

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 25, 2011
Central Falls School District Board of Trustees
6:00 p.m.
Central Falls High School – Library

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
 - Cheryl Lafond – excused absence
 - Stephanie Gonzalez
 - BK Nordan
 - Sonia Rodrigues
 - Ana-Cecilia Rosado
 - Anna Cano Morales

- II. Pledge
- III. Recognitions
 - General positive press – Veterans Memorial Elementary helped National Geographic Kids magazine set the Guinness World Records title for the most people doing jumping jacks in a 24-hour period. To break the record, more than 20,000 people worldwide needed to complete one minute of jumping jacks in events occurring between 3:00 p.m. ET October 11, 2011 and 3 p.m. ET October 12, 2011. Veterans Memorial Elementary students in third and fourth grade participated in the challenge by doing one minute of jumping jacks on Wednesday, October 12, 2011. “Let’s Jump!” supports First Lady Michelle Obama’s *Let’s Move!* Campaign, which encourages kids and families to get healthy and active. The Providence Journal and ABC 6 News reported on this.

 - The Central Falls High School launched four Advanced Placement courses this year: biology, environmental science, calculus and studio art, in addition to our previous AP courses in English, Spanish, government and U.S. history. The Providence Journal featured CFHS on the front page, covering the new AP courses being offered. The Daily Brown Herald will also be reporting on this launch.

- Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of bills
 - b. Approval of personnel actions-none
 - c. Approval of meeting minutes
 - A motion to approve was made by Ms. Rodrigues and seconded by Ms. Gonzalez. Grammatical and spelling errors were addressed. Motion was approved. (5,0)
- IV. Policy Revisions
 - a. Tina Jancef – high school senior trip request
 - Ms. Jancef and several students presented to the board of trustees, for its approval, the idea of a senior trip to Disneyworld, and the sense of

community building it would promote. Fund raising ideas were shared. Several Trustees reminisced about their own student travel experiences. The Board asked Ms. Jancef to incorporate academic content as part of the trip planning process, and to coordinate this with the high school administrators. In the end a motion to approve the trip was made by Ms. Rodrigues, seconded by Ms. Rosado. Motion carried. (5,0)

b. Access to student records during safety/health emergency – held for next agenda

V. Pension Reform Resolution and vote

Ms. Rodrigues made a motion to approve the resolution on pension reform. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gonzalez. A discussion ensued whereby members expressed concerns about the resolution and the complicated nuances of the reform proposal by R.I. General Treasurer Gina Raimondo. Ms. Rosado requested in the form of a motion to table the decision until November 8th's meeting of the Trustees. Ms. Rodrigues seconded. This was approved. (5,0)

VI. Alternate Learning School – Blackstone Valley Community Action Program for students 16-20 years old – adopt into our Portfolio of Schools subject to vote

Bianca Policastro and a colleague presented the BVCAP Program for 16-20 year olds who want to pursue a GED. The Trustees reviewed the curriculum materials and asked questions about services and success rates.

Our High School would like to include BVCAP in our Portfolio of Multiple Pathways schools and offer our students one more option to avoid becoming high school dropouts.

A motion to approve was made by Ms. Rosado, seconded by Ms. Gonzalez. Motion carried. (5,0)

VII. High school Transformation- update, Student Handbook Review

Each Trustee received a draft of the Student Handbook. The HS Leadership Team is proud of this work compiled at the behest of the parents and with the input of all stakeholders. They welcome feedback and hope to publish by the November parent conferences.

The Trustees also learned that we can expect a newly revised PBGR Handbook for review at the next Trustee meeting.

It was announced that Bob Scappini and Carolyn Ferris are the co-chairs of the NEASC self-study, and through careful deliberation the Leadership team along with the co-chairs decided to request a one year extension for the NEASC review in order to coincide with the first cycle of the transformation work.

VIII. Superintendent's Report

IX. Dr. Gallo noted that the Rhode Island Interlocal Risk Management Trust was waiting to review worker's compensation claims from our school district. Ms.

Rosado made a motion that this public body convene in executive session pursuant to chapter 42-46-5(a)(2), to discuss certain matters that are the subject of collective bargaining and litigation, and to conduct work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining and litigation (work session on worker's compensation cases) and return to the agenda after executive session. This motion was seconded by Ms. Rodrigues. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried. (5,0). Executive session convened at 7:50 PM.

The Trustees returned to open session at 8:55 PM. It was announced that no vote was taken.

The Superintendent began her report:

- a. Building Committee update-- votes of addendum approvals and change order approvals

Each of the addendums and change orders was discussed in detail and a single bill from the contractor was presented, which had been approved earlier in the day by the building committee. A motion was made by Ms. Gonzalez, seconded by Ms. Rodrigues, to authorize the addendums and change orders so that the work at Feinstein could commence and also to approve the payment of the near final Iron Construction bill for Project I totaling \$96,447.88. Motion carried. (5,0)

- b. Volunteer Handbook

It was noted that all feedback is welcome

- c. Charter Compact update

The Charter/CFSD group continues to meet and is making great progress toward a robust plan of mutual support.

- d. Upcoming Transformation Summit

Dr. Gallo announced the return of the Education Summit. This year's theme is Transformation Exploration. The Summit will be held on December 13, 2011. Transformation districts from the region are expected to join the CFSD for discussion and panel presentations centered on transformation experiences and strategies.

Dr. Gallo also spoke of a new fledgling partnership with the MATCH School of Boston that would begin in September if the funds can be obtained, bringing 30 tutors to the high school in a deliberate, well planned, well trained and effective manner focusing on mathematics in the 9th and 10th grade. There will be more information and discussion about this exciting venture in future Trustee meetings.

- X. Board Comments
- XI. Public Comments -- none
- XII. Next Meeting: Tuesday, **November 8, 2011**
- XIII. Adjournment

At 9:15 a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Nordan, seconded by Ms. Rosado. Motion carried. (5,0)