

INDIAN RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2022  
SUSSEX CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

MINUTES

Call to Order

President Rodney Layfield called the Regular Meeting of the Indian River School District Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Mr. Derek Cathell, Mr. Jim Fritz, Dr. Donald Hattier, Mr. Rodney Layfield, Madeline Moses, Mr. Gerald Peden, Mrs. Connie Pryor, Dr. Heather Statler, Mrs. Leolga Wright.

Board Member Absent: Mr. Scott Collins.

Executive Session

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, to go into Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, student hearings, negotiations, and litigation. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

*Mr. Gerald Peden left the board meeting at 7:02 p.m.*

Reconvene - Regular Session at 7:03 p.m.

Presentation of Colors/Pledge of Allegiance

Student Government

Sussex Central High School's student government representative, Harley Tidwell, reported on events occurring at Sussex Central High School.

Approval of Agenda – February 28, 2022

It was moved by Mr. Fritz, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Approval of Minutes

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes – January 24, 2022

It was moved by Mr. Fritz, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### Board of Education Executive Session Meeting Minutes – January 24, 2022

It was moved by Mr. Fritz, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2022

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### Board of Education Special Meeting Executive Session Minutes – February 11, 2022

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### Visitors and Staff in Attendance

Jay Owens, Karen Blannard, Celeste Bunting, Kelly Dorman, Judi Brittingham, Renee Jerns, Tammy Smith, Chris Delgado, Cliff Toomey, Joe Booth, Shawn Tidwell, Preston Lewis, Pamela Webb, Karen Clausen, Bradley Layfield, Travis Bower, Brad Breasure, Mike Williams, Neil Stong, Kathleen Wilson, Melissa Kansak, Janet Hickman, Allisa Booth, Jason Macrides, Christy Kerr, Sarah Green, Tara Thoroughgood, Nika Reed, Ron Lewis, Ken Fearn, Audrey Carey, Brad Cowen, Glenn Rolfe, Melanie Marshall, Kathy Dulis, JR Emanuele, Mark Dufendach, Suzanne Timmons, Buddy Snyder, Lauren Nuttle, Holly Blood, Ibrahim Leyva Fojaco, Regan Burton, Sandra Elliott, Leo Darmstadter, Jake Darmstadter, Jeff Gartman, Molly Gartman, Maureen Rozanski, Beth Poe Housemen, Gabino Escobar, Sierra Sabia, Desiree Pilgrim, Jason Pilgrim, Adriane Mason, Randy Mason, Cade Mason, Matthew Harmon, Duncan Winger, David Whitmer, Deanna Whitmer, Ronald Lewis, Bob Blyman, Mary Villareal, Nicholas Ables, Anthony Mills, Kylie Youse, Kassi Timmons, Brianna Wittman, Amy Wittman, Evelyn Velasquez Velasquez, Phobe Marvel, Brooke Darmstadter, Brian Youse, Traci Youse, Libby Houseman, Mike Smith, Kevon Briddell.

### Recognition

- Delaware All State Honors Band (SC): David Bohenic, Liberty Hanzer, Kylie Youse
- Delaware All State Junior Honors Band (SC): Leo (Jake) Darmstadter
- Senior Sussex County Honors Band (SC): Nicholas Ables, David Bohenic, Jo Conrad, Liberty Hanzer, Mya Jones, Thomas Zolocsik, Allison Lopez Juarez, Anthony Mills, Nahomi Mota Martinez, Kelvin Ventura Velasquez, Kylie Youse
- Delaware All-State Honors Choir (SC): Nicholas Ables, Jo Conrad
- Honors County Chorus (SC): Katelynne Megginson, Melvin Cruz, Nicholas Ables, Jo Conrad, Layla Lockerman
- First Team All-Conference (SC): McKenna Boyle, Kiana Kelly, Anthony Prado Moreno, Gabino Escobar Lopez, Kerry Perez Perez, Jerry Velasquez Mazariegos, Ibrahim Leyva Fojaco, Bre Reid
- First Team All-State (SC): Anthony Prado Moreno, Gabino Escobar Lopez, Bre Reid, PJ Henry, Ibrahim Leyva Fojaco

- First Team All District (SC): Kevon Moore Briddell, Layne Leatherbury, PJ Henry, Ibrahim Leyva Fojoca
- Academic All Conference (SC): Matthew Harmon, Jordy Ortiz Ramirez, Elder Roblero Morales, Ricardo Roblero Perez, Jesus Sanchez Pulido, Jerry Velasquez Mazariegos, Regan Burton, Lyle Jackson, Sierra Sabia, Jackson Dutton, Austin King, Cade Mason, Essence Briddell Moore, Evelyn Velasquez Velasquez, Mary Anderson, Olivia Fox, Catherine Hassler, Kyleigh McGee, Madelyn McTeer
- First Place State of Delaware FFA Career Development Winners (SC): Libby Houseman, Joanna Ramon Rendon, Katey Megginson, Samantha Stong, Molly Gartman, Mary Jane Marshall, Allison Weldon

### Public Comments

- Heather Perfetti spoke to the Board regarding outreach for students who have lost a parent. She spoke of the various benefits her late sister provided to Ennis through various benefits, fundraisers while she was principal.
- Jason Pilgrim spoke to the Board about families and students continuing to wear masks after the governor's announcement.
- Deborah Denbert spoke to the Board about the struggles of bus drivers/bus contractors regarding discipline on buses.

### New Business

#### School Choice Applications 2021-2022 (February 2022)

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, to accept school choice applicants 2021-2022 (February 2022) as presented by Mr. Lewis. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

#### School Choice Applications 2021-2023 (February 2022)

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Ms. Moses, to accept school choice applicants 2021-2023 (February 2022) as presented by Mr. Lewis. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

#### 2022-2023 Transportation Plan

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Fritz, to approve the 2022-2023 Transportation Plan as presented by Mr. Tidwell. The motion passed (7-1-0).

For the motion: Mr. Cathell, Mr. Fritz, Dr. Hattier, Mr. Layfield, Ms. Moses, Dr. Statler, Mrs. Wright

Against the motion: Mrs. Pryor

#### Howard T. Ennis Technology Purchases

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to approve the Howard T. Ennis Technology Purchases with vendors CDWG and Dell Information systems totaling \$513,268.09. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### New Sussex Central High School Design Development Drawings

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Fritz, to approve the new Sussex Central High School Design Development Drawings as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0). It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Fritz, to approve the budget allowance for the new Sussex Central High School Design Development drawings as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### Howard T. Ennis Pool Retention

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, when the district moves to the new Howard T. Ennis building, the district turns over the swimming pool and the operation over to Delaware Tech, who is the owner of the building. The motion passed (6-1-1).

For the motion: Mr. Cathell, Mr. Fritz, Dr. Hattier, Ms. Moses, Mrs. Pryor, Mrs. Wright

Against the motion: Mr. Layfield

Abstained: Dr. Statler

### Proposed Cell Tower at Lord Baltimore Elementary School

No motion made.

### 2022-2023 District Calendar Draft

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, Seconded by Ms. Moses, to approve the 2022-2023 District Calendar Draft as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### Contract Negotiations

It was moved by Mr. Fritz, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to approve the Tentative Salary Reopener Agreements Contract negotiations for teachers, secretaries, paraprofessionals, and custodians for FY 2022. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### Administrative Salaries

It was moved by Ms. Moses, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to approve the administrative salaries as presented. The motion passed (7-0-1).

For the motion: Mr. Cathell, Mr. Fritz, Dr. Hattier, Ms. Moses, Mrs. Pryor, Dr. Staler, Mrs. Wright.

Abstained: Mr. Layfield

Adult Education Marketing Fees for Community Groups

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to approve the adult education marketing fees for community groups as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Community Partner	Current Fee	Historical payments	Historical Payments	Historical Payments	For flyer only if they went through Peachjar	Proposed Fee
<b>Marketing Campaign Only(Peachjar, District Website, Facebook, &amp; Alert Now)</b>						
Millsboro Little League	\$1/player	\$ 207.00			\$ 175.00	\$200
Georgetown Little League	\$1/player or .50/player for only Alert Now	\$ 144.00	\$ 164.00	\$ 126.00	\$ 125.00	\$200
Lower Sussex Little League	\$1/player	\$ 503.00	\$ 624.00	\$ 549.00	\$ 175.00	\$200
Challenger League	\$1/player	\$ 34.00	\$ 25.00		\$ 375.00	Free - covered by other little league fees
						\$200
River Soccer	\$1.50/player or \$1/Alert Now & Peachjar	\$ 585.00	\$ 955.50	\$ 904.50	\$ 300.00	\$200
Lower Sussex Indians	\$1.50/player	\$ 31.50			\$ 150.00	\$200
Pop Warner Football/Cheer	\$1/player or .50/player for only Alert Now	\$ 70.00	\$ 21.50		\$ 375.00	\$200
<b>Marketing + Facility Use &amp;/or Program Partnership</b>						
Baywood Greens	\$10/player	\$ 300.00	\$ 290.00	\$ 210.00		\$10/player
River Soccer Indoor JMC	\$10/player	\$ 1,989.00	\$2,241.00			\$10/player + Custodian Fees
Factory Sports	\$15/player	\$ 540.00	\$ 360.00	\$ 615.00		\$15/player

\*\*\*\*Average payment for Peachjar use

\$ 239.29

\* no fees are charged for internal district programs (Pee Wee Wrestling, Driver Education, Lifeguarding Certification, Ennis Pool Schedule, etc...)

### Howard T. Ennis Full Day Pre-K Tuition Increases

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, to approve the Howard T. Ennis full day pre-k tuition increases as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### Mask Requirements

It was moved by Mr. Layfield, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to move forward with the governors mask mandate order and the district allows it to be optional for the families of the district. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### Old Business

#### New Sussex Central High School/Major Capital Planning

Dr. Owens reviewed with the Board the most recent updates regarding the new Sussex Central High school.

#### Howard T. Ennis

Dr. Owens updated the board on Howard T. Ennis construction with an anticipated completion date in the Fall of 2022.

#### GW Carver Consent Update

Dr. Brittingham shared with the Board the most recent updates on GW Carver Academy.

### Committee Reports

#### Buildings & Grounds

Dr. Hattier reviewed the minutes from the February 14, 2022 Buildings & Grounds committee meeting.

#### Comprehensive School Safety

No report.

#### Finance

Dr. Hattier reviewed the minutes from the February 14, 2022 Finance Committee meeting.

#### Curriculum

Dr. Statler reviewed the minutes from the February 14, 2022 Curriculum Committee meeting.

#### DSBA Board of Directors

No report.

#### DSBA Legislative

No report.

## Special Education Task Force

Dr. Statler shared with the Board the next Parent Coordinators Meeting will be April 12, 2022.

## Policy

### First Readings

#### BDDH – Public Participation at Board Meetings

#### JECBA – Admission of Exchange Students

Dr. Owens presented the following policies for first readings: BDDH – Public Participation at Board Meetings and JECBA – Admission of Exchange Students. He requested that any changes should be reported to the Policy Committee.

### Second Readings

#### GCQ – IRSD Administrators and Extra Pay for Extra Responsibilities (EPER)

#### EBCD – Extra Curricular Activities During Inclement Weather

Dr. Owens presented the following policies for second readings: GCQ – IRSD Administrators and Extra Pay for Extra Responsibilities (EPER) and EBCD – Extra Curricular Activities During Inclement Weather. It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Wright, to approve policies GCQ – IRSD Administrators and Extra Pay for Extra Responsibilities (EPER) and EBCD – Extra Curricular Activities During Inclement Weather as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

## IREA Representative

JR Emanuele, IREA representative, reminded the board of the annual scholarship fundraiser on March 11, 2022 at the Millsboro Senior Center. He feels the district should have a survey regarding parent conference times.

## Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Owens shared his monthly activities with the Board.

## District Calendar Change

It was moved by Mr. Cathell, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to approve the district calendar change of the cancellation of the Early Learning Center Family Night on February 10, 2022 and the cancellation of North Georgetown Elementary Movie Night on February 24, 2022.

The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

## Financial Reports

### Finance Committee

Mrs. Smith reviewed with the financial summaries, major and minor cap improvement financials for the month ending January 31, 2022.

#### Financial Summaries for month ending January 31, 2022

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, to approve the Financial Summaries for the month ending January 31, 2022 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

#### Detail Information for month ending January 31, 2022

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to approve the Detail Information for the month ending January 31, 2022 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

#### Major Capital Improvements for month ending January 31, 2021

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Fritz, to approve the Major Capital Improvements for the month ending January 31, 2022 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

#### Minor Capital Improvements for month ending January 31, 2022

It was moved by Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, to approve the Minor Capital Improvements for the month ending January 31, 2022 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

#### Student Activity Funds

No action needed (discussion on use of student activity funds for purchasing caps and gowns).

#### Field Trip Requests

- Overnight trip by Sussex Central High School CHEER on August 14-17, 2022 to Honesdale, PA.
- Overnight trip by Indian River High School Girls Soccer on March 11-12, 2022 to Smyrna, DE.
- Overnight trip by SMS VEX Robotics Team on May 3-5, 2022 to Dallas, TX.

It was moved by Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Wright, to approve the field trips as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

#### Use of Facility Requests

- Use of Howard T. Ennis gymnasium and pool by the lifeguarding instructor Keri Justice on March 10-12, 2022, March 13, 2022, April 28-30, 2022
- Use of Sussex Central High School gymnasium on June 23, 2022 to June 26, 2022 by Delaware Spartans 12U Baseball team.
- Use of Lord Baltimore Elementary gymnasium by the Knights of Columbus St. Ann Council #16771 on March 26, 2022 and April 2, 2022.

It was moved by Mr. Fritz, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to approve the use of facility requests as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).



Personnel Agenda for February 28, 2022

It was moved by Mrs. Pryor, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to approve the Personnel Agenda for February 28, 2022. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Personnel Addendum for February 28, 2022

It was moved by Mr. Cathell, seconded by Ms. Moses, to approve the Personnel Addendum for February 28, 2022. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Contractual Agenda for February 28, 2022

It was moved by Mrs. Pryor, seconded by Ms. Moses, to approve the Contractual Agenda for February 28, 2022. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Student Hearing

Student No. 22-70

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Ms. Moses, to accept the hearings officer recommendation for Student No. 22-70. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Public Comments

Jacob Buchler spoke to the Board regarding how he felt the Governor crippled schools with these emergency orders. He emphasized the importance of knowing your rights and don't let the "mob rule" decision making.

Adjournment

President Layfield adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rodney M. Layfield  
President  
Board of Education  
Indian River School District

Jay F. Owens, Jr. Ed.D.  
Secretary  
Board of Education  
Indian River School District

RML/JFO:jmt