

INDIAN RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025
SUSSEX CENTRAL 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 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Executive Session

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Briggs, motioned to go into Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, litigation, and student hearings. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Reconvene Regular Session at 7:20 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Approval of Agenda – April 28, 2025

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, moved to approve the agenda for April 28, 2025. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Pledge of Allegiance/Presentation of Colors

Approval of Minutes

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes – March 24, 2025

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 – March 24, 2025

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

Board of Education Meeting Minutes – March 31, 2025

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 – March 31, 2025

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

Student Government

Sussex Central High School's student government representative Klaire Casale reported on events occurring at Sussex Central High School.

Visitors and Staff in Attendance

Jay Owens, Karen Blannard, Celeste Bunting, Renee Jerns, Kelly Dorman, Tammy Smith, Melissa Whisted, Patti Harris, Jennifer Troublefield, Dan Mann, Preston Lewis, Joe Dooley, Suzanne Timmons, Blair Catlin Brown, JR Emanuele, Cassie Queen, Suzanne Timmons, Shawn Tidwell, Michael Williams, Andy Davis, Kathleen Wilson,

Kim Cooper, Christy Kerr, Pamela Webb, Lauren Kirk, Amanda Hendrickson Davis, Beth Illian, Jason Macrides, Rebecca Hagan, Maria Hazzard, Carolyn Fries, Brad Cowen, Jason Pilgrim, James Wheatley, Nika Reid, Lauren Kirk, Maria Guterrez Carcamo, Jason, Jessica, Sorrel Missimer, D Morelli, Leo Darmstadter II, Pamela Long, Brooke Darmstadter, Klaire Casale.

Recognition

- TSA Conference 1st Place Winners; Will West, Sorrell Missimer
- All State Choir (SCHS): Brooke Shelton, Zoe Cullen, Maria Guterrez Carcamo, Jake Darmstadter
- All-State Band (SCHS): Jake Darmstadter
- Senior Sussex County Honors Band (SCHS): Jake Darmstadter, Emily Saxton, Klaire Casale, Violet Cooney, Sorrell Missimer, Will West, Maria Guterrez Carcamo.
- Gold Place HOSA State Leadership Conference in Interviewing Skills (SCHS): Maria Pulido-Gudino

Public Comments

- Melissa Velasquez spoke to the Board about the importance of the IB Program at Sussex Central High School.

New Business

School Choice Applications 2024-2025 (April 2025)

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

School Choice Applications 2025-2026 (April 2025)

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. West-Werner, motioned to accept 2025-2026 school choice applicants (April 2025) as presented by Mr. Lewis. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

2026-2027 Boundary Changes to notify parents impacted

Mrs. Briggs, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve the 2026-2027 boundary changes to notify parents impacted as presented by Mr. Bryan. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Indian River School District Facility Assessments and Maintenance Plan

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Kline, motioned to approve the Indian River School District Facility Assessments and Maintenance Plan as presented by Mr. Dooley. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Indian River School District HVAC Engineering Proposal

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Steele, motioned to approve the Indian River School District HVAC Engineering Proposal as presented by Mr. Dooley. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Sussex Central High School Logos

Mr. Neal, seconded by Mrs. Kline, motioned to approve option B with the exception of the slide with the gym floor to have both the knight on the horse and the knight with the sword as presented by Mr. Dooley and Mr. Cowen. (the banner batter's eye will remain, will wait to see if the outside sign can be moved). The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Sussex Central High School Uniforms: Fall Cheer, Competitive Cheer, Volleyball Alternative, Girls Basketball, Golf Jackets

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to table the Sussex Central High School Uniforms for Fall Cheer, Competitive Cheer, Volleyball Alternative, Girls Basketball, Golf Jackets. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Homebound Instructor Pay

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the homebound instructor pay of a flat \$40 per hour rate. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Athletic and Non-Athletic EPER

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve the Athletic EPER as presented with a savings of \$82K. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Kline, motioned to approve the Non- Athletic EPER as presented with a savings of \$388K. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Bryne State Crisis Intervention Grant Award

Mrs. Smith shared with the board the grant award of \$44,500 was used for the purchase of weapons detection systems.

Sussex Central High School Change Order

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve the Sussex Central 6 change orders in the amount of \$94,776 as presented by Mr. Dooley and Mr. Cowen. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Sussex Central High School Change Order Notifications

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to approve the Sussex Central High School Change Order Notifications as presented by Mr. Dooley and Mr. Cowen totaling. 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.

Referendum

Dr. Owens shared with the board the upcoming informational meetings for the referendum on June 5, 2025.

G.W. Carver Consent Update

Dr. Whisted shared with the board the following:

Requirements:

- Quarterly Updates on Former Carver Students
 - Meeting with School Staff and Matt Denn on April 4, 2025
 - Collecting Quarter 3 updates from Staff to Submit
- Continuation of Community Advisory Board (CAB)
 - Next Meeting will be June 5, 2025 @ Howard T. Ennis
- Monitoring of District Plans
 - Disproportionality of Graduation Rate
 - Disproportionality of Discipline

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Steele reviewed the minutes from the April 14, 2025 meeting.

Comprehensive School Safety

No report.

Finance

Mr. Peden reviewed minutes from the April 14, 2025 meeting.

Curriculum

Ms. Dorman, Dr. Jerns reviewed the minutes from the April 14, 2025 meeting.

DSBA Board of Directors

No report.

DSBA Legislative

Mrs. Briggs shared with the board the status on the 28 house bills reviewed at the legislative meeting.

Special Education Committee

Dr. Whisted shared with the board the special education committee notes.

Policy

Mrs. Taylor reviewed the minutes from the April 14, 2025 meeting and the following policies for a first reading: ECB.1 Integrated Pest Management Policy, IF Curriculum Development, KGC Tobacco Free Environment.

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to approve the following policies for second readings: ECB.1 School-Related Traumatic Event Policy, JHFA Student Supervision, KLA Complaint Procedures for Possible Policy Violations. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

IREA Representative

Ms. Blair Caitlin Brown shared with the board that \$1,350 was raised at the IREA fundraiser for 2 scholarships for students entering college for teaching. IREA is looking forward to the ambassador meetings to support the upcoming referendum.

Superintendents Report

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

District Calendar Changes

Change the last student day to June 11, 2025, change the last day of pre-school to June 10, 2025, change the classroom breakdown day to June 16, 2025, addition of Infinite Campus training on June 13, 2025, change the last paraprofessional day to June 11, 2025, change the remote half grades, half teacher work day to June 12, 2025, change the Indian River High School and Sussex Central High School exams to June 10 and June 11, 2025. Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve the district calendar changes as presented. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Financial Summaries for month ending March 31, 2025

Mrs. Smith reviewed the financial summaries, major and minor capital improvement financials for the month ending March 31, 2025.

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to accept the financial summaries for the month ending March 31, 2025. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Detail Information for month ending March 31, 2025

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Kline, motioned to approve the Detail Information for the month ending March 31, 2025 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Major Capital Improvements for month ending March 31, 2025

Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Peden, motioned to approve the Major Capital Improvements for the month ending March 31, 2025 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Minor Capital Improvements for month ending March 31, 2025

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to approve the Minor Capital Improvements for the month ending March 31, 2025 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Discretionary Budget Cuts

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Steele, motioned to approve the discretionary budget cuts totaling \$404,680 as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

as of March 31, 2025
Forecast Period: Q4-2025 District: Indian River

Appropriation Code	Fiscal Year	Description	Actual Unencumbered as of 3/31	Encumbered as of 3/31	Projected Income 4/1 to 6/30	Projected Available Income for Quarter 4	Projected Salary 4/1 to 6/30	Projected Non-Salary 4/1 to 6/30	Total Projected Expenditures for Quarter 4	Projected Available Balance 6/30
98000	2025	LOCAL FUNDS	\$7,492,727.90	\$188,781.96	\$1,374,000.00	\$9,055,509.86	\$12,375,674.00	\$378,068.91	\$12,753,742.91	(\$3,698,233.05)
98000	2024	LOCAL FUNDS	\$2,286.17	\$36,673.73	\$0.00	\$38,959.90	\$0.00	\$38,959.90	\$38,959.90	\$0.00
91301	2025	Bldg Rentals	\$48,086.53	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$50,086.53	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$45,086.53
91305	2025	Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
91385	2025	ROTC Salaries	(\$27,248.74)	\$0.00	\$32,700.00	\$5,451.26	\$44,000.00	\$0.00	\$44,000.00	(\$38,548.74)
91465	2025	Sale Proceeds	\$80,081.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$80,081.58	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$79,581.58
91507	2025	Uniforms - Athletic	\$395,448.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$395,448.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$395,448.85
91603	2025	CSCRP	\$386,574.44	\$1,960.00	\$0.00	\$388,534.44	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$383,534.44
91691	2025	Indirect Costs	\$1,762,091.99	\$898.24	\$125,000.00	\$1,887,990.23	\$32,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$82,000.00	\$1,805,990.23
91691	2024	Indirect Costs	\$143,962.88	\$0.01	\$0.00	\$143,962.89	\$143,962.89	\$0.00	\$143,962.89	\$0.00
91692	2025	E-rate	\$175,236.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$175,236.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$175,236.27
98034	2025	Other Local Revenue	\$382,453.42	\$870.40	\$38,000.00	\$421,323.82	\$439,771.50	\$50,000.00	\$489,771.50	(\$68,447.68)
98036	2025	Reserve Acct	\$8,835,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,835,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,835,000.00
98075	2025	Local Set Aside	\$5,598,745.34	\$422.00	\$33,500.00	\$5,632,667.34	\$0.00	\$32,000.00	\$32,000.00	\$5,600,667.34
98075	2024	Local Set Aside	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
98120	2025	Band Uniform Funds	\$132,604.68	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$132,604.68	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$132,604.68
98167	2025	Student Activities	\$205,043.42	\$8,911.06	\$4,500.00	\$218,454.48	\$0.00	\$165,000.00	\$165,000.00	\$53,454.48
98167	2024	Student Activities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			\$25,613,094.73	\$238,517.40	\$1,609,700.00	\$27,461,312.13	\$13,040,408.39	\$719,528.81	\$13,759,937.20	\$13,701,374.93
							Projected 1 month Local Payroll		\$3,600,000.00	

Appropriation Code	Fiscal Year	Description	Actual Unencumbered as of 3/31	Encumbered as of 3/31	Projected Income 4/1 to 6/30	Projected Available Income for Quarter 4	Projected Salary 4/1 to 6/30	Projected Non-Salary 4/1 to 6/30	Total Projected Expenditures for Quarter 4	Projected Available Balance 6/30
00159	2025	ENERGY	\$0.00	\$63,046.16	\$0.00	\$63,046.16	\$0.00	\$63,046.16	\$63,046.16	\$0.00
00159	2024	ENERGY	\$0.00	\$122.33	\$0.00	\$122.33	\$0.00	\$122.33	\$122.33	\$0.00
05165	2025	ALL OTHER C	\$874,450.20	\$770,034.06	\$0.00	\$1,644,484.26	\$0.00	\$500,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$1,144,484.26
05165	2024	ALL OTHER C	\$396,826.49	\$38,460.82	\$0.00	\$435,287.31	\$0.00	\$435,364.14	\$435,364.14	(\$76.83)
			\$1,271,276.69	\$871,663.37	\$0.00	\$2,142,940.06	\$0.00	\$998,532.63	\$998,532.63	\$1,144,407.43

[illegible]

05186	2024	DIV.III EQU	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Cash Option

Appropriation Code	Fiscal Year	Description	Actual Unencumbered as of 3/31	Encumbered as of 3/31	Projected Income 4/1 to 6/30	Projected Available Income for Quarter 4	Projected Salary 4/1 to 6/30	Projected Non-Salary 4/1 to 6/30	Total Projected Expenditures for Quarter 4	Projected Available Balance 6/30
05194	2025	EXCEL OPTIO	\$605,039.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$605,039.00	\$0.00	\$605,039.00	\$605,039.00	\$0.00
05194	2024	EXCEL OPTIO	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			\$605,039.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$605,039.00	\$0.00	\$605,039.00	\$605,039.00	\$0.00

Other

Appropriation Code	Fiscal Year	Description	Actual Unencumbered as of 3/31	Encumbered as of 3/31	Projected Income 4/1 to 6/30	Projected Available Income for Quarter 4	Projected Salary 4/1 to 6/30	Projected Non-Salary 4/1 to 6/30	Total Projected Expenditures for Quarter 4	Projected Available Balance 6/30
05289	2025	ED SUSTAINMENT FUND	\$224,326.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$224,326.00	\$224,326.00	\$0.00	\$224,326.00	\$0.00
05289	2024	ED SUSTAINMENT FUND	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			\$224,326.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$224,326.00	\$224,326.00	\$0.00	\$224,326.00	\$0.00

		Description	Actual Unencumbered as of 3/31	Encumbered as of 3/31	Projected Income 4/1 to 6/30	Projected Available Income for Quarter 4	Projected Salary 4/1 to 6/30	Projected Non-Salary 4/1 to 6/30	Total Projected Expenditures for Quarter 4	Projected Available Balance 6/30
Total		Discretionary Fund Revenue	\$27,713,736.42	\$1,110,180.77	\$1,609,700.00	\$30,433,617.19	\$13,264,734.39	\$2,323,100.44	\$15,587,834.83	\$14,845,782.36

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Pryor, motioned to accept the financial position report as presented by Mrs. Smith. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Communications

Field Trip Requests

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Steele, motioned to approve the following field trips. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

- Overnight trip by Phillip C. Showell 5th graders on May 21-22, 2025 to Cape Henlopen State Park
- Overnight trip by Sussex Central High School HOSA on June 17-22, 2025 to Nashville, TN
- Overnight trip by Indian River High School Drone Team on May 30-June 1, 2025 to Fairmont, WV
- Overnight trip by Indian River High School TSA on June 27-July 1, 2025 to Nashville, TN

Personnel Agenda for April 28, 2025

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to approve the Personnel Agenda for April 28, 2025 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Personnel Addendum for April 28, 2025

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mrs. Taylor, motioned to approve the Personnel Agenda for April 28, 2025 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Personnel Contractual Agenda for April 28, 2025

Mrs. Briggs, seconded by Mr. Steele, motioned to approve the Personnel Contractual Agenda for April 28, 2025 as presented by Mrs. Bunting. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Notification of Retirements

Notification of retirements was presented to the Board.

Student Hearings

Student No. 25-93

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Cathell, motioned to accept the student hearing officer's recommendation for Student No. 25-93. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Student No. 25-94

Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Peden, motioned to accept the student hearing officer's recommendation for Student No. 25-94. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Public Comments

No comments.

Adjournment

Mr. Peden, seconded by Mr. Neal, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

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