

INDIAN RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2024
INDIAN RIVER HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

MINUTES

Call to Order

President Mrs. Wright 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, Dr. Donald Hattier, Mr. Ivan Neal, Mrs. Connie Pryor, Dr. Heather Statler, Mrs. Taylor, and Mrs. Leolga Wright.

Board Member Late: Mr. James Fritz (5:47 pm)

Board Members Absent: Ms. Madeline Moses, Mr. Gerald Peden

Executive Session

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to go into Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. for the purpose of conducting an interview for Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds position, personnel, negotiations, litigation. Mr. Fritz left executive session at 7:10 pm. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Reconvene Regular Session at 7:12 p.m.

Approval of Agenda – January 29, 2023

Dr. Statler, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to approve the agenda for January 29, 2023. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Board of Education Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2023

Dr. Statler, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Board of Education Executive Session Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2023

Dr. Statler, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Visitors and Staff in Attendance

Jay Owens, Karen Blannard, Renee Jerns, Kelly Dorman, Tammy Smith, Judi Brittingham, Tara Thoroughgood, David Maull, Jennifer Troublefield, Cliff Toomey, Dan Mann, Preston Lewis, Stephen DiGirolamo, Walter Smith, Shawn Tidwell, Christy Kerr, Sarah Green, Rick Evans, Brad Breasure, Mike Williams, Monica McCurry, Jason Macrides, Kathleen Wilson, Pam Webb, David Carter, Janet Hickman, Melissa Kansak, Neil Stong, Cassie Queen, Suzanne Timmons, Blair Caitlin Brown, Jason Pilgrim, Desiree Pilgrim, Maria Hazzard, Jackie Burns, Ronna Cobb, Emily Tharby, Madelyn Clattenburg, Kriste Clattenburg, Katelyn Townsend, Perry Townsend Jr., Christina Holmes, Bob Blyman, Samantha Rashley, David Clark, Patricia Scott, Chrissy Blackburn, Kathi White, Elaine Walls, Drew Walls, Javion Chandler, Darah Luikart, Nichole Smith Denesha Purnell Smith, Melissa Perdue, Brandon Perdue, Kay Wilkins, Nancy Hitch, Tyler Hitch, Katelyn Wingate, Mara Driggers, Sean Cummings, Stella Yanek, Eric Tsavdar, John Reddington, Kenneth McLaughlin, Rhys Bradshaw, Jessica Tice, Melissa Fadden, Khara Bauer, Lisa Turner.

Student Government

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

Recognition

- Lord Baltimore Elementary – 2023 National Blue Ribbon School.
- Phillip C. Showell Elementary – 2023 State of Delaware Recognition School.
- Delaware Junior All-State Choir (SM) – Madelyn Clattenburg, Cordelia Hatcher
- All-County Honors Choir (SDSA) – Danica Bendig, Ella Chafin, Zoey Pla, Julianna Ennis, Denesha Purnell Smith, Taylor Mack, Briella Masci, Marshall Herring, Educard Tantiangco, Kaitlyn Turak, Wnrique Nunez, Logan Keenan, Brady Quillen
- All-State Honors Choir (SDSA) – Taylor Mack, Zoey Pla, Denesha Purnell Smith, Ellie Walls, Julianna Ennis, Ava Johnson, Brielle Masci, Chloe Tonge, Logan Keenan, Enrique Nunez
- All-County Honors Choir (IR) – Sara Labarias Veguillas, Anya Tinelli, Kaia Griffin, Madison Morgan, Madison King, Nicole Carter, Cameron Benson, Laylah Crippen, Lindsey Brewster, Maxwell Fadden, Joaquin De Los Rios, Jackson Chandler, Xavier Hernandez Sandoval, Gabriel Young, Sean Coldeira
- Senior All-State Choir (IR) – Sara Labarias Veguillas, Madison King, Nicole Carter, Cameron Benson, Lindsey Brewster, Maxwell Fadden, Jackson Chandler, Joaquin De Los Rios, Xavier Sandoval, Gabriel Young, Sean Coldiera
- State Champion Cross Country (IR) – Brynn Crandell
- First Team All-State (IR) – Angelo Retzos, Leo Chester
- First Team All-Conference (IR) – Angelo Retzos, Leo Chester, Luke Veirs (Boys Soccer), Baylie Williamson, Macy Blades, Ella Petersonm Jasmin Mayfield (Field Hockey), Jade Wilkins, Leilani Ehlersm (Volleyball), Brynn Crandell (Cross Country)
- First Team All-District (IR) – Davon Handy, Jayvion Chandler, Darnell Stokes, Collin King, Axel Olguin-Hernandez, Rashad Hopkins
- All-Class Fiorst Team (IR) – Alex Olguin Hernandez, Davon Handy, Jayvion Chandler, Darnell Stokes, Rashad Hopkins
- Division 1A Defensive Player of the Year (IR) – Rashad Hopkins
- Academic All-Conference (IR) – Christopher Alamillo, Gaeil Medina, Ava Quetschenbach, Sage Delricco, Kiana Gessner, Kelly Hitch, Riley Hurd, Jillian Lebling, Natalie Neary, Noel Wise, Alexander Arnold, Cade Donnelly, Gavin Harrell, Aiden Magee, Noah Parks, Brynn Crandell, Lilad Hanley Heather Smyth, Lilly Merrick, Kylie Harris, Macy Blades, Reece Forey, Ella Peterson, Maggie Bare, Addelyn Clark, Ruthie Adams, Grace Robinson, Grace Robinson, Alexandra Guterrez, Kathryn McHale, Jazmin Mayfield, Zoe Quillen, Dylan Grise, Richard Wiggins, James Strates, Kyle Truitt, Austin Grise, Luke Hitchens, Richard Willis, Bryce Johnson, Jade Wilkins, Katelyn Wingate, Tayloe Conaway, Alise Tyre, Jillian Coulbourn, Taylor Hevner, Lauren Stoddard.

Public Comments

- Nicole Carter, student at IRHS spoke to the Board in opposition of the block scheduling at Indian River High School and the negative effects it has on those in the music program
- Lucas Mahaffey, student at IRHS spoke to the Board in opposition of the block scheduling at Indian River High School and the negative effects it has on those in the music program
- Wyatt Snyder, student at IRHS, spoke to the Board in opposition of the block scheduling at Indian River High School and the negative effects it has on those in the music program
- Nick Oneschuk, student at IRHS, spoke to the Board in opposition of the block scheduling at Indian River High School and the negative effects it has on those in the music program
- Hailey Mack, a student at IRHS, spoke to the Board in opposition of the block scheduling at Indian River High School and the negative effects it has on those in the music program
- Stephen Cobb, spoke to the Board in opposition of the block scheduling at Indian River High School
- Dan Kapp, parent to a student at Lord Baltimore Elementary, spoke to the Board in favor of retaining the Town of Ocean View SRO at Lord Baltimore Elementary
- Samantha Rashley, parent to a student at Lord Baltimore Elementary spoke to the Board in favor of retaining the Town of Ocean View SRO at Lord Baltimore Elementary
- Sarah Thompson, parent of a student at Lord Baltimore Elementary spoke to the Board in favor of retaining the Town of Ocean View SRO at Lord Baltimore Elementary
- Jackie Burns, parent of a student at Lord Baltimore Elementary spoke to the Board in favor of retaining the Town of Ocean View SRO at Lord Baltimore Elementary

- Mara Driggers, parent of a student at Lord Baltimore Elementary spoke to the Board in favor of retaining the Town of Ocean View SRO at Lord Baltimore Elementary
- Zoe Cummings, parent to a student at Lord Baltimore Elementary spoke to the Board in favor of retaining the Town of Ocean View SRO at Lord Baltimore Elementary
- Angelina Snyder, parent to a student at Lord Baltimore Elementary spoke to the Board in favor of retaining the Town of Ocean View SRO at Lord Baltimore Elementary
- Perry Townsend, parent to a student at Lord Baltimore Elementary spoke to the Board in favor of retaining the Town of Ocean View SRO at Lord Baltimore Elementary.

New Business

School Choice Applications 2023-2024 (January 2024)

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Dr. Statler, motioned to accept 2023-2024 school choice applicants (January 2024) as presented by Mr. Lewis. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

National School Counseling Week Resolution - February 5-9, 2024

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to accept the National School Counseling Week Resolution as presented by Mrs. Reid. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Millville Boardwalk – Festival of the Trees Donation

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Dr. Hattier, motioned to approve the \$8,400 donation to Lord Baltimore Elementary for needy families. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

School Resource Officer – Town of Ocean View

Mr. Neal, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to table discussion of the Town of Ocean View School Resource Officer. The motion failed (5-1-1)

For the motion: Mr. Cathell, Mr. Neal, Dr. Statler, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Wright

Against the motion: Mrs. Pryor

Abstained: Dr. Hattier

Mrs. Pryor, seconded by Dr. Hattier, motioned to approve the Town of Ocean View School Resource Officer at Lord Baltimore Elementary in the amount of \$31,990 for the 2023/2024 school year. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Attorney Led Negotiations

Mr. Neal, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve attorney led negotiations for upcoming teacher contract negotiations. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Howard T. Ennis SNAC Garden Request

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to approve the Howard T. Ennis SNAC Garden request as presented by Mr. DiGirolamo, funded by a grant through SNAC Garden .The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Millsboro Middle School Walk-In Freezer Replacement Request

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to approve the Millsboro Middle School Walk-In Freezer replacement request for \$23,560 as presented by Mr. Toomey. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Millsboro Middle School Competition Cheerleading Uniforms

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the Millsboro Middle School Competition Cheerleading Uniforms as presented. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Indian River High School Boys Lacrosse Uniforms and Warm-Ups, Selbyville middle School Wrestling Uniforms, Georgetown Middle School Wrestling Warm-Ups

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the Indian River High School Boys Lacrosse Uniforms and Warm-Ups, Selbyville Middle School Wrestling Uniforms, Georgetown Middle School Wrestling Warm-Ups as presented. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Indian River High School Weight Room Updates Quote

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve the Indian River High School Weight Room Updates Quote for \$142,198 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Georgetown Elementary Office Entry Canopy Request

Mr. Neal, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to table discussion of the Georgetown Elementary Office Entry Canopy Request until next month's board meeting. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Sussex Central High School Change Orders

Mrs. Pryor, seconded by Dr. Hattier, motioned to accept the Sussex Central High School change order donation in the amount of \$68,000 (basketball scoreboard from RYJ Johnson and ABHA & BSA+A). The motion passed unanimously (7- 0).

Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to accept the Sussex Central High School change order for \$140,700 as presented by Mr. DiGirolamo. The motion passed unanimously (7- 0).

Old Business

Major Capital Planning

Dr. Owens shared with the Board the most recent construction updates. The new Sussex Central High School construction project is on schedule for summer 2025 opening.

Howard T. Ennis

Dr. Owens shared with the board the pool is complete and state approved and punch lists are complete.

G.W. Carver Consent Update

Dr. Thoroughgood shared with the board the following:

- On January 2, 2024, Judge Andrews signed the order appointing Mr. Matt Denn as the new Special Master of the consent order. Mr. Denn was the Delaware Lieutenant Governor, Insurance Commissioner, and Chief Counsel to the Delaware Governor. Currently, Mr. Denn is the Managing Director of Draper Richards Kaplan Foundation.
- Our team met with Mr. Denn on January 9 and the 23. We reviewed the consent order items and discussed Mr. Denn's expectations moving forward.
- The next Community Advisory Board meeting is on February 8. Mr. Denn looks forward to meeting with the board members and hearing from them about the district's progress in meeting the expectations of the consent order.

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds

Dr. Owens reviewed the minutes from the January 8th, 2024 meeting.

Comprehensive School Safety

No report.

Finance

Dr. Hattier reviewed minutes from the January 8th, 2024 meeting.

Curriculum

Dr. Statler reviewed the minutes from the January 8th, 2024 meeting.

DSBA Board of Directors

No report.

DSBA Legislative

No report.

Special Education Task Force

Dr. Statler shared with the board upcoming events "Spread the Word" and "Rock your Socks".

Policy

First Readings

KBA Public's Right to Know

GBC Staff Ethics

Dr. Owens presented the following policies for first readings: KBA Public's Right to Know, GBC Staff Ethics. He requested that any changes can be reported to the Policy Committee.

Second Reading

GBCB.3 Staff Conduct Harassment or Misconduct Toward Students

GCB.1 Paid Leave for Birth or Adoption of a Child

IGDJ Band and Interscholastic Athletic Uniforms & Logos

Mrs. Pryor, seconded by Dr. Hattier, motioned to approve the following policies for second readings: GBCB.3 Staff Conduct Harassment or Misconduct Toward Students, GCB.1 Paid Leave for Birth or Adoption of a Child IGDJ Band and Interscholastic Athletic Uniforms & Logos. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

IREA Representative

Ms. Blair Caitlin Brown shared with the Board the IREA scholarship fundraiser will be held on March 8, 2024 from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm at Revelation Craft Brewing Company in Georgetown. Looking forward to upcoming contract negotiations.

Superintendents Report

Dr. Owens shared with the Board his monthly activities.

District Calendar Changes

- Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Dr. Hattier, motioned to approve the following district calendar additions/changes: On March 13, 2024 ONLY IRHS and SCHS 11th grade students report to school for SAT testing; on March 20, 2024 ONLY IRHS and SCHS 10th grade students report to school for PSAT testing; Change the SDSA music theater ensemble performance from January 26, 2024 at 6:00 pm to March 1, 2024 at 6:00 pm; Change the NGE fifth grade winter concert from January 25, 2024 to February 8, 2024. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Financial Summaries for month ending December 31, 2023

Mrs. Smith reviewed the financial summaries, major and minor capital improvement financials for the month ending December 31, 2023.

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to accept the financial summaries for the month ending December 31, 2023. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Detail Information for month ending December 31, 2023

Mr. Neal, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to approve the Detail Information for the month ending December 31, 2023 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Major Capital Improvements for month ending December 31, 2023

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Cathell, motioned to approve the Major Capital Improvements for the month ending December 31, 2023 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Minor Capital Improvements for month ending December 31, 2023

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve the Minor Capital Improvements for the month ending December 31, 2023 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Financial Position Report

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Dr. Hattier, motioned to approve the financial position report as presented by Ms. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Communications

Field Trip Requests

- Overnight trip by SCHS Educators Rising on February 20-22, 2024 to Newark, DE.
- Overnight trip by IRHS FFA on March 5-6, 2024 to Dover, DE.
- Overnight trip by SMS VEX Robotics Team on April 27-May 1, 2024 to Dallas, TX.

Mrs. Pryor, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the field trips as presented by Dr. Owens. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Personnel Agenda for January 29, 2024

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the Personnel Agenda for January 29, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Personnel Addendum for January 29, 2024

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the Personnel Addendum for January 29, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

The Board was notified of retirements for January 29, 2024.

Consideration of Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds Candidate

Mr. Neal, seconded by Dr. Hattier, Motioned to approve the candidate for the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Public Comments

No public comments.

Adjournment

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leolga T. Wright
President
Board of Education
Indian River School District

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

LTW/JFO:jmt