

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

February 15, 2005

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,**

Gus Silva

Ana Cecilia Rosado

Ana Cano-Morales

Joseph Faria

Executive Session

Motion made by Joseph Faria, seconded by Gus Silva to move to an executive session. A roll call vote was taken and so it was voted 7-0.

Public Meeting Reconvened

Robert Canavan moved to reconvene the public meeting at 7:33 p.m., Joseph Faria seconded the motion and so it was voted 7-0.

Public Comments

No public comments

Current Business

Minutes – Gus Silva motioned to accept the minutes of the January 18, 2005 meeting. Mr. Canavan requested that they be amended to include a recommendation made by Joel Roseman in request for a statement from the district attorney. Joel Roseman seconded the motion to accept as amended and so it was voted 7-0. Gus Silva motioned to accept the minutes of the executive session held on January 18, Ana Cano Rosado seconded the motion and so it was voted 7-0.

Schedule of Bills – Joel Roseman stated that he had reviewed the schedule of bills and motioned to accept, Gus Silva seconded the motion and so it was voted 7-0. Ana Cecelia Rosado mentioned that she would like to see all the bills include some detail about the expenses. Mr. Roseman stated that he would look into that possibility and that if any members had questions he would be glad to answer them.

Communications

Letters of resignation were received from Lauren Bentley, Temporary Grade 6 ESL Teacher resigning as of February 14, 2005. Michael Ceprano resigning from his position as building substitute at Calcutt Middle School effective February 17, 2005. Retirement letters from Barry Marshall retiring from his position as full time bus driver

effective February 2, 2005 and Judith Audette retiring from her positions as Registration Secretary effective February 28, 2005, Robert Lawrence retiring from his position as guidance counselor at the high school effective the last day of school in June 2005.

Alyson Roslonek requesting a parental leave of absence for the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 academic year.

Mary Lou Perez requested to place these letters on file, Gus Silva seconded the motion and so it was voted 7-0.

Sub-committee Reports

By-Laws committee – Gus Silva requested the by-laws, Dr. Watkins stated that she did get them back from the lawyer and that she will forward them to Mr. Silva.

Building and Grounds Committee – Mr. Faria stated that he received several calls about open windows at the schools. He asked Dr. Watkins if there was a problem with the heating systems. Dr. Watkins said that Mr. Collins, Buildings, Grounds and Transportation Supervisor, was taking care of the situation. Mary Lou Perez voiced her concern about a child that had been hit by a car on the way to school after a recent snowstorm. She did say that she recently spoke to Mr. Collins about the sidewalk surrounding the high school and the slippery conditions. Mr. Collins did address the situation after her phone call.

Administrative Report - Dr. Watkins spoke about the K-6 Reading Series. She thanked all staff members that were involved in the process and stated how happy the teachers are. The Parent Forum was well attended by parents who were able to voice their concerns about issues. Dr. Watkins stated that several concerns were brought up about the high school. Dr. Watkins reported that members of the Annenburg Team were in district and visited Veterans, Feinstein, high school and Calcutt Middle School.

Personnel Issues

Dr. Watkins recommended that following appointments be made. Kerri Valcourt – Temporary Special Education Teacher, Ella Risk School effective February 7, 2005; Thomas Moon – Business Administrator effective Thursday, February 3, 2005; Ann Mariano – Director of Technology – effective February 28, 2005; Gus Silva motioned to accept, seconded by Joseph Faria and so it was voted 7-0. After the appointments Dr. Watkins introduced Mr. Moon and Ms. Mariano to the Board Members.

Dr. Watkins made the recommendation that the following retirements be accepted with regret, Barry Marshal, Bus Drive, effective February 2, 2005, Judith Audette, Registration Secretary effective February 28, 2005 and Robert Lawrence, high school guidance counselor effective the last day of school in June 2005. Joseph Faria motioned to accept, seconded by Gus Silva and so it was voted 7-0.

Dr. Watkins recommended that the following resignation be accepted. Lauren Bentley, Temporary Grade 6 ESL Teacher resigning February 14, 2005 and Mike Ceprano, building substitute at Calcutt Middle School resigning effective February 17, 2005. Joseph Faria motioned to accept, seconded by Ana Cano-Morales and so it was voted 7-0.

Dr. Watkins asked the Board of Trustees to approve a parental leave of absence for Alyson Roslenak for the 2005-2006 and the 2006-2007 academic year. Joseph Faria motioned to accept, seconded by Gus Silva and so it was voted 7-0.

Chairperson's Report - Mr. Canavan spoke about the recent retreat that the Board of Trustees had with the Superintendent. He said that a lot of issues were discussed and that he felt the evening went well.

Old Business

Union Negotiations – Dr. Watkins asked for a list of Board Members that will be sitting in on negotiations with the union, and that a meeting will take place to discuss ground rules.

Attorney Services – Gus Silva motioned to table this item, Ana Cano Morales seconded the motion and so it was voted 7-0.

New Business

Lay-off Letters – (see attached list)

The following resolutions were presented by Dr. Watkins to the Board:

Employees hired under Emergency Certification – Joseph Faria motioned to accept, Ana Cecelia Rosado seconded the motion, Ana Cano Morales abstained from voting, and so it was voted 6-0.

Uncertainty of Funds and Bumping and Emergency Certificates

Ana Cecelia Rosado motioned to accept, Joel Roseman seconded the motion and so it was voted 7-0.

Temporary Employees for Teachers on Leave of Absence

Ana Cecelia Rosado motioned to accept, Joel Roseman seconded the motion and so it was voted 7-0.

Temporary Employees hired after the Thirteenth Day of School

Joseph Faria motioned to accept. Joel Roseman seconded the motion and so it was voted 7-0.

Temporary Employees Hired after the Thirteenth Day of School with Emergency Certificate

Joe Faria motioned to accept, Mary Lou Perez seconded the motion and so it was voted 7-0

Uncertainty of Funds and Bumping

Joel Roseman motioned to accept, Ana Cecelia Rosado seconded the motion and so it was voted. 7-0

Uncertainty of Funding and Bumping (Tenured)

Joseph Faria motioned to accept – Mary Lou Perez seconded the motion and so it was voted 7-0.

More Qualified individuals can be found

Joseph Faria motioned to accept, Joel Roseman seconded the motion and so it was voted 7-0.

Discussion

High school attendance – Joany Santa spoke to Board Members about the recent meeting that was held regarding student attendance.

Ms. Santa spoke about the problem that is facing the high school and the student's lack of attendance. The meeting was held to make parents aware of their child's attendance. Member of the committee on student attendance are Carolyn Roseman, Larry DeCoste, Margarita Cruz, Jessica Rivera, Chris Gingerella. Ms. Santa did say that many parents voiced concerns about not being aware of the situation their child was in. She went on to say that they used a new system to contact parents. Connect Ed will automatically call when a child is absent or tardy and it will help keep parents informed. The cost is \$3.60 cents per students or about \$16,000 per year. Ana Cano Morales stated that there may be money in from RI Foundation through a grant. It was recommended that the district look into

possible funding.

High School Reform – Dr. Watkins explained that all the feedback on high school reform has been positive and that the district is moving forward. She also stated that she will keep board members informed on this situation.

Adjourn

Joseph Faria motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m., Gus Silva seconded the motion and so it was voted 7-0.