

Meeting minutes, October 9, 2012

Central Falls School District Board of Trustees

6:00 PM, Ella Risk School, Lower Level

The Board of Trustees would like to acknowledge that the business meeting business was delayed on the evening of October 9th because of lack of quorum; however, Jullisa McFarland did receive her diploma to the absolute delight of her family and guests in attendance.

Presented here are the official minutes of the meeting acknowledging that though the agenda items were taken out of order they are reported here in the order presented noted on the agenda of October 9, 2012:

I. Call to Order and Roll Call- Anna Cano Morales called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Roll call: present, Anna Cano Morales, Sonia Rodrigues, Ana Cecilia Rosado, and Stephanie Gonzalez

II. Pledge

III. Approval of personnel actions- no items for action

IV. Approval of the meeting minutes of September 25, 2012

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Rosado, seconded by Ms. Gonzalez. Motion carried. (4,0)

V. Approval of bills – Grants and General Budget

A motion to approve the payment of bills was made by Ms.

Rodrigues, seconded by Ms. Rosado. Motion carried. (4,0)

VI. Approval of Building Committee bills for payment of services- No new information to report

VII. First Reading: Student Residency Verification Policy change- A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Rosado, seconded by Ms. Rodrigues. During the discussion Ms. Rosado questioned the requirement of a picture ID with concerns that this might present a barrier to families. Mr. DeCoste noted that this has been the policy all along and that at no time has there been an issue. Ms. Cano Morales noted that if it were to become an issue she would hope that we have a backup plan so as to move this registration along. This was acknowledged. The vote was taken. Motion carried. (4,0)

VIII. Middle School Update – Twenty Students from Calcutt Middle School opened the middle school report with a rendering of song and mock interviews that entertained the Trustees and the audience on hand. Student presented their ideas and love for school in a bilingual presentation that endeared them to all. Dr. Alba followed with a detailed presentation of the status of reform efforts and test scores indicating that Calcutt’s climate had changed and that the full faculty and staff were on board for positive change. Before concluding the Calcutt report, from Ms. Cardenas’ class presented a proposal for enhanced technology acquisition seeking approval of the Trustees. Each of the 22 students developed a strong proposal to fund raise until everyone received a personal laptop computer. With the approval of the Trustees, the children expect to write letter and make their dream known to successful businesses and companies

seeking patrons for financial support of this endeavor as they seek to be true 21st Century Learners.

IX. High School Transformation update – Mr. Capellan and Mr. LaPlante presented on two major topics within the transformation effort: NEASC and Inclusion. The committees developing reports for the NEACS accreditation review are working in a timely fashion and producing evidence to support their claims on the various topics selected and reviewed by teams from NEASC. The week-long visit is expected in November 2013.

Inclusion at the high school has undergone its own makeover through a new schedule that provides for a full consultation day and four days of classroom co-teaching with plans to loop up the grade levels in order to provide the best and ever deepening service to students and their families. Mr. LaPlante explained the nuances of the process with forms and formal notes providing evidence of the consultation day for all to see. In this process all the compliance needs can be met while still providing optimal services to students and co-teachers.

X. Superintendent Comments-Dr. Gallo introduced the Collaborative Learning for Outcomes quarterly review document with the Trustees. This work is shared among a cohort of four districts when RIDE convenes the quarterly meetings. Dr. Gallo also spoke about the air quality test that took place at Veterans School. No issues were noted through this very formal scientific testing. This was good news assuring everyone that the particularly sensitive room at Veterans received a clean air quality review. Lastly, Dr. Gallo reminded

everyone that balancing next year's budget is definitely going to be a behemoth task. It is expected that \$2.5 million will be cut from the general budget. This coupled with the conclusion of the high school's School Improvement Grant means a \$3.5 million loss to the district.

XI. Board Comments – Ms. Rosado shared her positive reactions to her recent visits to the high school and Calcutt. Ms. Cano Morales shared her feelings of good will toward the Gala Event referencing the recent fund raiser sponsored through the generosity of Viola Davis.

XII. Public Comments - Larry DeCoste noted with appreciation that the remaining members of the Board of Trustees are providing yeoman's service while being so shorthanded. Ms. Cano Morales noted that three vacant seats should be filled by November by the Board of Regents appointments.

XIII. Motion to Recess to Executive Session-Ms. Rosado moved to recess to Executive Session pursuant to chapter 42-46-5(a)(2), that this public body convene in executive session to discuss certain matters that are the subject of collective bargaining and litigation, and to conduct work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining and litigation.(to discuss possible recommendations). Ms. Rodrigues seconded. Roll call vote was taken. All concurred. (4,0)

XIV. Adjournment: At 8:40 PM the Trustees returned from Executive Session. A motion to seal the minutes and adjourn was made by Ms. Gonzalez, seconded by Ms. Rosado. Motion carried. (4, 0)