

INDIAN RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 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 4:01 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Board members Late: Mr. Derek Cathell (4:05 p.m.); Mr. Ivan Neal (4:10 p.m.), Mrs. Kim Taylor (4:30 p.m.)

Board Member Absent: Mrs. Kelly Kline

Executive Session

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to go into Executive Session at 4:02 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, litigation. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

Reconvene Regular Session at 6:24 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Board Member Absent: Mrs. Kelly Kline

Approval of Agenda – October 28, 2024

Mrs. Pryor, seconded by Mr. Neal, moved to approve the agenda for October 28, 2024. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes – September 23, 2024

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

Board of Education Executive Session Meeting Minutes – September 23, 2024

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

Student Government

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

Visitors and Staff in Attendance

Jay Owens, Karen Blannard, Celeste Bunting, Renee Jerns, Kelly Dorman, Tammy Smith, Melissa Whisted, Patricia Harris, Jennifer Troublefield, Dan Mann, Preston Lewis, Joe Dooley, Bob Blyman, Suzanne Timmons, Blair Catlin Brown, Cliff Toomey, Shawn Tidwell, Michael Williams, Andy Davis, Kathleen Wilson, Melissa Kansak, Christy Kerr, Pamela Webb, Monica McCurry, Amanda Hendrickson Davis, Beth Illian, Jason Macrides, Janet Hickman, Brad Breasure, Rick Evans, Allisa Booth, Carolyn Fries, Maria Hazzard, Nika Reid, Walter Smith, Wilson Menendez Velasquez, Glenn Rolfe, Mike Smith, Bryan Reed, Bernadette Marvel, Jack Roach, Michelle Mitchell, Jan Bomhardt, Jen Sumski, Theresa O'Shields, Sam O'Shields.

Recognition

2024 Special Education Ambassadors

Early Learning Center	Jennifer Sumski
East Millsboro Elementary	Lori Boyce
Georgetown Elementary	Amy Timer
Georgetown Middle	Ryan Goodwin
Howard T. Ennis	Jean Morgan
Indian River High School	Stephanie Tietmeyer
John M. Clayton Elementary	Jan Bomhardt
Long Neck Elementary	Devin Petka
Lord Baltimore Elementary	Christina Reed
Millsboro Middle	Lisa DeShazo
North Georgetown Elementary	Audrey Feltz
Phillip C. Showell Elementary	Melanie Hall
Selbyville Middle	Theresa O'Shields
Southern DE School for the Arts	Michelle Mitchell
Sussex Central High School	Jack Roach
Community Member	Dr. Heather Statler
IREC	Tami Hudson

We are IRSD Community Festival – Nika Reid

Public Comments

Ms. Patricia Jennings, a recent retiree, thanked the Board and the district for the many wonderful years teaching in the District.

New Business

District Finances

Mrs. Smith shared with the Board a PowerPoint presentation which reviewed the following financial information:

- Historical Financial Information
- Current Financial Climate
- Current and Future Budget Restraints
- Future Budget Planning
- Referendum

School Choice Applications 2024-2025 (October 2024)

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to accept 2024-2025 school choice applicants (October 2024) as presented by Mr. Lewis. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

BASSE Charter School Parent Requests to Re-Enroll Students in Indian River School District

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to accept these returning students from BASSE Charter School and going forward to be consistent with procedures for students who qualify for acceptance back to the district. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

American Education Week - November 18-22, 2024

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve American Education Week – November 18-22, 2024 as presented by Dr. Owens. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

2024-2025 Unit Count Summary

Dr. Owens will share with the Board the final certified unit count summary for the 2024 -2025 school year at next month's board meeting.

Name of Indian River School District New Middle School

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to accept Sussex Central Middle School as the name of the new middle school for the Indian River School District. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Sussex Central High School Boys Basketball Uniforms

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to approve the Sussex Central High School Boys Basketball Uniforms as presented by Dr. Owens. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Sussex Central High School Dance Uniforms

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Peden, motioned to approve the Sussex Central High School Dance Uniforms as presented by Dr. Owens. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Georgetown Middle School Wrestling Uniforms

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve the Georgetown Middle School Wrestling Uniforms as presented by Dr. Owens. The motion passed (8-1-0).

For the motion: Mr. Cathell, Mr. Neal, Mr. Peden, Mrs. Pryor, Mr. Steele. Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. West-Werner, Mrs. Wright.

Against the motion: Mrs. Briggs

Sussex Central High School Change Orders

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve the 1 Sussex Central High School Change Order totaling \$210,849.16 as presented by Mr. Dooley and Mr. Blyman. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve the 1 Sussex Central High School Change Order totaling \$286,064.00 as presented by Mr. Dooley and Mr. Blyman. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Sussex Central High School Change Order Notifications

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. West-Werner, motioned to approve the 10 New Sussex Central High School Change Order Notifications as presented by Mr. Dooley and Mr. Blyman totaling \$114,973.00 The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Title IX Coordinator, 504 Coordinator, ADA Coordinator

Dr. Owens noted that districts are required to publicly name the persons who are responsible for Title IX, 504, and ADA matters. For the 2024-2025 school year, Mrs. Celeste Bunting is responsible for Title IX matters, Dr. P. Renee Jerns is responsible for 504 matters, and Mr. William "Joe" Dooley is responsible for ADA matters.

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve Mrs. Celeste Bunting is responsible for Title IX matters, Dr. P. Renee Jerns is responsible for 504 matters, and Mr. William "Joe" Dooley is responsible for ADA matters. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

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 Ennis project will be totaling complete by the end of 2024.

G.W. Carver Consent Update

Dr. Whisted shared with the board the following:

Requirements:

- Quarterly Updates on Former Carver Students
- Continuation of Community Advisory Board (CAB)
- Monitoring of District Plans
 - Disproportionality of Graduation Rate, Disproportionality of Discipline

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Steele reviewed the minutes from the October 14, 2024 meeting.

Comprehensive School Safety

Mr. Cathell shared with the board that Constable David Mike Lucia completed certification to be a fire arms instructor.

Finance

Mr. Peden reviewed minutes from the October 14, 2024 meeting.

Curriculum

Mr. Neal reviewed the minutes from the October 14, 2024 meeting.

DSBA Board of Directors

No report.

DSBA Legislative

Mrs. Briggs shared with the Board the updates from the DSBA Legislative meeting on October 2, 2024.

Special Education Committee

Mr. Neal shared with the Board that the former Special Education Task Force will be replaced by the Special Education Committee that will meet quarterly, the next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2025.

Policy

Mrs. Taylor reviewed the minutes from the October 14, 2024 meeting.

Mrs. Taylor shared the following policies for a first reading: GCBD Professional Leaves and Absences, D Fiscal Management, DBH Budget Adoption, GBA Nondiscrimination, JG.1 Bully Cyberbullying Prevention.

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Briggs, motioned to approve the following polices for second readings: JG.2 Gang Presence, Promotion, and Activity, JSCC-A School Choice, and IGDJ Band and Interscholastic Athletics Uniforms & Logos. The motion passed (8-1-0).

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

Against the motion: Mrs. West-Werner.

IREA Representative

Mrs. Blair Catlin Brown shared with the Board the positive experiences with the We are IRSD Community Festival, such a great community event. Paraprofessionals are looking forward to the professional day scheduled for January 17, 2025. Thanks Veterans on Veterans Day.

Superintendents Report

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

Financial Summaries for month ending September 30, 2024

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

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to accept the financial summaries for the month ending September 30, 2024. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Detail Information for month ending September 30, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Neal, moved to approve the Detail Information for the month ending September 30, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Major Capital Improvements for month ending September 30, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor. Cathell, motioned to approve the Major Capital Improvements for the month ending September 30, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Minor Capital Improvements for month ending September 30, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve the Minor Capital Improvements for the month ending September 30, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

FY '2025 Annual State Budget Reduction (Giveback)

Mrs. Smith shared with the Board the annual state budget reduction (giveback). Salaried positions the district qualifies for but do not utilize.

Communications

Use of Facility Request

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Peden, motioned to approve the Use of Facility request for John M. Clayton Elementary gymnasium on October 3, 22, and 28, 2024 by Lighthouse Christian School as presented by Dr. Owens. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Field Trip Requests

Mrs. Briggs, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve the field trips as presented by Dr. Owens. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

- Overnight trip by Indian River High School Baseball on March 19-22, 2025 to Myrtle Beach, SC.
- Overnight trip by Sussex Central High School Baseball on March 20-24, 2025 to Myrtle Beach, SC.
- Overnight trip by Sussex Central High School Band on April 11-13, 2025 to Richmond, VA.

Personnel Agenda for October 28, 2024

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve the Personnel Agenda for October 28, 2024 excluding agenda item #33 and agenda item #77 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve item #33 on the Personnel Agenda for October 28, 2024. The motion passed (7-1-1).

Mr. Neal, seconded by Mr. Peden, motioned to approve item #77 on the Personnel Agenda for October 28, 2024. The motion failed (1-7-1)

For the motion: Mr. Neal

Against the motion: Mrs. Briggs, Mr. Cathell, Mrs. Pryor, Mr. Steele, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. West-Werner, Mrs. Wright.

Abstained: Mr. Peden

Personnel Addendum for October 28, 2024

Mr. Cathell, seconded by Mr. Peden, motioned to approve the Personnel Addendum for October 28, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Contractual Agenda for October 28, 2024

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve the Contractual Agenda for October 28, 2024 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Notification of Retirements

Mrs. Bunting shared with the Board the notification of retirements for October 28, 2024.

Teacher Contract Financial Negotiations

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Steele, motioned to accept proposal #1 on teacher contract financial negotiations as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Public Comments

No comments.

Adjournment

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

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