

Central Falls School District
Meeting Minutes – January 23, 2019
McKenna Center, 115 Illinois Ave. Central Falls
5:30pm

I) Call to Order and Roll Call- The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Anna Cano-Morales at 5:30pm. A roll call was taken. Board Members Present: Anna Cano-Morales, Stephanie Gonzalez, Diosa Martinez, Hugo Figueroa, Andrew Bramson, Ron Pitt, and Sonia Grace (arrived at 5:42 p.m.).

II) Pledge- The pledge was led by Chairwoman Cano-Morales.

III) Approval of the meeting minutes of December 19, 2018. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Gonzalez and seconded by Mr. Bramson. All in favor

IV) Approval of personnel actions including any new appointments, rescission, resignations, recalls, and retirements:

New Hires:

- Melissa Desmarais, Early Childhood Special Educator, Captain Hunt
- Michelle Pearson, Grade K, ELL Inclusion, Robertson
- Nicole Tousignant, Special Educator Gr 5-8, Calcutt

V) Public Comment – CFHS Student Todd D. presented to the board the interest of the students in the How to Change the World ELO to once again take a trip to Washington, DC. The board will take up the matter at the February meeting.

VI) Graduation Ceremony – The board presented the graduation diploma to student Marlon Garcia who completed all his high school requirements.

VII) Approval of bills – Grants and General Budget:

A motion to approve the bills pending approval from Ms. Grace was made by Mr. Bramson and seconded by Ms. Gonzalez. All in favor.

VIII) Redesign Presentation: Instructional Redesign

Superintendent Capellan introduced Dr. Stephanie Toledo, the Chief Academic Officer to present the redesign work being done in instruction. Dr. Toledo presented a plan that targets improved achievement, attendance and focus on low-performing subgroups. The goal of the instructional redesign is to have all schools at 3 stars or above. The work is focusing on deepening the work, removing hurdles and continue with curriculum work and enhance professional development.

The district is focusing on the following strategies:

1. Teaching and Learning: Literacy Focus - #cfREADSdesign
2. CF Instructional Framework
3. Additional supports for ELLs and students with an IEP.
4. Expanded Learning Time

IX) School Building Committee

The superintendent presented an enrollment projection matrix that showed the projected growth for the district over the next several years which will determine the need for buildings in future years. The Enrollment Projections are done by NESDEC.

X) Public Comments

Mr. Angelo Marin spoke about the need for accountability for teacher absenteeism.

Councilwoman Jessica Vega spoke about her visit to Calcutt Middle School and highlighted the focus on building school culture.

Ms. Erica Prenda spoke about the need to focus on building the capacity and tapping into the expertise of the internal educators in the district.

Mr. Buddy Comet congratulated the Ella Risk Robotics team for winning the team award at the state competition.

XI) Superintendent Comments

Superintendent Capellan stated that the district is stepping up its social media presence and finding other ways to communicate with families and the community about the work going on in the district.

Superintendent Capellan informed the board that he requested that RIDE review the teacher absenteeism for Central Falls.

XII) Board Comments

Mr. Bramson asked the superintendent if and how many parents inquired about the RICAS results. Superintendent replied that some did, most at principal's coffee hours.

Ms. Gonzalez invited everyone to a fundraiser the Alumni Association was having to raise funds for the CF Athletics program.

Mr. Bramson informed the board that he was selected by the USDOE to be a part of reviewing some higher education regulations that may impact the quality of higher education.

XIII) Ms. Grace moved to convene into Executive Session, under RI General Laws 42-46-5 (a) (1) and (2) (collective bargaining/litigation/legal advice) and to discuss certain matters that are the subject of collective bargaining and litigation, and to conduct work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining and litigation., seconded by Mr. Figueroa.

Roll Call: Anna Cano-Morales, Stephanie Gonzalez, Andrew Bramson, Diosa Martinez, Ron Pitt, Hugo Figueroa and Sonia Grace – All in favor. The board went into executive session at 7:15 p.m.

A motion to seal the minutes of Executive Session was made by Ms. Grace and seconded by Ms. Gonzalez. All in favor. Motion Approved.

A motion to be move out of executive session at 7:51 p.m. was made by Mr. Bramson and seconded by Mr. Figueroa. All in favor. Motion Approved.

XIV. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Figueroa and seconded by Ms. Gonzalez.

The board adjourned at 7:52 p.m.