

**Central Falls School District
Board of Trustees
Minutes**

October 19, 2004

Call to Order

Chairperson, Mr. Canavan called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Present were: Robert Canavan, Chairperson,

Joel Roseman,

Mary Lou Perez,

Joseph Faria

Gus Silva

Ana Cano-Morales

Absent: Ana Cecilia Rosado

Public Comments

No public comments.

Current Business

Minutes – Joseph Faria motioned to accept the minutes of the September 21, 2004 Board of Trustees meeting, Gus Silva seconded the motion, 5-0.

Schedule of Bills – Joel Roseman stated that he had reviewed the schedule of bills and motioned to accept, Joseph Faria seconded the motion and so it was voted 5-0.

Communications

The following items were presented: Stephanie Racine, resigning from Co-cheerleading at Calcutt Middle School, Kerri Withrow, requesting a one-year leave of absence from her position as Boys' Assistant Track Coach, Robert Patenaude, retiring December 29, 2004 from his position as Assistant Principal at the High School. Mary Lou Perez requested to place them on file, Joel Roseman seconded the motion and so it was voted 5-0.

Sub-committee Reports

No committee reports were given.

Administrative Report - Dr. Watkins, Superintendent of Schools told Board that the test scores and indicators are in from the Department of Education but have not been released to the public yet. She also informed the Board that the schools were going to be participating in a reading assessment program called GRADE, which will monitor the progress of reading levels of students. The Superintendent added that the district had a scheduled Professional Day on October 29 for all staff members. She also reported that student enrollment has stayed about the same but noted a lot of movement with students

entering and leaving. Mr. Canavan asked if the schools had information on where the children were going. Dr. Watkins replied that the information will be made available for all Board Members. The Superintendent then stated that parents had been informed about the availability of supplemental services which are scheduled to begin soon. Dr. Watkins also reported that she and some of the central office staff had the opportunity to visit the New London public school district, (who in comparison has the same demographics as Central Falls), to see how their special education department operates.

Personnel Issues

Dr. Watkins asked that following appointments be made: Salete Antunes-Kenyon – Bilingual Speech and Language pathologist – effective October 12, 2004, Gayle Furman – Temporary Speech & Language Pathologist – district wide, effective October 12, 2004
Maria Perez – Teacher Assistant/1:1 personal care attendant – Capt. Hunt School. effective October 14, 2004, Justin Drzal – Secondary Special Education teacher – retro to September 9, 2004. Joseph Faria motioned to accept the appointments, Gus Silva seconded it and so it was voted 5-0.

Old Business

Board of Trustee's Vacancy: Mr. Canavan explained to the public that Anna Cano-Morales will sit at the table with the Board members but will not have the power to vote on issues until the Board of Regents

meets on her placement.

Budget Issues: Dr. Watkins reported that the budget template and narrative has been submitted to Carolyn Diaz at the Rhode Island Department of Education on October 19. The Finance Department at the Department of Education will review and contact the Superintendent with their recommendations.

New Business

Attorney Services - Mr. Canavan informed the board that three packets were received in response to an ad for attorney services. Mr. Canavan explained that two of the firms are or have been associated with the district. Mr. Roseman asked if the Board Members could have the opportunity to view the proposals before any decision was made, and Mr. Canavan said that the proposals would be made available.

RIASC – Rhode Island Association of School Committees - Mr. Canavan asked Board Members if they thought it would be beneficial for the Board to belong to the Rhode Island Association of School Committees noting that the cost to join is \$2113. It was also discussed by the board that if they did not find the committee beneficial during the year they would not continue the membership. Gus Silva motioned to join, Joel Roseman seconded and so it was voted 5-0

SchoolMax – Dr. Watkins, Superintendent told Board Members that the district has started training for the implementation of the school database. There is a lot of work to do because no preliminary preparations has been done even though the district was informed of the \$76,000 grant last year. Representing the district at the training sessions are Ken Gilbert, Jr., Peter Wood, and Alicia Pinto.

Executive Session

Mr. Canavan, Chairperson motioned to move to executive session pursuant to Chapter 42-46-5(a) 1 & 2 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island at 7:40 p.m.

Gus Silva motioned, Joseph Faria seconded and so it was voted 5-0

Robert Canavan motioned to reconvene to a public meeting at 8:30 p.m. Joe Faria seconded the motion and it was voted 5-0.

Adjourn

Mr. Canavan adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.