

INDIAN RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2023
INDIAN RIVER HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

MINUTES

Call to Order

President Mr. 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, Rodney Layfield, Mr. Gerald Peden, Mrs. Connie Pryor, Dr. Heather Statler, and Mrs. Leolga Wright.

Board Member Absent: Mr. Scott Collins, Ms. Madeline Moses.

Executive Session

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to go into Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, student hearings, negotiations, litigation. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Reconvene - Regular Session at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda – March 27, 2023

Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to approve the agenda for March 27, 2023. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Pledge of Allegiance

Student Government

Isabella Snow, Indian River High School's student government representative reported on events occurring at Indian River High School.

Approval of Minutes

Board of Education Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2023

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Board of Education Executive Session Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2023

Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Recognition

- First Place Delaware STEM Council Educator (JC): Jaime Swartz
- Sussex County Honors Band (SDSA): Lesly Benavides, Kylie Oneschuk, Alexandra Jewell
- Above & Beyond: School Resource Officer Tyler Bare
- 2023 Carson Scholars (IR): Evan Forjan, Heather Smyth, Kaitlyn Johnson, Xin Chen
- Junior County Band (IR): Maria Benavides Cortes, Alison Swartz, Isabella Esposito, Gianna Hocker, Logan Truitt
- Junior All-State Band (IR): Logan Truitt
- Senior County Band (IR): Estrella Ramos, Emma White, Amina Adkins, Lexxine Zullo, Xavier Hernandez, Evan Forjan, Kaitlyn Johnson, Wyatt Snyder, Shanyla Gaimes, Nick Oneschuk, Nicole Carter, Joaquin De Los Rios, Noah Coleman, Bryan Cabrera Icte
- Senior All-State Band (IR): Estrella Ramos, Lexxine Zullo, Nicole Carter
- Gatorade Delaware Girls Cross Country Player of the Year (IR): Brynn Crandell

- Academic All-Conference (IR): Brendon Bradford, Abigail Bertling, Alexandria Davidson, Olivia Evans, Zoe Quillen, Calista Rogers, Tiarra Waters, Alexander Arnold, Cade Donnelly, Gavin Harrell, Andres Lucenti, Jacob Massey, Ecan Peterson, Amina Adkins, Brynn Crandell, Jordan Gonzalez, Lihah Hanley, Addison Jerns, Sara Labarias Veguillas, Alexandra Lewis, Elyse Moore, Natalie Moran, Ella Peterson, Isabella Scharp, Heather Smyth, Hunter Bluto, Kameron Brown, Alex Butts, Evan Gorjan, Jack Jestice, Richard Wiggins, Richard Sparks, Luke Williams, Chase Ruley, Elmer Hernandez-Caballero, Donald Lingo, Joseph Taglienti, Harold Toomey, Ben Cordrey, Luke Hitchens, Baylie Williamson

Visitors and Staff in Attendance

Jay Owens, Karen Blannard, Jennifer Troublefield, Celeste Bunting, Renee Jerns, Kelly Dorman, Tammy Smith, Judi Brittingham, Cliff Toomey, Ruggiero, David Clark, Preston Lewis, Allisa Booth, Christy Kerr, Sarah Green, David Hudson, Rick Evans, Brad Breasure, Mike Williams, Bradley Layfield, Monica McCurry, Jeff Forjan, Stephen Lovellette, Pam Webb, Janet Hickman, Melissa Kansak, Maria Hazzard, Neil Stong, Nika Reid, Tara Thoroughgood, Linda Hockman, JR Emanuele, Blair Catlin Brown, Suzanne Timmons, Brad Cowen, Ken Fearn, Bob Blyman, Shawn Tidwell, Mark Dufendach, Glen Rolfe, Joe Taglierti, Tom Taglierti, Lisa Taglierti, Nivk Adkins, Laura Adkins, Melody Oneschuk, Phil Oneschuk.

Public Comments

- Blair Catlin Brown spoke to the Board regarding more parent involvement in the school curriculum. She cited outdated instructional materials taken home by her son. We need to keep instructional resources updated in our schools.

New Business

School Choice Applications 2022-2023 (March 2023)

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

School Choice Applications 2023-2024 (March 2023)

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to accept 2023-2024 school choice applicants (February 2023) as presented by Mr. Lewis. The motion passed unanimously (8-0)

New Sussex Central High School Front Entry

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Fritz, moved to accept the new Sussex Central High School Entry choice with an estimated cost of \$200,000 as presented By Mr. Booth and representatives from RYJ Johnson. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Howard T. Ennis Architect Additional Request

Dr. Hattier, with no second motion, failed to accept the Howard T. Ennis architect additional request for payment in the amount of \$58,138.63 for services rendered. Mr. Peden, seconded by Dr. Hattier, moved to take this request back to the April 2023 Finance Committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Howard T. Ennis Change Order

Dr. Statler, seconded by Mrs. Wright, moved to approve the Howard T. Ennis change order in the amount of \$53,059.20 as presented by Mr. Booth. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Uniforms – Selbyville Middle School - Boys and Girls Basketball, Boys and Girls Soccer

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to approve the Selbyville Middle School uniforms for Boys and Girls Basketball and Boys and Girls Soccer as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Uniforms – Sussex Central High School - Football

Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mr. Fritz, moved to approve the Sussex Central High School uniforms for football as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Uniforms – Sussex Central High School – Football National Guard Scheme

Dr. Statler, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to approve the Sussex Central High School National Guard Scheme uniforms for football as presented, uniforms donated by National Guard. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

2023-2024 District Calendar

Dr. Statler, seconded by Mrs. Wright, moved to approve the 2023-2024 district calendar as presented. The motion passed (6-2-0).

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

Against the motion: Mr. Peden, Mrs. Pryor.

Indian River School District DRAFT Strategic Plan & Action Steps

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Wright, moved to approve the Indian River School District DRAFT Strategic Plan & Action Steps as presented by Dr. Owens and Mrs. Blannard. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

JUUL Settlement

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to accept the JUUL settlement as presented by Dr. Owens with funds received for education on fighting addiction and vaping. . The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Old Business

Major Capital Planning

Dr. Owens gave an update on the new Sussex Central High School construction project.

Howard T. Ennis

Howard T. Ennis pool is expected to be completed by April 2023, with possible ribbon cutting ceremony in May.

G.W. Carver Consent Update

Dr. Brittingham shared with the board the following highlights:

- During the public meeting held in November, Carver Consent Order Community Advisory Board members requested school board support with an analysis of our Equity Stakeholder Survey results.
- Mrs. Gwendolyn Miller performed this analysis by looking at survey results for our students and staff of color. She identified questions where some students or staff of color did not have favorable responses and illuminated this information within her report.
- Mrs. Miller also provided district recommendations related to diversity, equity, and inclusion within her report. Our district equity team will review this information and determine next steps with our district initiatives
- Howard T. Ennis staff shared a brief update on Equity and Inclusion events that were held at their school.

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Fritz reviewed the minutes from the March 13, 2023 meeting.

Comprehensive School Safety

Mr. Cathell reported to the Board that March 17, 2023 was ALERT training at Millsboro Middle School. He also commended staff for the quick response to the Sussex Central High School incident.

Finance

Dr. Hattier reviewed meeting minutes from March 13, 2023 meeting.

Curriculum

Dr. Statler shared with the Board the minutes from the March 13, 2023 meeting. Both Dr. Jerns and Mrs. Dorman shared with the Board the data from elementary and secondary schools. Reviewed were data from Dibels, I-Ready, Number Corner, Lexiles, and Math STAR.

DSBA Board of Directors

No meeting.

DSBA Legislative

No meeting.

Special Education Task Force

No report.

Policy

First and Second Reading

IGCB – Targeted Intervention for Student Success

Dr. Owens presented the following policy for a first reading: IGCB – Targeted Intervention for Student Success. Mrs. Wright, seconded by Dr. Hattier, approved policy IGCB – Targeted Intervention for Student Success as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Second Readings

G CBD – Professional Leaves of Absence

DJF – Travel Authorization Expenses

GBI – Indian River School District Employee Recognition Policy

Mrs. Wright, seconded by Dr. Hattier, moved to approve the following policies as second readings: G CBD – Professional Leaves of Absence, DJF – Travel Authorization Expenses, GBI – Indian River School District Employee Recognition Policy. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

IREA Representative

Ms. Blair Caitlin Brown shared with the Board the 7th annual IREA scholarship fundraiser raised \$3,000 for scholarships. She thanked all the administrators and staff who attended and donated to the fundraiser. She announced that Ms. Hockman will be stepping down from her leadership role with IREA. Ms. Brown will be taking her place. The IREA will begin a monthly newsletter.

Superintendents Report

Dr. Owens shared with the Board his monthly activities.

District Calendar Changes

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Wright, moved to approve the following district calendar changes: (1) Change the location of the June and August Board meeting from Sussex Central High School to Indian River High School; (2) Change Sussex Central High School Tri Meet Music Honor Society Induction Ceremony from May 10, 2023 to May 9, 2023; (3) Change the East Millsboro Spring Band Concert from Tuesday, May 16, 2023 to Monday, May 15, 2023; (4) Change the Georgetown Middle School Spring Concert from May 24, 2023 to May 30, 2023; (5) Change the North Georgetown Elementary Spring Concert from April 4, 2023 to a date to be determined. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Financial Summaries for month ending February 28, 2023

Mrs. Smith reviewed the financial summaries, major and minor capital improvement financials for the month ending February 28, 2023. Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to accept the financial summaries for the month ending February 28, 2023. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Detail Information for month ending February 28, 2023

Mr. Fritz, seconded by Dr. Hattier, moved to approve the Detail Information for the month ending February 28, 2023 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Major Capital Improvements for month ending February 28, 2023

Mrs. Wright, seconded by Dr. Hattier, moved to approve the Major Capital Improvements for the month ending February 28, 2023. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Minor Capital Improvements for month ending February 28, 2023

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Wright, moved to approve the Minor Capital Improvements for the month ending February 28, 2023. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

FY '21 Local Funds Performance Audit

Mrs. Smith shared with the Board the FY '21 Local Funds Performance Audit results.

2023 Spring Student Activity Funds - Robotics

Mr. Fritz, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to approve the 2023 student activity funds for robotics in the amount of \$33,033.89 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Field Trip Requests

- Overnight trip by SCHS BPA on April 25-30, 2023 to Anaheim, CA
- Overnight trip by IRHS BPA on April 25-30, 2023 to Anaheim, CA
- Overnight trip by GMS BPA on April 25-30, 2023 to Anaheim, CA
- Overnight trip by SMS BPA on April 25-30, 2023 to Anaheim, CA
- Overnight trip by MMS BPA on April 25-30, 2023 to Anaheim, CA
- Overnight trip by JMC Robotics on May 1-5, 2023 to Dallas, TX
- Overnight trip by GE Robotics on May 1-5, 2023 to Dallas, TX
- Overnight trip by MMS Robotics on April 30 - May 2, 2023 to Dallas, TX
- Overnight trip by SDSA Robotics on April 30 – May 2, 2023 to Dallas, TX
- Overnight trip by SCHS Educators Rising on June 28 – July 3, 2023 to Orlando, FL
- Overnight trip by SCHS IB Students on September 18-24, 2023 to New York City.
- Sunday Trip by SCHS Animal Livestock Show Team on July 23, 2023 to Harrington, DE

Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to approve the field trip requests as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Personnel Agenda for March 27, 2023

Mrs. Wright, seconded by Dr. Hattier, moved to approve the Personnel Agenda for March 27, 2023 as presented by Mrs. Bunting excluding candidate no. 2. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to approve candidate no. 2 on the Personnel Agenda for March 27, 2023. The motion passed (7-0-1).

For the motion: Mr. Cathell, Dr. Hattier, Mr. Layfield, Mr. Peden, Mrs. Pryor, Dr. Statler, Mrs. Wright.

Abstained: Mr. Fritz

Personnel Addendum for March 27, 2023

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mr. Fritz, moved to approve the Personnel Addendum for March 27, 2023 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Student Hearing No. 23-125

Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to accept the hearing officer's recommendation for student hearing No. 23-125. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Student Hearing No. 23-127

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to accept the hearing officer's recommendation for student hearing No. 23-127. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Student Hearing No. 23-130

Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to accept the hearing officer's recommendation for student hearing No. 23-130. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Public Comments

No comments.

Adjournment

President Layfield adjourned the meeting at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Jay F. Owens
Superintendent
Board of Education
Indian River School District

RML/JFO:jmt