

INDIAN RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2024
INDIAN RIVER HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

MINUTES

Call to Order

Mrs. Wright called the Regular Meeting of the Indian River School District Board of Education to order at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Mrs. Lisa Briggs, Mr. Derek Cathell, Mrs. Kelly Kline, Mr. Gerald Peden, Mrs. Connie Pryor, Mr. Mark Steele, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Anita West Werner, Mrs. Leolga Wright.

Board Member Late (6:03 pm): Mr. Ivan Neal.

Executive Session

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to go into Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, litigation. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Reconvene Regular Session at 7:24 p.m.

Approval of Agenda – August 26, 2024

Mrs. Pryor, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to approve the agenda for August 26, 2024. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes – July 22, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Steele, motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

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

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Steele, motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Board of Education Meeting Minutes – July 29, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Board of Education Executive Session Meeting Minutes – July 29, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Board of Education Retreat Meeting Minutes – August 5, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Board of Education Retreat Executive Session Meeting Minutes – August 5, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Steele, motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Visitors and Staff in Attendance

Jay Owens, Karen Blannard, Celeste Bunting, Renee Jerns, Kelly Dorman, Tammy Smith, Melissa Whisted, Jennifer Troublefield, Dan Mann, Preston Lewis, Blair Caitlin Brown, Joe Dooley, Bob Blyman, Wendy Mears, Suzanne Timmons, Cassie Queen, Samuel Clark, Kimberly Elliott, Christina Wright, Cliff Toomey, Shawnie Henry, Nevin Clark, Daisey Calyse Taylor, Alexis Vickers, Michael Williams, Robert Syphard, Maureen Rozanski, Andy Davis.

Recognition

Dr. Donald Hattier was recognized by the Board for his years of service as a board member with the Indian River School District

Public Comments

Wendy Mears, current teacher at Indian River School District, shared with the Board that she feels harassed and threatened while working in the district. We need to protect the children in our district. She feels the district is corrupt and is trying to "take her out".

Kimberly Elliott, grandparent of an IRSD student, supporter and public meeting note taker for Wendy Mears, spoke to the Board regarding House Bill 417.

Christina Wright, mother of IRSD student, spoke to the Board regarding an internet posting of John M Clayton elementary 5th grade end of year celebration photo. In this photo some students were using inappropriate hand gestures in the photo. She feels IRSD staff should be trained to handle safety concerns at school to protect students.

New Business

School Choice Applications 2024-2025 (August 2024)

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to accept 2024-2025 school choice applicants (August 2024) as presented by Mr. Lewis. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Out of State School Choice Request for Employee

Mrs. Kline, seconded by Mr. Peden, motioned to approve the Out of State School Choice request for employee as presented. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Adult Education Annual Report

Mr. Schifano shared with the Board the adult education/community education year in review. There were 53 programs with 1266 participants for the 2023/2024 school year.

2024-2025 Administrative Organizational Plan

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the 2024-2025 Administrative Organizational Plan as presented by Dr. Owens. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

2024-2025 School Resource Officer Contracts

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve the 2024-2025 School Resource Officer Contracts #1 through 4 and the offer for #5 with an annual review in the amount of \$40,000.00. The motion passed (9-0-1).

For the motion: Mrs. Briggs, Mr. Cathell, Mrs. Kline, Mr. Neal, Mrs. Pryor, Mrs. Werner, Mr. Steele, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Wright

Abstained: Mr. Peden

2024-2025 Nutrition Services Meal Prices

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to approve the 2024-2025 Nutrition Services Meal Prices as presented by Mr. Toomey. Mr. Toomey added that this is the 20th year of no increases to student platter pricing. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Nutrition Services Fresh Pizza Delivery RFP IRD 25001

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to accept the Nutrition Services Fresh Pizza Delivery RFP#IRD 25001-Pizza as presented by Mr. Toomey. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Bus Aide Scale

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Werner, motioned to approve the Bus Aide scale which is paid by the State of Delaware. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Certificate of Necessity – Indian River High School Culinary Program

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to accept architect option #3 as presented regarding Certificate of Necessity for the Indian River High School Culinary Program. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

New Sussex Central High School Change Order Notifications

Mr. Neal, seconded by Mr. Steele, motioned to approve the 8 New Sussex Central High School Change Order Notifications as presented by Mr. Joe Dooley and Mr. Brad Cowen totaling \$127,718.97. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Old Business

Major Capital Planning

Dr. Owens shared with the Board the most recent construction updates at the new Sussex Central High School.

Howard T. Ennis

Dr. Owens shared with the board the “punch lists” are almost finished and the project will be complete.

G.W. Carver Consent Update

Dr. Whisted shared with the board the following:

District Disproportionality

Graduation Rate

- IRSD Implementation Plan to Address Graduation Rate Disparities

Discipline

IRSD Implementation Plan to Focus on Exclusionary Discipline Improvement

- Mental Health and Social Emotional Learning Curriculum Implementation Plan

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Steele reviewed the minutes from the August 12, 2024 meeting.

Comprehensive School Safety

Mr. Cathell shared with the board the two weapons detections were delivered and training has begun with staff.

Finance

Mr. Peden reviewed minutes from the August 12, 2024 meeting.

Curriculum

No report.

DSBA Board of Directors

No report.

DSBA Legislative

No report.

Special Education Task Force

No report.

Policy

Mrs. Taylor reviewed the minutes from the August 12, 2024 meeting.

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to approve policy GBCB.7 Title IX for a first and second reading. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

IREA Representative

Mrs. Blair Catlin Brown shared with the Board the new teacher week was great and thanked Alexis MacLeish for all her time and effort to make it so successful. Teacher negotiations are scheduled for next week and hope to finalize.

Superintendents Report

Dr. Owens shared with the Board the Superintendent monthly activities.

Financial Summaries for month ending July 31, 2024

Mrs. Smith reviewed the financial summaries, major and minor capital improvement financials for the month ending July 31, 2024.

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to accept the financial summaries for the month ending July 31, 2024. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Detail Information for month ending July 31, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Cathell, moved to approve the Detail Information for the month ending July 31, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Major Capital Improvements for month ending July 31, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Kline, motioned to approve the Major Capital Improvements for the month ending July 31, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Minor Capital Improvements for month ending July 31, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to approve the Minor Capital Improvements for the month ending July 31, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Financial Position Report

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the Financial Position Report as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Financial Position Report

as of July 1, 2024

Forecast Period: Q1-2025

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 1 month Local Payroll
Local Expenses	\$11,986,639.40	\$807,380.52	\$13,037,000.00	\$25,831,019.92	\$8,611,650.00	\$1,848,221.66	\$10,459,871.66	\$15,371,148.26	\$3,200,000.00
Div II	\$2,714,260.74	\$364,912.78	\$0.00	\$3,079,173.52	\$0.00	\$1,616,784.30	\$1,616,784.30	\$1,462,389.22	
Div III	\$1,082,269.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,082,269.00	\$1,082,269.00	\$0.00	\$1,082,269.00	\$0.00	
Cash Option	\$259,322.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$259,322.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$259,322.00	
Other	\$1,949,081.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,949,081.00	\$1,949,081.00	\$0.00	\$1,949,081.00	\$0.00	
Total Discretionary Fund Revenue	\$17,991,572.14	\$1,172,293.30	\$13,037,000.00	\$32,200,865.44	\$11,643,000.00	\$3,465,005.96	\$15,108,005.96	\$17,092,859.48	

Communications

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mr. Steele, motioned to approve the following overnight field trips:

- Sussex Central High School FFA on September 12-15, 2024 to Springfield, MA
- Sussex Central High School FFA on September 24-25, 2024 to Camp Barnes, DE
- Indian River High School FFA on September 12-15, 2024 to Springfield, MA
- Indian River High School FFA on October 22-25, 2024 to Indianapolis, IN.

The motioned passed unanimously (10-0).

Personnel Agenda for August 26, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to approve the Personnel Agenda for August 26, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Personnel Addendum for August 26, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve the Personnel Addendum for August 26, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Contractual Agenda for August 26, 2024

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve the Contractual Agenda for August 26, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Notification of Retirements

Mrs. Bunting Shared with the Board the notification of retirements for August 26, 2024.

Public Comments

No comments.

Adjournment

Mrs. Pryor, seconded by Mrs. Kline, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

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

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

LTW/JFO:jmt