

INDIAN RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 2021
SUSSEX CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC STADIUM

MINUTES

Call to Order

President Rodney Layfield called the Regular Meeting of the Indian River School District Board of Education to order at 6:03 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Executive Session

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Collins, to go into Executive Session at 6:04 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, student hearings, negotiations, and litigation.

The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Reconvene - Regular Session at 7:17 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda – August 23, 2021

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Approval of Minutes

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes – July 26, 2021.

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Board of Education Executive Session Meeting Minutes – July 26, 2021.

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Visitors and Staff in Attendance

Jay Owens, Karen Blannard, Celeste Bunting, Kelly Dorman, Judi Brittingham, Renee Jerns, Tammy Smith, Charles Ruggiero, Chris Delgado, Cliff Toomey, Joe Booth, Pamela Webb, Bradley Layfield, Travis Bower, Brad Breasure, Mike Williams, Neil Stong, Kathleen Wilson, Melissa Kansak, Janet Hickman, Pamela Webb, Allisa Booth, Jason Macrides, Christy Kerr, Karen Clausen, David Hudson, Sam Loughheed, Tara Thoroughgood, Linda Hockman, JR Emanuele, Glenn Rolfe, Paul Baker, Tara Johnston, Molli Carter, Kristen Cordrey, Andre Caggiano, Jennifer Hurd, Eileen Mooney, Angela Miller, Ed Timmons, Jr., Keely Weber, Lauren Fritz Mariner, Brian Mooney, Trevor Hurd, Bill Marden, Lynne Van Hauter, Sheldon Hudson, Keisha Drummond, Dreana Collins, Michael Smith, James Smith, Maranda Hoban, Desiree Pilgrim, Kathy Dulis, Wayne Mueller, Crystal Patterson, Mike Pyle, Cookie Rodriguez, Kandy Rodriguez, Ruth Daisey, Bruce Daisey, Scott Walls, Camille Walls, April Benfer, Emily Benfer, Jason Pilgrim, Danielle

Dickens, Linda Andreassen, Cassie Queen, Lauren Mariner, Tess Bissell, Les Bissell, Kerri Hurd, GR Johnson, Jennifer Johnson, Ivan Neal, Ivan Neal Jr., Sharon Weller, Sabrina Knight, Mike Campanele, Heather Campanele, Sylvester Quillen, Dionne Baker, Bo Shockley, George Phillips, Robin Phillips, Sarah Hoopes, Candy Phillips, Sami Mumford, Macy Mumford, Danette Mumford, Gloria Gordon, Todd Mumford, Aaron Goodman, Brenda Streets, Rita Schrider, Linda Hockman, Sabrina Leech, Guy Emanuele, Jackie Gomezbell, Joe Gomezbell, Sara Gum, Jack Gum, Lisa Moore, Keith Moore, Shannon Mitchell, John Benner, Cody Layfield, Garrett Statler, Dawn West, Kara Alo, Josh Worrell, Nicole Worrell, Joanna McCutchen, Brad Cowen, John Douds, Andrea Douds, Ed Hudson, Brandon White, Robbie West.

Public Comments

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, to extend Public Comments to 30 minutes. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Molli Carter, Kristen Cordrey, Andrea Caggiano, Jennifer Hurd, Eileen Mooney, Angela Miller, Ed Timmons, Jr., Keely Weber, Lauren Fritz Mariner, Brian Mooney, Trevor Hurd, Bill Marden, Lynn Van Hauter, Sheldon Hudson. Each individual spoke to the Board regarding Governor Carney's mask mandate for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year. Each person was in favor of allowing the parents to choose whether their child will wear a mask to school. Each person provided statistics, medical and social research regarding the negative effects of prolonged mask wearing. They asked the Board to reconsider the governor's mask mandate and allow students the option to not wear a mask.

New Business

School Choice Applications 2021-2022 (August 2021)

It was moved by Mrs. Pryor, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to accept school choice applicants 2021-2022 (August 2021) as presented by Mr. Lewis. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

2021-2022 School Year

Dr. Owens shared with the Board the 2021-2022 school year. The new school year will begin on September 7, 2021 for kindergarten, 6th and 9th grades. September 8, 2021 will welcome all students, with pre-school starting on September 13, 2021. On August 10, 2021, Delaware Governor Carney announced that everyone kindergarten age and older in Delaware schools must wear face coverings indoors regardless of his/her vaccination status. Persons who have a medical condition or disability that prevents them from wearing a mask can request a reasonable accommodation.

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Fritz, for a vote of no confidence with Governor Carney and DPH regarding the August 10, 2021 mask mandate for all schools in Delaware. The motion passed (9-1-0).

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

Against the motion: Mr. Peden.

It was moved by Mr. Fritz, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to submit a petition to Department of Education and the Governor's office to reconsider and/or revise Governor Carney's

Mandatory Mask Mandate in all Delaware Schools for the upcoming 2021-2022 School Year. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Certificate of Necessity – New Sussex Central High School/Ennis Classrooms

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Ms. Moses, to approve the Certificate of Necessity for the new Sussex Central High School/Ennis Classrooms. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

RFP (Request for Proposal) on State My Marketplace – Consulting Mechanical Engineering Recommendation

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Collins, to accept the RFP (Request for Proposal) on State My Marketplace – Consulting Mechanical Engineering Recommendation as presented by Mr. Booth. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Indian River High School Artesian Proposal

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, to approve the Indian River High School Artesian Proposal as presented by Mr. Booth. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Phillip C. Showell Elementary Garden Request

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, to approve the Phillip C. Showell garden request as presented by Mr. Booth which will be funded by Coastal Gardner. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Phillip C. Showell Elementary Playground Renovation & Student Funding Request- Playground Mulch

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, to approve the Phillip C. Showell Elementary Playground Renovation as presented by Mr. Booth and Mrs. Kerr which is funded by Lowe's 100 Hometown's Grant. The mulch will be purchased by the district through student funding in the amount of \$6,000.00. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Sussex Central High School Boys Soccer Uniforms

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Collins, to approve the donation from C & M Construction LLC/Delaware United of Boys Soccer Uniforms to Sussex Central High School including the addition of the American flag on the uniforms. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Old Business

Major Capital Planning

Dr. Owens reviewed with the Board the most recent updates regarding the new Sussex Central High school. The district will be submitting a CN for expenses related to dedicated Ennis classroom space. The district hopes to share the finalized schematics available for action at the September Board meeting.

Howard T. Ennis

Dr. Owens updated the board on Howard T. Ennis construction. The building pad will be complete when area "B" is poured this week. Area "B" is the natatorium/pool section. Substantial completion date is still expected in May 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 August 9, 2021 Buildings & Grounds committee meeting.

Comprehensive School Safety

Mr. Cathell shared with the Board the two constables completed the NRA course and have become certified handgun instructors.

Finance

Mrs. Smith reviewed the financial reports.

Curriculum

No report.

DSBA Board of Directors

No report.

DSBA Legislative

No report.

Mary Bailey Scholarship

The Board discussed the dismantling of the Mary Bailey Scholarship Committee.

Special Education Task Force

Dr. Statler shared with the Board the two additional members have been added to the Special Education Task Force committee. The committee has chosen the district's special education ambassadors which will be shared during an upcoming board meeting.

Policy

First Reading:

J - Athletic Policy

Mr. Collins presented the following policy for a first reading: J - Athletic Policy. He requested that any changes should be reported to the Policy Committee.

IREA Representative

JR Emanuele, IREA representative, applauded the audience for speaking this evening and the Board to allow everyone's voice to be heard. He asked the Board how IRSD will handle the quarantine issue if staff contracts/and or is exposed to COVID 19.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Owens shared his monthly activities with the Board.

Financial Reports

Finance Committee

Mrs. Smith reviewed with the financial summaries, major and minor cap improvement financials for the month ending July 31, 2021.

Major Capital Improvements for month ending July 31, 2021

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to approve the Major Capital Improvements for the month ending July 31, 2021 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Minor Capital Improvements for month ending July 31, 2021

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to approve the Minor Capital Improvements for the month ending July 31, 2021 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Financial Position Report

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Collins, to accept the Financial Position Report as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Financial Position Report

as of July 1, 2021 Forecast Period: Q1-2022 District: Indian River

Description	Actual Unencumbered	Encumbered	Projected Income 7/1 to 10/15	Projected Available Income through 10/15	Projected Salary 7/1 to 10/15	Projected Non-Salary 7/1 to 10/15	Projected Expenditures through 10/15	Projected Available Balance 10/15	Projected month Local Payroll	1
Local Expenses	\$14,404,754.59	\$2,513,029.36	\$9,948,000.00	\$26,865,783.95	\$9,591,000.00	\$1,089,928.52	\$10,680,928.52	\$16,184,855.43	\$3,000,000.00	
Div II	\$2,296,990.78	\$1,371,353.19	\$0.00	\$3,668,343.97	\$0.00	\$1,666,929.38	\$1,666,929.38	\$2,001,414.59		
Div III	\$1,086,190.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,086,190.00	\$1,086,190.00	\$0.00	\$1,086,190.00	\$0.00		
Cash Option	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Other	\$1,983,048.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,983,048.00	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00	\$1,943,048.00		
Total Discretionary Fund Revenue	\$19,770,983.37	\$3,884,382.55	\$9,948,000.00	\$33,603,365.92	\$10,717,190.00	\$2,756,857.90	\$13,474,047.90	\$20,129,318.02		

Approved by

Superintendent:

Approved by Board President:

Preparer:

Communications

Use of Facility Request

- Use of Sussex Central High School Parking Lot and School grounds on November 13, 2021 with a rain date of November 14, 2021 (Sunday) by Greater Millsboro Chamber of Commerce.

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Ms. Moses, to approve the Use of Facility Request. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Field Trip Request

- Overnight trip by Indian River High School Boys Soccer Team on August 23-24, 2021 to Wilmington, DE.

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to approve the Field Trip Request. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

- Overnight trip by Sussex Central High School FFA on October 25-30, 2021 to Indianapolis, IN

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to approve the Field Trip Request. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Personnel Agenda for August 23, 2021

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to approve the Personnel Agenda for August 23, 2021, excluding candidate No. 60. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mrs. Wright, to approve candidate No. 60 on the Personnel Agenda for August 23, 2021. The motion passed (9-0-1).

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

Against the motion: Mr. Cathell

Personnel Addendum for August 23, 2021

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Cathell, to approve the Personnel Addendum for August 23, 2021. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Contractual Agenda for August 23, 2021

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, to approve the Contractual Agenda for August 23, 2021. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

100% Locally Funded Salary Scales

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Collins, to approve the a100% locally funded salary scales as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Public Comments

- Keisha Drummond, IRSD parent, asked the Board to consider allowing parents to choose remote instruction instead of in person learning.

- Eileen Mooney, asked the Board about the district’s curriculum regarding Critical Race Theory.
- Dreana Collins, asked the Board to consider allowing parents to choose remote learning instead of in person learning.
- Jim Fritz thanked the administration and all the staff involved in allowing the district to conduct the outdoor board meeting. He also thanked the custodial staff for all their hard work as well.

Adjournment

President Layfield adjourned the meeting at 9:07 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