiscal Reports
Mrs. Kimberly Judy, Director of Business and Finance, 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. Failing seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Denman, and Wilson).

Leadership Team Report
The Leadership Team Report was included for the Board’s review.

Mr. Failing likes the new format and it is very informative.

Bus Bell Times
Mr. Jason Bonner, Transportation Supervisor, and the committee evaluated the bell times for next year. The committee members, community members, parents, teachers at all levels, Board members, Directors, and CREA reviewed the current times, and identify the problems, bussing concerns, driver impact, and bus routes. Meeting two was to brainstorm. They looked at having three different bells (HS, MS, and Elem). Meeting three was considered all ideas. The committee determined to maintain the status quo with some caveats. Looking at combining MCI and WBS buses to reduce driver needs. Secondly, FMS and HS combined runs. The reduces our driver need by 15.

The committee also reviewed a behavior matrix. Dr. Bonner presented this to the Dept. of Ed behavior as standardized across districts and grade level to level. Parents will know the consequences across the board no matter what level.

President Marasco asked who tracks this. Dr. Bonner stated that the Board would adopt the policy. Ms. Marelli asked if other districts are currently using this matrix. Dr. Bonner stated a form it this is being used in a few districts.

Dr. Denman stated that this is wise. Heavy requirement for mandatory reporting at the lower level. Dr. Bonner stated, for example, bullying and fighting must be reported. Faircloth stated certain things must be reported and should be aligned with our code of conduct that we are working on.

Mr. Wilson stated that we need to tell parents about the protection of their students. Dr. Bonner stated some are siblings, we piloted older students in the back and younger in the front. No complaints or issues with this. Assigned by grade or age. Students won’t be at risk. Mr. Wilson stated additional people are needed. Aides on buses have better success with their staff members participating than with others. Great success with teachers and people their know. Mr. Wilson stated we need to be prepared for any issues that may occur with mixing ages.

President Marasco asked what other districts combine bussing. Dr. Bonner stated a few had tried this with some success. He can look into this throughout the state. President Marasco asked about the more frequent disciplinary actions this past year. Fighting seems to be at the top. Language and defiance are also frequent.
Ms. Marelli stated there are a few districts that are doing a three bell schedule. Dr. Bonner stated we have muddled through our problems. Discussion took place on the current three bell schedules being used throughout the districts.

Mr. Failing stated he is not against this. He was approached by a community member who stated a scenario of having staff members on the buses with great success. Dr. Bonner agrees and he looks forward to being more successful next year. He stated our drivers should know we are supporting them.

Executive Session II

There was no Executive Session II.

Adjournment

At 9:25 Ms. Marelli made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Denman seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0 (Marelli, Marasco, Failing, Denman, and Wilson).

Christine M. Alois, Ed. D., Executive Secretary