

INDIAN RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 20, 2024  
INDIAN RIVER HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

MINUTES

Call to Order

Dr. Hattier called the Regular Meeting of the Indian River School District Board of Education to order at 5:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Mrs. Lisa Briggs, Mr. Derek Cathell, Dr. Donald Hattier, Mr. Gerald Peden, Mrs. Connie Pryor, Mrs. Taylor.

Board Members Absent: Dr. Heather Statler, Mrs. Leolga Wright

Board Members Late: Mrs. Kelly Kline (5:05 pm), Mr. Ivan Neal (6:10 pm)

Executive Session

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to go into Executive Session at 5:02 p.m. for the purpose of conducting an interviews for Director of Special Education and Principal of Georgetown Elementary, personnel, negotiations, litigation. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

Reconvene Regular Session at 7:15 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Mrs. Lisa Briggs, Mr. Derek Cathell, Dr. Donald Hattier, Mrs. Kelly Kline, Mr. Ivan Neal, Mr. Gerald Peden, Mrs. Connie Pryor, Mrs. Taylor.

Approval of Agenda – May 20, 2024

Mrs. Pryor, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to approve the agenda for May 20, 2024. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Pledge of Allegiance

Student Government

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

Approval of Minutes

Board of Education Meeting Minutes – April 22, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Board of Education Executive Session Meeting Minutes – April 22, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Recognition

Exited Out of Multilingual Learner Status – Proficient in English

Ashley De La Cruz (SMS), Sarahi Valle Valle (SMS), Joselin Santizo Perez (IRHS), Henry Loor (IRHS), Johnny Ramos Miranda (IRHS), Fernanda Quevedo-Acevedo (IRHS), Giselle Patraca-Espejo (IRHS), Thien Tan Ta (IRHS), Dennis Rodriguez-Alcon (IRHS), Belinda Gonzalez-Mendez (GMS), Juanito Diego-Lopez (GMS), Rubab Gondal (GMS), Eliud Martin Martinez (GMS), Essau Rivera-Lopez (GMS), Melina Rivera-Morales (GMS), Alisson Sandoval-Garcia (GMS), Davenson Saturne (GMS), Emely Soto Joachin (GMS), Evans Velasquez Velasquez (GMS), Emmanuel Bernal Solis (GMS), Frankli Diaz Gonzalez (GMS), Briana Diaz Mejia (GMS), William Escalante Gomez (GMS), David Gonzalez Morales (GMS), Damaris Lopez Domingo (GMS), Jeffrey Lopez-Lopez

(GMS), Ricardo Marroquin-Jerez (GMS), Marco Ortiz Perez (GMS), Luis Roblero-Morales (GMS), Derik Sandoval-Garcia (GMS), Savetay Vasquez Morales (GMS), Eddie Dionicio-Sebastian (SCHS), Kelvin Ramirez-Sandoval (SCHS), Estefani Roblero-Velasquez (SCHS), Stafany Roman Pinzon (SCHS), Brayen Lopez-Galvez (SCHS), William Perez (SCHS), Ryan Rodrigues Lima (SCHS), Yonny Mazariegos Ortiz (SCHS), Diego Ramirez-Lopez (SCHS), Valente Cedeno Penalosa (SCHS), Jonathan Garcia-Lopez (MMS), Angel Ramirez-Escobar (MMS), Ky Lam Pham (MMS).

Business Professionals of America National Leadership Conference (SM)

Chase Mutz- finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Nation for his individual event (Entrepreneurship Exploration)  
 Hayden Benner & Molly Hevner- finished in the top 10 in the Nation for their team event (Presentation Management Team).

Business Professionals of America National Leadership Conference (IR)

Kaitlyn Kopf -Prepared Speech - 5<sup>th</sup> Place; Ashly Benavides, Summer Brickman, Torrence Brickman, Wilson Mendoza-Velasquez - Economic Research Team - 7<sup>th</sup> Place.

Academic All Conference (IR)

Aiden Pszczola	Baseball
Dylan Grise	Baseball
Jack Cappo	Baseball
Chase Ruley	Baseball
Richard Wiggins	Baseball
Nolan Staniszewski	Baseball
Travis Gosnell	Golf
Ella Grove	Golf
Sarah Lydic	Golf
Paola Munoz Garcia	Golf
Nicholas Polito	Golf
Patrick Starkey	Golf
Logan Dawson	Boys Lacrosse
Aidan Binko	Boys Lacrosse
Jackson Carlisle	Boys Lacrosse
Cortland McCabe	Boys Lacrosse
Luke Hitchens	Boys Lacrosse
Bryce Johnson	Boys Lacrosse
John Spencer	Boys Lacrosse
Richard Willis	Boys Lacrosse
Wyatt Snyder	Boys Lacrosse
Dade Kappes	Boys Lacrosse
Luke Veirs	Boys Lacrosse
Austin Grise	Boys Lacrosse
Kacie Kirschner	Girls Lacrosse
Alexandra Gutierrez	Girls Lacrosse
Chloe Harris	Girls Lacrosse
Kylie Harris	Girls Lacrosse
Lilly Jo Anthony	Girls Lacrosse
Thien Thanh Barends	Girls Lacrosse
Kennedy Walker	Girls Lacrosse
Raleigh Bonbright	Girls Lacrosse

Makenzie Truitt	Girls Lacrosse
Zoe Quillen	Softball
Jillian Coulbourn	Softball
Megan Daisey	Softball
Olivia Hitchens	Softball
Raegan Kansak	Softball
Se'Tara McGee	Softball
Kathryn McHale	Softball
Parker O'Shields	Softball
Sophia Scurci	Softball
Brayden Bennetch	Boys Tennis
Cameron Benson	Boys Tennis
Evan Sprucebank	Boys Tennis
Caleb Rodgers	Boys Tennis
Catherine Bunting	Girls Soccer
Natalie Nearey	Girls Soccer
Addison Jerns	Girls Soccer
Brynn Knight	Girls Soccer
Kamdyn Shockley	Girls Soccer
Meredith White	Girls Soccer
Lillyan Merrick	Girls Soccer
Lilah Hanley	Girls Soccer
Ava Quetschenbach	Girls Soccer
Ella Peterson	Girls Soccer
Madelyn Class	Girls Soccer
Ruthie Adams	Girls Soccer
Reece Forrey	Girls Soccer
Kylie Courtney	Girls Tennis
Grace Deale	Girls Tennis
Sara Deery	Girls Tennis
Isabell Wisniewski	Girls Tennis
Lexxine Zullo	Girls Tennis
Alison Swartz	Girls Tennis
Macyn Hockman	Girls Tennis
Cade Donnelly	Boys Track and Field
Brendon Handy	Boys Track and Field
Joshua Loose	Boys Track and Field
Aiden Magee	Boys Track and Field
Wilson Mendoza Velasquez	Boys Track and Field
Alan Olguin-Hernandez	Boys Track and Field
Noah Parks	Boys Track and Field
Aidin Schaub	Boys Track and Field
Evan Tietz	Boys Track and Field
Weston Werner	Boys Track and Field
Ashly Benavides Lagunas	Girls Track and Field

Terra Berkheimer	Girls Track and Field
Brynn Crandell	Girls Track and Field
Emily Davis	Girls Track and Field
Donne Henry	Girls Track and Field
Taylor Hevner	Girls Track and Field
Zoey Jenkot-Burnett	Girls Track and Field
Leilani Johnson	Girls Track and Field
Natalie Moran	Girls Track and Field
Ketzaly Navarrete-Lopez	Girls Track and Field
Tatum Pinnock	Girls Track and Field
Sophia Plitko	Girls Track and Field
Grace Robinson	Girls Track and Field
Joselin Santizo Perez	Girls Track and Field
Talia Scerra	Girls Track and Field
Heather Smyth	Girls Track and Field
Alaina Strates	Girls Track and Field
Evan Forjan	Boys Volleyball
Zachary Hirn	Boys Volleyball
Grason Howard	Boys Volleyball
Colin Smith	Boys Volleyball
Brady Tice	Boys Volleyball
Amor Townsend	Boys Volleyball
Logan Truitt	Boys Volleyball
Brayden Bennetch	Unified Track and Field
Donne Henry	Unified Track and Field
Donald Lingo	Unified Track and Field
Katelyn Taylor	Unified Track and Field
Heather Smyth	Unified Track and Field

#### Visitors and Staff in Attendance

Jay Owens, Karen Blannard, Renee Jerns, Kelly Dorman, Tammy Smith, Karen Oliphant, Tara Thoroughgood, David Maull, Jennifer Troublefield, Cliff Toomey, Dan Mann, Preston Lewis, Walter Smith, Shawn Tidwell, Christy Kerr, Sarah Green, Bennett Murray, Rick Evans, Chris Costello, Mike Williams, Monica McCurry, Jason Macrides, Kathleen Wilson, Pam Webb, David Carter, Janet Hickman, Melissa Kansak, Neil Stong, Suzanne Timmons, Blair Caitlin Brown, Cassie Queen, JR Emanuele, Jason Pilgrim, Desiree Pilgrim, Maria Hazzard, Nika Reid, Joe Dooley, Sean McGee, O D McGee, Tusline Francios, Kristen Evans, Aaron White, Rachel Pham, Stephen Scerra, Eileen Scerra, Emily Soto, Hong Tham Nguyen, Mike Lucia, Henry Loor, Vicki Macrides, Judith Howard, Lonnie Howard, Franklin Diaz, Allison Ponce, Jonathan Garcia Lopez, Stefany Roman Pinzon, Damarias Lopez Domingo, Thien Thanh Barends, Donne Henry, Josh Sweetman, Jeff Bunting, Dennis Rodriguez Alcon, Carla Costa, Molly Heuvner, Chase Mutz, Joselin Santizo, Suventey Velasquez, John Mutz, Evans Velasquez, Hayden Benner, Kaitlyn Kopf, David Gonzalez, Belinda Gonzalez Mendez, Elind Martin Martinez, Brianna Diaz Meja, Zoe Cummings.

#### Public Comments

Aaron White spoke to the Board about the use of Peachjar to distribute flyers and asked if there are any alternatives to distribution of flyers to reach students.

## New Business

### School Choice Applications 2024-2025 (May 2024)

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to accept 2024-2025 school choice applicants (May 2024) as presented by Mr. Lewis. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### 2024-2025 DSBA (Delaware School Boards Association) Annual Dues

Mr. Peden, seconded Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve the 2024-2025 DSBA Annual Dues in the amount of \$13,038.00. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### 2024 Indian River School District Summer Work Hours

Mr. Neal, seconded by Mrs. Kline, moved to accept the 2024 Indian River School District Summer Work Hours beginning June 10, 2024 and ending August 16, 2024. Monday - Wednesday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed Friday. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### Nutrition Services Prime Food Vendor RFP

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Kline, motioned to approve the Nutrition Services Prime Food Vendor RFP to US Foods as presented by Mr. Toomey. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### Nutrition Services Dishwasher Replacements

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve the nutrition services dishwasher replacements at Indian River High School for \$65,498.00, Long Neck Elementary for \$60,659.00, and North Georgetown Elementary for \$60,602.00. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### Indian River High School Unified Flag Football

Tabled for later discussion.

### Lord Baltimore Elementary Pavilion

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to approve the Lord Baltimore Elementary Pavilion funded by the Lord Baltimore Elementary PTO. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### New Sussex Central High School Change Order Notifications

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Kline, motioned to approve the 4 New Sussex Central High School Change Order Notifications as presented by Mr. Joe Dooley totaling \$124,106.72. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

### Tax Relief Request #1

Motion failed due to a lack of a second motion

### Tax Relief Request #2

Mrs. Kline, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve tax relief request #2 as presented. The motion passed (6-2-0).

For the motion: Mrs. Briggs, Mr. Cathell, Dr. Hattier, Mrs. Kline, Mr. Neal, Mrs. Taylor

Against the motion: Mr. Peden, Mrs. Pryor

## 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.

### Howard T. Ennis

Dr. Owens shared with the board the greenhouse structure is expected to be completed in June.

### G.W. Carver Consent Update

Dr. Thoroughgood shared with the board the following:

- On May 6th, Matt Denn submitted the 9th Interim Special Master Report to the court. In the report, Mr. Denn outlined recommendations for the district to implement and specific documentation to be submitted before October 1st. The district team met and delegated items to ensure completion.
- The next Carver check-in meeting is scheduled for tomorrow.

#### Committee Reports

##### Buildings and Grounds

Dr. Hattier reviewed the minutes from the May 13, 2024 meeting.

##### Comprehensive School Safety

No report.

##### Finance

Mrs. Smith reviewed minutes from the May 13, 2024 meeting.

##### Curriculum

Dr. Jerns reviewed the minutes from the May 13, 2024 meeting.

##### DSBA Board of Directors

No report.

##### DSBA Legislative

No report.

##### Special Education Task Force

No report.

##### Policy

###### First Reading

Dr. Owens presented the following policy for a first reading: BDB Special Board Meeting.

###### Second Reading

###### JECB Children of District Employees Who Reside Out of State

###### GBCB Staff Conduct Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace

###### IKA.1 Academic Integrity

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Peden, motioned to approve the following policies for second readings: JECB Children of District Employees Who Reside Out of State, GBCB Staff Conduct Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace IKA.1 Academic Integrity. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

##### IREA Representative

Mr. JR Emanuele shared with the Board that IREA awarded two scholarships in the amount of \$1,800 to a student from both high schools who are pursuing a career in education. IREA is working with administration on teacher negotiations and looking forward to upcoming negotiations with paraprofessionals and secretaries.

##### Superintendents Report

Dr. Owens shared with the Board his monthly activities.

##### Financial Summaries for month ending April 31, 2024

Mrs. Smith reviewed the financial summaries, major and minor capital improvement financials for the month ending April 30, 2024.

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Kline, motioned to accept the financial summaries for the month ending April 30, 2024. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

#### Detail Information for month ending April 31, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Briggs, moved to approve the Detail Information for the month ending April 30, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

#### Major Capital Improvements for month ending April 31, 2024

Mrs. Kline, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the Major Capital Improvements for the month ending April 30, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

#### Minor Capital Improvements for month ending April 30, 2024

Mrs. Kline, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve the Minor Capital Improvements for the month ending April 30, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

#### Match Taxes

Mrs. Smith reviewed with the Board an overview of FY'25 Tax Rate Overview regarding Match Taxes for the district.

#### Communications

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve the field trips as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

- Overnight trip by Millsboro Middle School Cheer on August 11-14, 2024 to Honesdale, PA
- Overnight trip by Sussex Central High School TSA on June 25- July 1, 2024 to Orlando, FL.

#### Personnel Agenda for May 20, 2024

Dr. Statler, seconded by Dr. Hattier, motioned to approve the Personnel Agenda for May 20, 2024 excluding personnel agenda items #67, #87, #114, #132 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, moved to approve Personnel Agenda item #67 on the Personnel Agenda for May 20, 2024. The motion passed (7-0-1).

For the motion: Mr. Cathell, Mrs. Kline, Dr. Hattier, Mr. Neal, Mr. Peden, Mrs. Pryor, Mrs. Taylor.  
Abstained: Mrs. Briggs.

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, moved to approve Personnel Agenda item #87 on the Personnel Agenda for May 20, 2024. The motion passed (7-0-1).

For the motion: Mr. Cathell, Dr. Hattier, Mrs. Kline, Mr. Neal, Mr. Peden, Mrs. Pryor, Mrs. Taylor.  
Abstained: Mrs. Briggs.

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, moved to approve Personnel Agenda item #114 on the Personnel Agenda for May 20, 2024. The motion passed (7-0-1).

For the motion: Mr. Cathell, Dr. Hattier, Mrs. Kline, Mr. Neal, Mr. Peden, Mrs. Pryor, Mrs. Taylor.  
Abstained: Mrs. Briggs.

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, moved to approve Personnel Agenda item #132 on the Personnel Agenda for May 20, 2024. The motion passed (7-0-1).

For the motion: Mrs. Briggs, Dr. Hattier, Mrs. Kline, Mr. Neal, Mr. Peden, Mrs. Pryor, Mrs. Taylor.  
Abstained: Mr. Cathell.

#### Personnel Addendum for May 20, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve the Personnel Addendum for May 20, 2024 excluding personnel addendum item #56 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Mr. Peden, seconded by Cathell, moved to approve Personnel Addendum item #56 on the Personnel Addendum for April 22, 2024. The motion passed (7-0-1).

For the motion: Mrs. Briggs, Mr. Cathell, Dr. Hattier, Mrs. Kline, Mr. Peden, Mrs. Pryor, Mrs. Taylor.  
Abstained: Mr. Neal.

Notification of Retirements

Mrs. Bunting Shared with the Board the notification of retirements for May 20, 2024.

Personnel

Director of Special Education

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to approve candidate #1 for the Director of Special Education position. The motion passed (7-0-1).

For the motion: Mrs. Briggs, Mr. Cathell, Dr. Hattier, Mrs. Kline, Mr. Peden, Mrs. Pryor, Mrs. Taylor.

Abstained: Mr. Neal.

Principal Georgetown Elementary School

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve the candidate for the principal of Georgetown Elementary position. The motion passed (7-0-1).

For the motion: Mrs. Briggs, Mr. Cathell, Dr. Hattier, Mrs. Kline, Mr. Peden, Mrs. Pryor, Mrs. Taylor.

Abstained: Mr. Neal.

Public Comments

No comments.

Adjournment

Dr. Hattier adjourned the meeting at 8:34 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