



**Central Falls School District Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes – May 22, 2019
Calcutt Middle School – Library 2nd Floor
5:30 PM**

The Board of Trustees may vote on any agenda item.

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call:**
Chairwoman Anna Cano-Morales called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.
Board Members Present- Anna Cano-Morales, Sonia Grace, Diosa Martinez, Hugo Figueroa, Andrew Bramson, Glendaliz Colon. **Absent:** Stephanie Gonzalez
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** - *Led by:* Steve Robinson
- III. **Motion to go into Executive Session**, under RI General Laws 42-46-5 (a) (1) and (2) (discussion of job performance, character or physical or mental health) (collective bargaining/litigation/legal advice) (teacher discipline hearing) 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.
Motion by: Sonia Grace
Second by: Anna Cano Morales
All in Favor
- IV. **Motion to come back to public session**
Motion by: Sonia Grace
Second by: Diosa Martinez
All in Favor-
ACM-Two votes were taken 1) Unanimous vote to deny grievance and 2) Unanimous vote for termination
- V. **Approval of the meeting minutes of April 8, 2019 and April 24, 2019**
Motion by: Andrew Bramson
Second by: Sonia Grace
All in Favor- 1 absentia HF for April 24, 2019 minutes
S. Grace- April 8th change time of meeting from 9:30am to 5:30pm
- VI. **Approval of personnel actions including any new appointments, rescissions, resignations, recalls, and retirement**
Motion by: Andrew Bramson
Second by: Sonia Grace
All in Favor

New Hires:
Kim Leimer- *Principal-Dual Language Academy*
Michael Ricci- *Data Director*



Retirements-

David Bergeron- *Social Studies Teacher- CFHS*

LAYOFFS

Name	Position	School	Notes
Bianca Ramos	.5 Pre-k Special Educator	Capt. Hunt	Creating a position for a more senior teacher
Nicole Bernier	Kindergarten Teacher-ESL	Robertson Elementary	Closing Program. Creating new DL position. Creating a position for a more senior teacher.
Brittney Lavelle	Int. Instructional Self-Contained Educator (SID)	Robertson Elementary	Closing class due to declining enrollment. Creating a position for a more senior teacher
Kayla Caron	Pre-K Special Educator	Robertson Elementary	Creating a position for a more senior teacher
Nicole Tousignant	Special Ed Inclusion/Resource Gr 5-8	Calcutt Middle	Creating a position for a more senior teacher.
Alison Flath	5/6 gr Newcomers Class	Calcutt Middle	Closing program due to funding. Creating a position for a more senior teacher
Amanda Keefe	7/8 th gr ELA Educator	Calcutt Middle	In for a teacher on LOA. Creating a position for a more senior teacher
Kelsie Fountain	9-12 th grade ELA Interventionist	Central Falls High School	Closing program due to funding. Creating a position for a more senior teacher
Lindsey LeClerc	.5 Gr 2 Dual -.5 Bilingual ELL support	Veterans Memorial	Creating a position for a more senior teacher
Susan Caddeus	Gen. Ed/Inclusion Gr 6	Calcutt Middle	Creating a position for a more senior teacher



Ronald Lehmann	ELA/ESL Teacher Gr 9-12	Central Falls High School	Creating a position for a more senior teacher
Jeffrey Rosenzweig	Math Teacher Gr 9-12	Central Falls High School	Certification

ACM- This is the last BOT meeting before June 1st. State laws says we must notify any teacher who may not return for the next year by June 1- Doing our due diligence- In the past, we had to notify teachers before March 1.

VC- We hired a new principal- Kim Leimre- for the Dual Language School. Over the past 6 years, Beth Tanner covered two buildings. Next year she will have one building. Our next hire is a Data Director, Michael Ricci. This 2-year position is grant funded.

David Bergeron, a history teacher at CFHS and previously at Calcutt is retiring and want to wish him well in his retirement and to thank him for his years of service to our children. This year we are not laying off as many FTEs as in past years. Only two FTEs eliminated. In past years, 6, 9, and 14 FTEs have been eliminates. We are moving many positions around due to redesign

New School – took advantage of many retirements and flipped those classrooms. May have to close a classroom of a more senior teacher due to enrollment, which then results in laying off a least senior teacher so a more senior teacher will have a position. We had to close a 2nd grade but then open a 3rd grade. Teacher can take that position or they may say I am going to wait to see if a pre-k opens. In the first case, the teacher takes the 3rd grade. The teacher who is laid off has recall rights for their position if available or a position they are certified for. Teachers on lay off can be recalled during the summer but many times, they take a position in another district. We try to recall before the last day in June. This year we have more retirements then we have had in the past. We also have an increase in enrollment and will need some new classes. The list looks worse than it is.

GC-Thank you for explaining about seniority, what about job performance?

VC-Look at need, seniority and certification. In some cases can be job performance but mostly seniority and certification. You would need a compelling reason to look at other factors.

VII. Approval of bills – Grants and General Budget

Motion by: Sonia Grace

Second by: Hugo Figueroa

All in Favor

No questions or comments

VIII. Action - High School Dress Code- Amend the Central Falls School District Policy Book, Section 5.3.1.1 “Beginning with the 2015-16 school year for all students in the Central Falls Public Schools it will be ~~mandatory~~ mandatory for all PK-8 students and optional for students in grades 9-12 to wear school uniforms, as supported by RI General Law 16-2-33.2”

Motion by: Sonia Grace

Second by: Glendaliz Colon



All in Favor

ACM-We have seen this language two other times- Reads the revised language-

SG- Make a motion to approve

AB- Just changing the word mandatory but not the date. I am concerned a student comes forward and says 2 years ago, I did this and received consequences and now I should not have.

ACM- We can amend the date. The policy is meant to be reviewed every 2-3years.

VC- Add amended on such a date.

SG- Strike and add in date

VC- Capture the begin date and amendment date

SG- Withdraw motion- change dates to 19-20. Strike 15-16 add 18-19

IX. Redesign Update:

VC- Principals have been working with their PLTs and with Stephanie, Ann, Jay and I. Stephanie and Ann are deep in the work. Schools are redesigning academies and programs but the budget is a challenge especially regarding staffing and curriculum needs moving forward. It was different in first year and now looking at year three, certain challenges are arising with limited funds. SIG grant was \$2 million, over 4 years, which is about \$500,000 a year. Difficult to create positions and buy curriculum resources. Working with administrators and teachers, they feel good about plans, feels different and exciting, increased engagement around teaching and learning.

SG- How much more money is needed to make things happen?

VC- 7 positions are needed. This creates a challenge. This is money for extra teachers that are not part of the redesign- \$800,000. Need \$1.5million to do what we want to do.

X. Master Plan Update-

VC- Thank you to Ann for working with the School Building Authority team. Master Capital Improvement Plan was developed in 2015. We had \$3million in capital funds to spend on improvement projects. RIDE asked us to stop doing work until our CFSD Master Plan was complete. In concept, we were given an additional \$1.5 million to spend. \$900, 000 for safety and security and \$500, 000 in emergency heating repairs at Veterans. We are working on the project cost out. Last November there was a \$250 million dollar bond approved by the voters. RIDE is working on distributing the first wave of this money about \$95 million. They have a formula they are using- \$48million is going to Providence. We are going to receive \$288,000 for pay as you go projects. The Capital Plan created 4 years ago- \$3million was covered. We can go back and pick up projects we could not complete. We will need to sign an MOU with RIDE to accept the \$288, 00. You will need to sign; the school building committee and City Council will also need to sign.

ACM- Is there a deadline to return the MOU?

VC- June 7 if we do not sign the money will go to another community.

ACM- Good catalyst pending mtg with RIDE

SG- Let us sign and hold on to it until our meeting with RIDE.

XI. Public Comment: None

XII. Superintendent Comment- None



XIII. Board Comment

AB-Is there a process for the 19-20 budget?

VC- I am meeting with RIDE next week. We are part of their budget. We have an increase in the number of students enrolled this year, so I expect to see more funding. RIDE looks at it and General Assembly takes off our budget. We have a \$1.2 million dollar deficit. General Assembly uses the funding formula for their portion. You will get budget at the June meeting for your review and consideration.

AB- The deficit is attributed to what?

VC- Several reasons- look at fund balance and use that to fill in gaps. We want to use it for our students. We do not have a large fund balance.

ACM- Stephanie Gonzalez is very interested in this. She wants to create budgets that are good for our kids not what they hand to us. She is not here tonight to speak about it.

ACM- There are a couple of educational bills in the General Assembly- One bill wants to shift the burden of students in RI School for the Deaf and in DCYF to local school districts where they live. That is two state entities – Important legislation that had hearings today.

VC- Yes, we track this legislation through the RI Superintendent's Association.

ACM- Many bills impact us negatively.

VC- We just had a DCYF case we lost on appeal. Child is removed from home and sent to Portsmouth. Portsmouth sends child to Bradley. Portsmouth and Bradley are not responsible CF is the LEA of origin so we are responsible.

AB- Estimated financial impact.

VC- This past year we have been hit hard. We had two appeals. Lost one at RIDE and the second is in the courts. We are responsible for private out of district placements. 47 students from CF are in DCYF custody. We pay DCYF whatever the cost is and we are responsible for transportation.

ACM- We are a State entity, we cannot renege on our responsibilities. They are asking districts to pay what is a federal responsibility. This issue is beyond CF. Just bad policy.

XIV. Possible Executive Session, under RI General Laws 42-46-5 (a) (1) and (2) (discussion of job performance, character or physical or mental health) (collective bargaining/litigation/legal advice) (teacher discipline hearing) 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.

ACM- We will adjourn into our second executive session. No votes will be taken and we will not return

ACM- I would like to adjourn in memory of Tina Sullivan a great friend to the district, a CFHS graduate, a true warrior through and through. I remember the joy she spread.

Motion by: Sonia Grace

Second by: Glendaliz Colon

All in Favor

XV. Next Scheduled Meeting: June 19, 2019

XVI. Adjournment

Assistive listening devices are available for use. The location is accessible to the disabled. Individuals requiring assistance due to a disability should notify the Superintendent's Office at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at 401-727-7700.