

INDIAN RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 22, 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. Scott Collins, Mr. Jim Fritz, Dr. Donald Hattier, Mr. Rodney Layfield, Ms. Madeline Moses, Mr. Gerald Peden, Mrs. Connie Pryor, Dr. Heather Statler, and Mrs. Leolga Wright.

Board Member Absent: Dr. Heather Statler.

Executive Session

Mr. Collins, seconded by Mrs. Wright, 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 (9-0).

Reconvene - Regular Session at 7:22 p.m.

Approval of Agenda – May 22, 2023

Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to approve the agenda for May 22, 2023. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Pledge of Allegiance

Student Government

Jozif Dabaj, 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 – April 24, 2023

Mrs. Pryor, seconded by Mr. Fritz, moved to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Board of Education Executive Session Meeting Minutes – April 24, 2023

Mrs. Pryor, seconded by Mr. Fritz, moved to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Recognition

- VEX Robotics: Students and Coaches from Georgetown Elementary- Lisandro Vasquez Carranza, John M. Clayton, Millsboro Middle, and Southern De School of the Arts.
- First Place Delaware TSA VEX Robotics Middle School Division (SM): Luke Aukland, Meara O'Ione, Harrison Benner, Dylan Navarrete-Lopez, Alex De La Rosa-Lopez.
- Delmarva VEX Robotics Regional Championship Design Award (SM): Harper Stanley, Chris Caudwell, Keagan Crotty, Molly Parker, Colin Hickman
- Business Professionals of America National Champion (SM): Kaitlyn Kopf
- Business Professionals of America State Conference Winners (IR): Jordy Estrada, Vicky Chan, Nikki Fulmer, Jack Jestice, Alex Quinn, Kris Meister
- Business Professionals of America National Champion (IR): Vicky Chan
- TSA State Conference Champions (IR): Jake Long, Bryan Cabrera Icte, Kaitlyn Johnson, Reagan Fritz

- Academic All-Conference (IR): Hunter Bluto, Dylan Grise, Jack Cappel, Aiden Brewer, Richard Wiggins, Evan Carpenter, Jordan Gonzalez, Sarah Lydic, Aiden Binko, Jackson Crisile, Max Forrey, Luke Hitchens, Bryce Johnson, Wyatt Snyder, Harold Toomey, Luke Veirs, Autin Grise, Lauren Stoddard, Alexandra Gutierrez, Claire Johnson, Kylie Harris, Lilly Anthony, Kendall McCabe, Carter Lehman, Madison Geppi, Samantha Teoli, Macy Blades, Jillian Coulbourn, Megan Daisey, Baylie Williamson, Lily Hoban, Jazmine Mayfield, Kathryn McHale, Kinsley Hall, Owen Andahazy, Greg Finneran, Evan Sprucebank, Caleb Rogers, Nolan Vasil, Riley Hurd, Addison Jerns, Kendall Cathell, Kamdyn Shockley, Meredith White, Lillyan Merrick, Carly Topper, Sophia Scorci, Lilah Hanley, Ava Quetschenbach, Ella Peterson, Alexandria Davidson, Madelyn Class, Ruthia Adams, Reece Forrey, Kylie Courtney, Scarlett Dunn, Mya Macdonald, Isabell Wisniewski, Lexxine Zullo, Alison Swartz, Alexander Arnold, Cole Vrickman, Alex Butts, Cade Donnelly, Joshua Loose, Gavin Harrell, Aiden Megee, Jacob Massey, Edward Mizerek, Jose Ojeda-Hernandez, Noah Parks, Jonathan Robinson, chaffer, Evan Tietz, Ashton Mason Schaffer, Evan Tietz, Ashton Stephens, Aiden Twigg, Weston Werner, Ashley Benavides Lagunas, Terra Berkheimer, Summer Brickman, Brynn Crandell, Kaaliyah Crippen, Sage Delricco, Olivia Elyer, Zoey Jenok Burnett, Tatum Pinnock, Madeleine Fox, Grace Robinson, Isabella Scharp, Stella Yanek, Heather Smyth, Alaina Strates

Visitors and Staff in Attendance

Jay Owens, Jennifer Troublefield, Celeste Bunting, Renee Jerns, Kelly Dorman, Tammy Smith, Judi Brittingham, Cliff Toomey, Charley Ruggiero, Preston Lewis, Allisa Booth, Christy Kerr, Sarah Green, David Hudson, Rick Evans, Brad Breasure, Mike Williams, Bradley Layfield, Monica McCurry, Jason Macrides, Stephen Lovellette, Pam Webb, Janet Hickman, Melissa Kansak, Maria Hazzard, Neil Stong, Nika Reid, JR Emanuele, Blair Catlin Brown, Linda Hockman, Jason Pilgrim, Cassie Queen, Suzanne Timmons, Brad Cowen, Shawn Tidwell, Glen Rolfe, Ivan Neal, Marissa Hockman, Melissa Bleile, Ken Fearn, Bob Blyman, Desiree Pilgrim.

Public Comments

No comments.

New Business

School Choice Applications 2023-2024 (May 2023)

Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to accept 2023-2024 school choice applicants (May 2023) as presented by Mr. Lewis. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Core Knowledge Language Arts Curriculum

Mr. Collins, seconded by Mrs. Wright, moved to approve the purchase of the Core Knowledge Language Arts Curriculum for \$2.8 million dollars as presented by Ms. Dorman and Dr. Hockman. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

North Georgetown Elementary Fire Alarm Panel Replacement Quote

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to accept the replacement quote of \$113,900 for North Georgetown Elementary Fire Alarm Panel as presented by Mr. Booth. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

East Millsboro Elementary RTU Quote

Mr. Fritz, seconded by Ms. Moses, moved to approve the East Millsboro Elementary RTU Quote for \$222,480 as presented by Mr. Booth. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Georgetown Middle/Georgetown Elementary Roof Quote

Mr. Collins, seconded by Dr. Hattier, moved to approve the Georgetown Middle/Georgetown Elementary roof quote for \$82,800 as presented by Mr. Booth. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Sussex Central and Indian River High Schools Tennis Courts

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Fritz, moved to approve the improvements to both Sussex Central and Indian River High Schools Tennis Courts as presented by Mr. Booth. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Uniforms: Sussex Central High School Boys Basketball

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Ms. Moses, moved to approve the booster organization purchase of black Sussex Central High School Boys Basketball uniforms for use only in specific designated basketball games. The motion passed (7-0-2).

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

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

Boys and Girls Club Request

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Fritz, moved to accept moving forward with Boys and Girls Club/Indian River School District preliminary documentation for an easement on the North Georgetown Elementary property. The district will not incur any costs associated with widening any roads to accommodate this easement. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

2023-2024 DSBA (Delaware School Boards Association) Dues

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to approve payment of the 2023-2024 DSBA dues for \$12,656.00. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Howard T. Ennis Golf Cart

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Wright, moved to approve the purchase of a golf cart for Howard T. Ennis as presented by Mrs. Kansak for \$12,948.00. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Howard T. Ennis Furniture Change Order

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Wright, moved to accept the Howard T. Ennis change orders: \$10,475.00, \$53,081.44, \$16,804.10 as presented by Mr. Booth. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Change Orders/Allowance Notifications

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Collins, moved to approve the Change Orders/Allowance Notifications payment for \$58,138.63 to Fearn Clendaniel Associates as presented by Mr. Booth and Mr. Ken Fearn. The motion failed. (5-2-2).

For the motion: Mr. Cathell, Mr. Collins, Mr. Fritz, Dr. Hattier, Mr. Layfield.

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

Abstained: Ms. Moses, Mrs. Wright.

Ms. Moses, seconded by Dr. Hattier, moved to re-vote on the Change Order/Allowance Notification. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Fritz, seconded by Mr. Collins, moved to approve the Change Order/Allowance Notification for \$58,138.63 payment to Fearn Clendaniel Associates as presented by Mr. Booth and Mr. Ken Fearn. The motion passed (8-0-1).

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

Abstained: Mrs. Pryor

Howard T. Ennis Change Orders

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Collins, moved to accept the Howard T. Ennis change orders in the amount of \$19,750.00 and \$2,905.71 to add fencing and stone at wells. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Social Media Class Action Suit

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Ms. Moses moved to approve the district to participate in the Social Media Class Action Suit as presented by Dr. Owens. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Tax Relief Request

Mr. Fritz, seconded by Mrs. Wright, moved to approve the tax relief request with the stipulation that the principal tax portion paid in full. The motion passed.

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

Abstained: Mr. Peden, Mrs. Pryor.

Personalized Student Transportation RFP #IRD23016-Transport

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to approve the moving forward with contract negotiations with RFP #IRD23016 – Transport as presented by Dr. Brittingham. The motion passed (9-0).

Old Business

Major Capital Planning

Dr. Owens gave an update on the new Sussex Central High School construction project. The project is projected to have a September 2025 completion date.

Howard T. Ennis

Howard T. Ennis pool is about 99% complete, with possible ribbon cutting ceremony moved to July/August.

G.W. Carver Consent Update

Dr. Brittingham shared with the board the following highlights: The Community Advisory Board orientation for our new members was held on May 18, 2023. The new members are Ron Lewis, Denise Mueller, and Karen Oosterhous; the internal Equity Steering Committee will hold a Summer Retreat on June 26, 2023; looking forward to getting some of the projects from this school year completed and planning ahead for the 2023-2024 school year; Dr. Rhen will visit the district on May 25, 2023 to visit the former Carver students and the High Roads classrooms.

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Fritz reviewed the minutes from the May 8, 2023 meeting.

Comprehensive School Safety

No report.

Finance

Dr. Hattier reviewed meeting minutes from May 8, 2023 meeting.

Curriculum

Dr. Owens shared with the Board the minutes from the May 8, 2023 meeting.

DSBA Board of Directors

Mrs. Wright shared with the Board that Dr. Marinucci will be retiring and there will be an upcoming election for officers.

DSBA Legislative

No meeting.

Special Education Task Force

No report.

Policy

First Readings

Mr. Collins presented the following policies for first readings: IGDJ Band and Interscholastic Uniforms, JFF.1 Babies/Small Children. He requested that any changes can be reported to the Policy Committee.

First and Second Readings

Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to approve the following policies as first and second readings: KK Visitors to Schools, GCD Professional Staff Hiring. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

IREA Representative

Mr. Jason Pilgrim shared with the board that the IREA gave to two recipients (one from Indian River High School and one from Sussex Central High School) scholarships for those pursuing education in college. He also thanked the Board for the approval of the new Core Knowledge Language Arts Curriculum.

Superintendents Report

Dr. Owens shared with the Board his monthly activities.

District Calendar Changes

Mr. Collins, seconded by Mrs. Wright, moved to approve the following district calendar change:

- If Sussex Central High School Graduation is postponed due to weather from May 30, 2023 to June 1, 2023, East Millsboro Elementary Spring Concert will be changed from June 1, 2023 to June 5, 2023.

The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Financial Summaries for month ending April 30, 2023

Mrs. Smith reviewed the financial summaries, major and minor capital improvement financials for the month ending April 30, 2023. Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to accept the financial summaries for the month ending April 30, 2023. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Detail Information for month ending April 30, 2023

Mr. Collins, seconded by Ms. Moses, moved to approve the Detail Information for the month ending April 30, 2023 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Major Capital Improvements for month ending April 30, 2023

Mr. Collins, seconded by Ms. Moses, moved to approve the Major Capital Improvements for the month ending April 30, 2023. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Minor Capital Improvements for month ending April 30, 2023

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Dr. Hattier, moved to approve the Minor Capital Improvements for the month ending April 30, 2023. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

DRAFT FY '24 Tax Rate Calculations

Mrs. Smith shared with the Board the DRAFT FY'24 tax rate calculations

Tax Category	Real Estate Rate	Capitation Rate	Change from FY 2023	Estimated Collections	Explanation
Current Expense	\$ 2.3500	\$ 7.00	\$ -	\$ 44,744,576	No change
Debt Service	0.2993	5.00	(0.0957)	5,912,226	Estimate based on bond payments
Tuition	0.5514	-	0.0469	10,414,659	Increased costs due to salary and non-salary increases and shifting local salary of pre-K teachers to tuition
Minor Cap	0.0333	-	(0.0001)	629,436	Based on required local match
Other Match Taxes:					
Technology	0.0439	-	0.0439	829,101	Currently using ESSERF to cover
Extra Time	0.0159	-	0.0159	300,690	Currently using ESSERF to cover
Reading Resource	0.0145	-	0.0145	273,042	Funds local salary of 8 elementary teachers
Math Resource	0.0072	-	0.0072	136,521	Funds local salary of 4 7 th /8 th grade teachers
Reading Interventionists	0.0090	-	0.0090	170,651	Funds local salary of 5 interventionists
Opportunity Grant	0.0911	-	0.0911	1,721,030	Funds local salary of approx. 50 mental health units
TOTAL	3.4158				

Personnel Agenda for May 22, 2023

Mr. Collins, seconded by Dr. Hattier, moved to approve the Personnel Agenda for May 22, 2023 excluding personnel agenda item #118 and #170 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Collins, seconded by Mrs. Wright, moved to approve Personnel Agenda item #118 on the Personnel Agenda for May 22, 2023. The motion passed (8-0-1).

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

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Dr. Hattier, moved to approve Personnel Agenda item #170 on the Personnel Agenda for May 22, 2023. The motion passed (8-0-1).

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

Personnel Addendum for May 22, 2023

Mr. Collins, seconded by Mrs. Wright, moved to approve the Personnel Addendum for May 22, 2023 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Student Hearing No. 23-147

Mr. Collins, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to accept the hearing officer's recommendation for Student Hearing No. 23-147. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Student Hearing No. 23-159

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mr. Collins, moved to accept the hearing officer's recommendation for Student Hearing No. 23-159. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Student Hearing No. 23-160

Mr. Collins, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to accept the hearing officer's recommendation for Student Hearing No. 23-160. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Public Comments

No comments.

Adjournment

President Layfield adjourned the meeting at 10:01 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