

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

July 20, 2006

I. Call to Order:

The Central Falls School District Board of Trustees Meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Chairperson, Ms. Anna Cano-Morales.

Present were: Ms. Anna Cano-Morales, Chairperson

Ms. Ana Cecilia Rosado

Ms. Mary Lou Perez

Ms. Sonia Rodrigues-Carr

Mr. Jhomphy Ventura

Mr. Angelo García

Mr. David Cruise

II. Public Comments:

Ms. Kathy Bradshaw, secretary at the Registration Center spoke on behalf of Carol Brunelle, nurse at the Registration Center, whose position was eliminated due to budget constrains. She said that this

position was more than immunizations. She helped parents get medical insurance if they did not have any. Ms. Bradshaw asked the board to consider the decision of eliminating this position.

Ms. Roberta Emery, teacher at Captain Hunt, spoke about the new K-Report Card. She said that all the staff worked very hard on developing this new report card. She also said that the current report card does not match with what children do and it is confusing, it is difficult for parents to understand. She asked the board to approve this K-report card.

III. Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Sonia Rodrigues-Carr made a motion to approve the minutes of June 7, 2006. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mary Lou Pérez and unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Mary Lou Pérez said that she did not include the discussion they had in the executive session meeting, she will add it and bring it in the next meeting. Motion to approve the minutes as edited by Ms. Mary Lou Pérez. The motion was seconded by Mr. David Cruise and unanimously approved.

IV. Schedule of Bills

Ms. Anna Cano-Morales said that she had some further discussions with Mr. Bob Murray regarding the City of Central Falls bills. The motion to hold the City of Central Falls bills until the next board meeting and pay the others was made by Ms. Mary Lou Pérez, motion seconded by Mr. David Cruise and unanimously approved by the Board.

V. Communication

Resignation: The following staff submitted letters of resignation.

Dr. Patricia Watkins has resigned from her position as Superintendent of Schools effective July 19, 2006

Ms. Patsy Hernandez has resigned from her position as a home visitor for the HIPPY Program effective June 2006.

Ms. Carolyn Roseman has resigned from her position as Assistant Director of Student Services effective July 21, 2006.

Motion to approve the resignations was made by Mr. Angelo Garcia, seconded by Ms. Ana Cecilia Rosado and unanimously approved.

Ms. Anna Cano Morales wished Dr. Watkins and Mrs. Carolyn

Roseman the best in their new positions and honored their service in the district.

VI. Reports

a. Administration: Ms. Ewa Pytowska recognized the High School Department's Heads as a team for their work on the proficiency based graduation requirements. Ms. Sue Dionizi, Secretary at the guidance department at Calcutt Middle School for excellence in the area of using technology to develop a school schedule. Also to the district technology team who often stop what they are doing to help others. Patricia Bishop from Special Education for assisting teachers and children in self contained classes.

We are now getting prepared for the NECAP State Assessment in the fall. Teachers are going to do the same kind of work they did last year.

A lot of Professional Development is going on in the district after schools closed.

Summer School is going on.

Ms. Ewa Pytowska also informed the board that we received extra money from RIDE to buy Science and Math Books and springboard

materials.

b. Chairperson: Ms. Anna Cano-Morales made a power point presentation about what the board is going to do, their duties, what will be and will not be accepted in the meetings and what they expect from the viewers of the meetings.

c. Other: None

VII. Personnel Matters

a. Leave of Absence

Rebecca Ruzzano has requested a leave of absence from her position of .5 Resource for the District for the 2006-2007 school year.

b. Resignations

Dr. Patricia Watkins has resigned from her position as Superintendent of Schools effective July 19, 2006

Patsy Hernandez has resigned from her position as a home visitor for the HIPPY Program effective June 2006.

Ms. Carolyn Roseman has resigned from her position as Assistant

Director of Student Services effective July 21, 2006.

c. Retirement

Gertrude Dumont submitted her letter of retirement after 22 years of service, effective June 23, 2006.

d. Appointments

Ms. Ewa Pytowska recommended that the following appointments be made:

Dan Davis – transfer from Assistant Principal at the High School to Ella Risk School Principal - Effective August 15, 2006. (Per Dr. Watkins)

**Augusto Gomes, Assistant Principal of Calcutt Middle School effective July 25, 2006.
(Per Dr. Watkins)**

e. Recall Teachers

Ms. Ewa Pytowska recommended that the following employees be recalled for the 2006-2007 academic year:

Jill Page

Don Carrera

Hector Romero

Jessica Laramée

Tina Plante-Jancef

Sandra Choquette

Sydney Baram

Joanne Knight

Jessica Gauthier

Cheryl Thurber

Terri Anderson

Sidney Okashige

Joyce Enríguez-Bernau

Donna Smith

Karen Fiore

Christine Mitnik

Angela Grant

Kristen Bond

Stephania Groenendyk

Wendy Morgan-Cribb

Gina Borges

Danielle Lachance

Diana Waters

Amy Duffy

Carlos Pinhancos

Dayna Mota

Susana Talbot

Chris Conway
Diane Cournoyer
Kerri Valcourt
Jennifer Troppea
Melissa Arnold
Michelle Pearson
Jessica Goldstein
Roberta Idone
Lee Chagnon
Susan Vollucci
Darlene Koury
Mia Godbout
Danielle Richards
Pamela Nunes
Amanda Rowley
Jennifer Rachko
Erin Fratone
Margaret Little

It is Ms. Ewa Pytowska's recommendation that the following staff members be recalled contingent on the school district receiving a copy of emergency certification:

Vilma Restrepo
Beth Pavao
Jillian O'Keefe

Alicia Migliore

Danielle Delfarno-Waugh

Damian Barbosa

VIII. Approval of Appointments

Ms. Ana Cecilia Rosado motioned to approve the appointments as well as leave of absence, retirements and recall teachers. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jhomphy Ventura and unanimously approved by the Board.

IX. New Business:

a. Leadership

Ms. Anna Cano-Morales informed the board that Mr. Mario Papitto and Ms. Ewa Pytowska are the transition team during the summer. They are working with the rest of the staff until school opens.

b. Budget

Ms. Carolyn Dias, from RIDE updated the board and the audience on where we are in the budget process. She said that this is very challenging times for the school districts. Central Falls School

District received a 4.8% increase. RIDE is still working on numbers and the Central Falls School District is providing monthly reports to RIDE. Mr. Bob Murray said that our deficit is 1.8 million dollars.

Ms. Carolyn Dias answered questions that arose from her presentation.

Dr. Todd Flaherty from RIDE said that there are two things going on. 1. Maintain services in tight times and 2. Be directly funded by the State. He also said that RIDE is in a very important partnership with the Board of Trustees.

c. Election of Vice-Chair

Ms. Ana Cecilia Rosado nominated Mr. Angelo García as Vice-Chair. No other nominations were presented, Mr. Angelo García accepted. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (7-0)

d. K-Report Card Proposal:

Ms. Ann Lynch, Principal at Captain Hunt, said that teachers got together to develop the K-report card to help the children and parents to understand it. Children have standards to meet and the report card does not reflect the hard work children do.

Motion to approve the K-report card by Mr. David Cruise seconded by Ms. Sonia Rodrigues-Carr and unanimously approved by the board.

Ms. Anna Cano-Morales congratulated the teachers for this work.

e. Veterans Memorial Uniform Request

Ms. Vielka Rollins, Principal at Veterans Memorial presented the board the initiative about having uniforms at Veterans. She said that 286 parents responded positively about wearing uniforms because it is more economic. We want students to feel comfortable wearing it, Ms. Rollins said. She also explained the responsibilities of the students wearing the uniform and said that there are many cheap choices to buy it. Ms. Rollins said that the PTO has requested for donations from fabric companies.

Mr. Jhomphy Ventura said that he personally liked uniforms and supports it.

Ms. Rollins said that because uniforms cannot be mandatory, we have to motivate students to wear it and once a month they will have a dress down day.

Attorney Vinny Piccirilli said that the Board should not have any objection. It must be something between the school and the PTO.

f. 9th Grade Academy Update

Ms. Ewa Pytowska said that nothing has changed since the last report. Mr. Gerry Manning said that the 9th grade academy is not going to be fully implemented by September. The work has not been completed yet.

g. Jump Start Academy

Ms. Ewa Pytowska said that Mr. Gerry Manning, Mr. Dan Davis and she were working on the professional development for teachers at the 9th grade academy.

Ms. Anna Cano-Morales asked about staffing and the implications it had. Ms. Pytowska replied by saying that we needed to justify to RIDE the number of students. Ms. Pytowska also said that we lost very interesting teachers.

h. Schedule non-renewal hearing

Attorney Vinny Piccirilli suggested addressing this item at the Executive Session.

X. Executive Session:

At 7:59 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Ana Cecilia Rosado to move to Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jhomphy Ventura. A roll call vote was taken and so it was unanimously approved.

Ms. Anna Cano-Morales reconvened the public meeting at 8:58 p.m. The motion to reconvene the public meeting was made by Ms. Mary Lou Pérez seconded by Mr. Jhomphy Ventura. A roll call vote was taken so it was unanimously approved.

A motion to seal the executive session minutes was made by Ms. Mary Lou Pérez and seconded by Ms. Ana Cecilia Rosado and unanimously approved.

Attorney Vinny Piccirilli said that Mr. Annaldo will be put in the recall list and there is no need of non-renewal hearing.

Motion to put Mr. Annaldo in the recall list by Mr. David Cruise and seconded by Mr. Jhomphy Ventura and unanimously approved by the Board.

XI. Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Ana Cecilia Rosado and seconded by Ms. Sonia Rodrigues-Carr. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.