

INDIAN RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.
INDIAN RIVER HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

MINUTES

Call to Order

President Charles Bireley called the Regular Meeting of the Indian River School District Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Mr. James Hudson, Mr. Charles Bireley, Mr. James Fritz, Mrs. Leolga Wright, Mr. Douglas Hudson, Mr. Gerald Peden, Dr. Heather Statler, Mr. Scott Collins, Dr. Donald Hattier.

Board Member Late (8:15 p.m.): Mr. Rodney Layfield

Approval of Agenda – January 31, 2017

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Presentation of Colors

The Presentation of Colors was performed by the Indian River High School Marine JROTC.

Student Government

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

Approval of Minutes

Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes – December 14, 2016.

It was moved by Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mr. James Hudson, to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes – December 19, 2016.

It was moved by Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mr. James Hudson, to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Board of Education Executive Session Meeting Minutes – December 19, 2016.

It was moved by Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mr. James Hudson, to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Other Visitors and Staff in Attendance

Susan Bunting, Mark Steele, Jennifer Troublefield, Celeste Bunting, LouAnn Hudson, Jan Steele, Pep Lewis, Walt Smith, Joe Booth, Pam Webb, Janet Hickman, Heather Bethurum, Bradley Layfield, Neil Stong, Karen Oliphant, Judi Brittingham, Neil Beahan, Jason Macrides, Michael Williams, Michael Rodriguez, Karen Clausen, Heather Cramer, Bennett Murray, Kelly Dorman, Renee Jerns, Cliff Toomey, Walt Smith, Will Revels, Melissa Kansak, Laura Walter, Glenn Rolfe, Dave Maull, JR Emanuele, Gray Hughes,

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Matthew Sliwa, Mark Rogers, Kimm Nureck, Debra Nureck, Meghan Kelly, Robert Malory, Matthew Mitchell, Hillary Mitchell, Kristina Hall, Cody Hall, Brad Cowen, Nicole Morey, Allsion Peterson, Travis Bower, Dean Johnson, Maureen Nicholson, John Cavanaugh, Jackie Slonin, Nick Slonin, Jennifer Sliwa, Rita Dabaj, Lor Dabaj, Cindy Issacs, Dawn Keenan, Tyler Corcoran, Heather Martin, Carmen Giacubeno, Cindy Sean, Abby Wilson, Dana Lathbury, William Shaner.

Special Recognition

- All State Junior Choir (SM): Abby Wilson, Tyler Corcoran.
- Selbyville Volunteer Fire Company Chief: Matt Sliwa.
- Above and Beyond: (SA) - Luci Rodroquez and (EM) – Carmen Giacubeno.
- Elementary STEM Educator Awards; (GE) Richard Messick and Nicole Morey; (IRSD Gifted & Talented ExCEL); Cindy Issacs and Dawn Keenan.

Public Comments

- Kimm Nureck offered a short prayer.
- William Shaner spoke to the Board regarding concerns of coaching positions at Indian River High School. He feels a parent should not be allowed to coach if their child or children are on the team.
- Hillary Mitchell posted a question to the Board: What determines why some employees are given a paid leave while others receive an unpaid leave.
- Dana Lathbury spoke to the Board regarding the district's bullying policy. Ms. Lathbury congratulated Dr. Statler for her work with special education awareness in the district. She also questioned the district's referendum and accountability.

School Choice Applications for 2016-2017

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Collins, to approve the School Choice Applications for 2016-2017 as recommended. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Old Business

Administrative Positions

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. James Hudson, to table Administrative Positions until Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Referendum

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. James Hudson, to table Referendum until Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Committee Reports

Athletic Fields Oversight

Mr. Douglas Hudson reported all schools are operating within budget.

Buildings & Grounds Committee

No meeting during the month of January.

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Comprehensive School Safety Committee

No meeting during the month of January.

Curriculum Committee

No meeting during the month of January.

Finance Committee

Mrs. Steele reviewed the financial reports.

Mary Bailey Scholarship

No updates on Mary Bailey Scholarships.

Special Education Task Force

Dr. Statler updated the Board on the Special Education Task Force. She gave a synopsis of recent activities and research initiatives

Policy Committee

Policy – 1st and 2nd Reading

KH – Use of Online Donation Accounts and KH.1 Gifts from the Public

Policy Revisions

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to accept the following policies for first and second readings: KH – Use of Online Donation Accounts and KH.1 – Gifts from the Public. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

IREA Representative

J.R. Emanuele spoke to the Board about the continued support of IREA with the upcoming current expense referendum on March 2, 2017. He asked the public to come and support an IREA scholarship fundraiser at the Millsboro Fire Company on March 17, 2017.

Superintendent's Report

School Visits, Special Activities and Upcoming Events

Mr. Steele shared the following report from Dr. Bunting:

Special Activities

Since the December Board of Education meeting it has been my pleasure to

- Visit all the classrooms at Sussex Central High School
- Attend East Millsboro's, Lord Baltimore's, Millsboro Middle's, and SDSA's holiday concerts
- Participate in a holiday luncheon with the entire IREC staff
- Attend the Nanticoke's January Tribal Council meeting
- Meet with both Indian River's and Sussex Central's student focus groups
- Conduct mid-year conferences with the assistant superintendent and directors and complete their formative documents
- Meet with the PTO's at East Millsboro and John M. Clayton regarding the March 2nd referendum

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- Hold mid-year leadership goal review conferences with all building principals and complete the associated formative documents
- Join East Millsboro, John M. Clayton, and Phillip Showell teams at the ceremony in Dover at which they were lauded for being three of the state's Recognition or Reward Schools
- Participated in the third session of the Governor's ESSA Advisory Committee
- Led the January 12th "Referendum Ambassador" meeting attended by parent representatives from each school who are enthusiastically working to promote the referendum
- Represented the district at the first of the Governor Carney's Inaugural Celebration event at Clear Space Theater during which Indian River High School's a Capella group had been selected to perform and at which both Sussex Central and Indian River students' visual arts works were featured
- Met with Teach for America's national director to share the successes of the district's TFA-connected teachers
- Represented the district at Governor Carney's Inauguration

In concluding my what will probably be my last Administrative Report, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to the Board, the administrators, the staff members in our 16 schools, our nearly 11,000 students, the public participants in the meeting this evening, and indeed the entire IRSD community for allowing me to represent you as Indian River's Superintendent for the past 11 years. It has been an honor to serve you.

Calendar Changes

Cancel North Georgetown Elementary Winter Ball on February 16, 2017.

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to approve the calendar change as presented. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Financial Reports

Regular Invoices for month ending December 30, 2016

It was moved by Mr. James Hudson, seconded by Mr. Collins, to approve the payment of the Regular Invoices for the month ending December 30, 2016. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Minor Cap Improvement Financials for the month ending December 30, 2016

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Collins, to approve Minor Cap Improvement Financials payment authorizations in the amount of \$62,603.92 for the month ending December 30, 2016. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Major Cap Improvement Change Orders for the month ending November 30, 2016

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Collins, to approve the Major Cap Improvement Change Orders in the amount of \$20,603.93 for the month ending December 30, 2016. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

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Financial Position Report for February 1, 2017

Mrs. Steele reviewed with the Board the Financial Position Report as of December 31, 2016. The financial position report is due to the Department of Education on February 1, 2017. The district has a projected balance of \$3,401,755.99 as of June 30, 2017.

Business Office Organization

Mrs. Steele reviewed with the Board the current financial system process within the IRSD Business Department. She described the flow of work activity and processes of approval within the State of Delaware financial system. Mrs. Steele has implemented the cross training of all staff in the business department so that multiple people within the business department can complete all daily responsibilities.

Use of Facilities

Use of Sussex Central High School gymnasium and cafeteria by Next Generation Services, LLC on March 25 and 26, 2017.

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. James Hudson, to approve the use of facilities.

Field Trip Requests

- (1) Overnight trip by Indian River High School FFA on March 8-10, 2017 to Dover, DE.
- (2) Sunday trip by Indian River High School Competitive Cheer Team FFA on February 26, 2017 to Felton, DE.
- (3) Sunday trip by Indian River High School Competitive Cheer Team FFA on March 5, 2017 to Smyrna, DE.

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. James Hudson, to approve the Field Trip Requests. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Public Comments

- Mr. Robert Maloney spoke to the Board about his opposition to the district's current expense referendum. He suggests the district use money for educational purposes rather than safety programs.

Executive Session

It was moved by Mr. Doug Hudson, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to go into Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, student hearings, negotiations, and litigation. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Reconvene

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Fritz, to reconvene in Regular Session at 11:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Personnel Agenda for January 31, 2017

It was moved by Dr. Hattier, seconded by Mr. Collins, to approve the Personnel Agenda for January 31, 2017. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

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Personnel Addendum for January 31, 2017

It was moved by Mr. Layfield, seconded by Mr. Collins, to approve the Personnel Addendum for December 19, 2016. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Personnel Contractual Agenda for January 31, 2017

It was moved by Mr. Layfield, seconded by Mr. Collins, to approve the Personnel Contractual Agenda for January 31, 2017. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Student Hearings

Student Nos. 17-23, 17-24, and 17-28

It was moved by Mr. Layfield, seconded by Mr. James Hudson, to rescind the expulsion of Student No. 17-23. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Dr. Hattier, to table the student hearings on Student Nos. 17-24 and 17-28 until the February 27, 2017 Board meeting. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Adjournment

President Bireley adjourned the meeting at 11:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles M. Bireley
President
Board of Education
Indian River School District

Mark L. Steele
Secretary and Interim Superintendent
Board of Education
Indian River School District

CMB/MLS:jmt