

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Central Falls School District Board of Trustees

6:00 PM, Ella Risk School, Lower Level

Please note the meeting of November 27, 2012 was cancelled and the regularly scheduled Tuesday meeting was changed to Wednesday to accommodate the CF Mayoral elections.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call- The meeting opened at 6:05 PM. Present were Sonia Rodrigues, Ana-Cecilia Rosado, and Anna Cano Morales, and Stephanie Gonzalez.

II. Pledge

III. Approval of personnel actions –appointments - A motion to approve the retirement of Nancy Ursillo, the resignation of Mary Sue Mulligan, the hiring of Kelly Mayer, and the parental leave of Jordana Ruggeri-Tillinghast was made by Ms. Rodrigues, seconded by Ms. Rosado and approved by vote. (4,0)

IV. Approval of the meeting minutes of November 13, 2012 – A motion to approve the minutes of November 13, 2012 was made by Ms. Rosado, seconded by Ms. Gonzalez and approved. (4,0)

V. Approval of bills – Grants and General Budget A motion to approve the bills was made by Ms. Rodrigues, seconded by Ms. Rosado and approved. (4,0)

VI. Building Committee Update and Approval of bills for payment -

There was no new report and no action was taken.

VII. RIDE determined Focus School - Middle School Update – Dr. Alba informed the Trustees of the timeline and the strategies selected from among a matrix of options presented by RIDE and embraced by the faculty of Calcutt aimed at carrying the school toward strong academic improvement.

VIII. High School Report: Grad Nation- Mr. Capellan informed the Trustees of the high school effort to seek sustained transformation support and introduced the Trustees to the Grad Nation framework. Grad Nation is a national movement focusing on moving the graduation rate of this country to 90% by 2020. Seeking a commitment of support from the Trustees, Mr. Capellan explained that the high school will develop a clutch of similarly committed stakeholders from among the 47 organizations currently connected to Central Falls High School and create a highly publicized campaign to keep students achieving in school and graduating. The next five weeks will be spent in planning and collaborating toward campaign development.

IX. Budget Report FY13 and update on the development of FY14 – Mr. Petrarca introduced budgetary guidelines which he hopes to follow in order to prepare a multi-year budget plan that will bridge the fiscal woes of this district and manage to maintain a balanced budget while closing the pending FY 2014's \$3.5M budget gap. The Trustees directed Mr. Petrarca to consistently inform them of progress, to deliver to them monthly reports with reasonable narrative, and to conduct a cost benefit analysis on outsourcing versus maintaining

various non-certified positions. The Trustees also made clear that every caution must be taken to preserve the level of direct services to children who continue to be the focus of this district's work.

Mr. Petrarca then provided the trustees with a FY 13 Budget update outlining the various revenues and up to date expenditures leading to his belief that the district would have a small surplus of approximately \$80,000 at the conclusion of this fiscal year. However, Mr. Petrarca warned everyone repeatedly that the FY14 deficit loomed large overall and budget cutbacks must be expected and taken seriously.

Finally, Mr. Petrarca reviewed RIDE's FY 2011 Per Pupil Expenditure Report. Mr. Petrarca made comparisons of CF to urban and to state averages noting where CF fell within the average across most areas except in the ELL Expenditure category where CF spends 6% more funding on average than either the state or the urban districts.

X. Superintendent Comments: Dr. Gallo reaffirmed the ELO recognition from across the state informing the Trustees of the CF participation on a panel at RIC where students, teachers, and partners explained with precision how the ELO works and the value added it brings to the academic setting. Next, Dr. Gallo announced that the RI Foundation, Gates, Amica, and the Rivard estate together created the i3 match required for the "We are a Village grant. Finally, Dr. Gallo shared an invitation from the Gates Foundation to join the CRPE Conference on Charter Compacts and Networks in Tennessee next

month.

XI. Board Comments- Sonia Rodrigues asked about the wellness Policy revisions and attendance at an upcoming Wellness Conference. Dr. Gallo stated that Nurse, Marie Grist was planning to attend the conference and that meetings of the Wellness Committee will be called in January, March and May. Ms. Rodrigues then noted the historic election of a Colombian Mayor, James Diossa. Ms. Cano-Morales requested that Dr. Gallo contact Ms. Vasquez to inform her of the water fountain situation at Calcutt and the high school and how they are being upgraded.

XII. Public Comments -There were no public comments

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. Gonzalez seconded. Roll call vote was taken. All concurred. (4,0)

XIV. Adjournment: At 9:10 PM the Trustees returned from Executive Session. A motion to seal the minutes and adjourn was made by Ms. Gonzalez, seconded by Ms. Rodrigues. Motion carried. (4, 0)

XV. Next Meeting: January 8, 2013 – The planned agenda will include continuous work on the budget for FY14, continued exploration of the proposed guidelines for budget development, a review of the new Career and Tech Regulations, and a high school led discussion of the 2014 Graduation Requirements