

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

## **Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, March 12, 2013**

**6:00 PM, Ella Risk Lower Level Meeting Room**

**Though this meeting was announced as a meeting without quorum, two new members to the board were appointed on March 11, 2013 and were present at this meeting constituting a quorum. The meeting remained a work session with no votes taken.**

**I. Call to Order – The meeting opened at 6:00 PM. Present were Sonia Rodrigues, Anna Cano Morales, Stephanie Gonzalez, and two new Trustees, Carlos Tobon and Hugo Figueroa. Both Trustees were introduced to their colleagues and those in attendance. Ana-Cecilia Rosado was absent.**

**II. Chair Cano Morales took the opportunity of the informal work session to also review the good work of the Parent Navigators who were receiving certificates for the successful completion of their course work and 100 hours of volunteer work through the efforts of RIPIN supported by Denise DeBarros, Central Falls Liaison Coordinator .**

**Chair Cano Morales then announced the chess teams' successes and forthcoming trip to Tennessee. A special thanks was delivered to Gina Dufrene, Dan Amadio, and Frank DelBonis.**

**III. Calcutt Middle School discipline data report – Heather Dos Santos and Eliza Justo come forward to present to the Calcutt Discipline data**

report to the Board. Significant improvements were noted. The report is attached.

**IV. Superintendent comments – Dr. Gallo noted that with new Board member orientation time and a briefing retreat needed to be scheduled. Dr. Gallo also noted that negotiations with non-certified will begin shortly; certified teacher negotiations will soon follow in May; the budget remains the looming issue but work is definitely happening; the three focus schools are within the timeline for developing their School Reform Plans and expect approval accordingly; at the next session the Trustees will be asked to approve the calendar for the 2013-2014 academic year. Since the ACLU issued a report about filtering, Mr. St. Jean will summarize their work at the next session. Lastly, Dr. Gallo noted that everyone should expect posted vacancies for newly established positions by the end of March. Vacancies are expected to be filled by many of our current staff through the interview process. Dr. Gallo asked everyone to remember that this remains an issue in dispute with the union about whether or not reorganizing for efficiencies coupled with the new qualifications for positions is allowed within the current contract. This will be settled through due process.**

**V. Monthly Budget Report – Mr. Petrarca came to the table. He presented a memo narrative summary of the FY 13 budget this summary. This attached. Questions about the current budget were minimal. Chair Cano Morales asked Mr. Petrarca to review the life insurance issue for retirees. A discussion was held.**

**VI. Update on FY 14 budget development – Concerns about building a**

**budget on assumptions when the budget outlook is so bleak was a major note of dismay among the members. Ms. Grace noted repeatedly that RIDE oversight and review should be documented.**

**VII. Building Committee Update - there was no update.**

**VIII. Board Comments There were no additional Board comments.**

**IX. Public Comments - Sarah Provost, parent from Robertson School, brought three issues to the table: Ms. Provost feels that children washing their hands before meals is a problem at Robertson since they must walk down three flights of stairs to get to the lunch room contaminating their hands all over again; she questions the Star of the Month Program s being overly exclusionary; and she shared building safety concerns since the elevator is readily accessible once a visitor is buzzed into the school.**

**Since this was an informal work session, Dr. Gallo responded that she would work with Ms. Tanner to resolve the hand washing issues and that perhaps the Star of the Month Program should become the Star of the Week Program allowing more students the opportunity to become a star. As to the building safety, Dr. Gallo reiterated the plans that are in place, the current review and improvement plans being worked on in conjunction with police and fire officials, and the fact that no stranger is buzzed into the school. The vestibule is meant to be a holding area when visitors seek entrance.**

**X. Adjournment: At 8:45PM a motion to adjourn was made by**