

The District School Board of Indian River County met on March 29, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Teacher Education Center located in the School District Office at the J.A. Thompson Administrative Center located at 6500 – 57th Street, Vero Beach, Florida 32967. District School Board Members attending were: Chairman Dale Simchick, Vice Chairman Shawn R. Frost, and Board Members: Matthew McCain, Claudia Jiménez, and Charles G. Searcy. Dr. Mark J. Rendell, Superintendent of Schools; and Suzanne D’Agresta, School Board Attorney, were also present. Prior to the meeting, an invocation was given by Philip Katrovitz, Humanists of Treasure Coast.

Business Meeting Minutes

- I. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Simchick.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – Mr. Frost
- III. ADOPTION OF ORDERS OF THE DAY
Chairman Simchick asked the Board if they had any items they wished to move from Consent for discussion. Mr. Searcy requested to move Consent B. Chairman Simchick called for a motion to adopt, moving Consent B to follow the Consent Agenda and moving Presentation A to the April 12 business meeting. Ms. Jiménez moved approval of the Orders of the Day, moving Consent C and moving Presentation A to April 12, 2016. Mr. McCain seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.
- IV. PRESENTATIONS
 - A. **Casual for a Cause – Dr. Rendell**
(Moved to April 12 business meeting.)
 - B. **Musical Rendition by Students from Fellsmere Elementary School – Dr. Rendell**
 - C. **Short Video on School Initiatives – Dr. Rendell**
- V. CITIZEN INPUT
Benny Rhyant requested to speak on the Confederate Flag.
Liz Cannon requested to speak on Value Added Model (VAM).
Dr. Sylvester McIntosh requested to speak on teacher hiring.
Valerie Brant-Wilson requested to speak on school climate and dress code.
- VI. CONSENT AGENDA
Chairman Simchick called for a motion. Mr. McCain moved approval of the Consent Agenda, moving Consent B for discussion. Mr. Frost seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.

A. Approval of Minutes – Dr. Rendell

1. Discussion Session held 3/8/2016
2. Special Meeting for Pending Litigation held 3/8/2016
3. Business Meeting held 3/8/2016

Superintendent recommended approval.

B. Approval of Personnel Recommendations – Dr. Fritz

(Moved to follow Consent Agenda)

C. Approval of Student Admission to Indian River County for 2016-2017 School Year – Dr. Rynberg

This was a request to attend school in Indian River County from Brevard County. All necessary documents were attached. Superintendent recommended approval.

D. Approval of Academic Games Students Travel to Atlanta, GA 2015-2016 - Dr. Rynberg

Academic Games was a series of competitions designed to challenge students' abilities in the areas of mathematics, language arts, and social studies. Students in grades 4-12 can compete in any or all of the events according to their interests such as, Equations, Presidents, World Events, and Linguistics. Academic Games National competition was in Atlanta, GA, April 22-26, 2016. It was being held at the Marquis Marriot. There would be a total of eighteen students representing Beachland Elementary, Gifford Middle, Storm Grove Middle, Oslo Middle, and Vero Beach High School, who had qualified for national competition through local and state competition. There would be two teachers and two parents that would be chaperones for the trip. Subs for the two teachers would be covered through the Curriculum Department. All other costs were covered through fundraisers, sponsorships, and parents. All necessary insurance had been provided to Risk Management. Superintendent recommended approval.

E. Approval of Sebastian River High School Girls' Rugby Team to Travel to 17th Annual Girls' National Invitational Championship Event at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri – Dr. Rynberg

As a result of the Rugby Team's stellar performance at the North Carolina Youth Rugby Tournament where Sebastian River finished second in a closely contested game, the team had been invited to compete in the 17th Annual Girls' National Invitational Championship. Principal Racine supported the request from Head Coach, Mr. Alan Dobson, for the team to travel to St. Charles, Missouri to compete at Lindenwood University. The tournament was May 21-22, 2016, and the request for travel was from May 20 through May 22, 2016. Travel arrangements and funding would be secured by the individual families and fundraising activities of the Booster Club. All travel costs would be fully met by the team. All necessary insurance information had been provided to Risk Management. Superintendent recommended approval.

Item moved from Consent:

B. Approval of Personnel Recommendations – Dr. Fritz

Attached was a list of personnel recommendations that included personnel additions, terminations, and/or changes. Superintendent recommended approval.

Dr. Fritz answered a question on retirement dates. Mr. McCain moved approval of the personnel recommendations. Mr. Frost seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.

VII. ACTION AGENDA

A. Approval to Purchase Fine Arts (K-12), Career and Technology (6-12), PE(K-8), and HOPE/PE 9th Grade Instructional Materials – Dr. Rynberg

As a part of the instructional materials adoption process, the School Board must set aside time to receive public comment from parents of students during Public Hearing and meeting in accordance with School Board Policy 0169.1, *Public Participation*. *(There were no parent petitions submitted for this adoption)*. The Instructional Materials Adoption Committees' had recommended the materials on the attached lists effective at the start of 2016-2017 school year. The Instructional Materials lists represented the committees' selected materials for the courses listed. This adoption included both digital and print materials. These materials would assist teachers in providing standards-based instruction for District students. The cost of this adoption was approximately \$1,244,964.50. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Simchick called for a motion. Mr. McCain moved approval to purchase Fine Arts (K-12), Career and Technology (6-12), PE(K-8), and HOPE/PE 9th Grade instructional materials. Ms. Jiménez seconded the motion. In answer to a question, Dr. Rendell said that he would verify the process used by charter schools to purchase instructional materials. Board Member noted that one of the 44 committee members was a parent. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion, with a 5-0 vote.

B. Approval of Budget Amendment – Mr. Morrison

This request was for approval of the following revised budget amendment for fiscal year ending June 30, 2016:

Amendment #3 General Fund

Superintendent recommended approval.

Mr. Morrison gave the Board a hard copy of the PowerPoint that he used to talk about the budget shortfall in FTE that resulted in an amendment to the General Fund and the resulting budget impacts.

Mr. Green spoke of the impact virtual courses had on the shortfall due to recalibration of class minutes. He talked about the adjustment of minutes that would result in the FTE funding being returned. Dr. Rendell said that in some cases, FTE funding for students taking virtual classes was cut in half, even though the student was taking the full seven courses in classroom instruction. Board Members asked questions regarding what action the District could take to control the funding loss. Dr. Rendell stated that the District's new Virtual School would result in the FTE funding for virtual schools to remain in the District.

Chairman Simchick called for a motion. Ms. Jiménez moved approval of the revised budget amendment #3 General Fund for fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. Mr. McCain seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.

C. Approval to Increase Purchase Order to Banyan Contractors, Inc., for Concrete Repairs for Vero Beach High School Citrus Bowl Stadium Project - Mr. Morrison

Approval was requested to increase the purchase order issued to Banyan Contractors, Inc., for emergency concrete repairs at the Vero Beach High School Citrus Bowl Stadium in association with the stadium seating and press box installation. The estimated financial impact for the 2015-2016 fiscal year for the total concrete repairs was \$125,000. To date, the contractor had performed repairs totaling \$48,350. Due to unforeseen conditions, the remaining repairs were estimated to be approximately \$75,000. Approval was requested to issue a change order to increase Banyan Contractor's purchase order from \$48,350 to \$125,000, in order to complete the necessary concrete work prior to the installation of the stadium seating and press box. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Simchick called for a motion. Mr. McCain moved approval to increase purchase order to Banyan Contractors, Inc., for concrete repairs for Vero Beach High School Citrus Bowl Stadium project. Ms. Jiménez seconded the motion. Mr. Sanders answered questions from the Board. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion, with a 5-0 vote.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Rendell addressed some newspaper articles recently in the media. The first being the Indian River Plan that was an optional program designed to train those who wanted to become administrators. Dr. Rendell said that training was not required to apply for an administrative position and was not set up to prevent specific applicants from applying for positions, as stated by the ACLU Press Release. The second social media issue that was incorrect was in regard to the inappropriate flyers (containing a picture of the Confederate Flag, along with racial slurs) distributed by students at the Freshman Learning Center.

The social media reported that the School District did nothing about it. Dr. Rendell stated that the administrators handled the situation immediately and the students received severe consequences and law enforcement was involved in the investigation. Dr. Rendell said that the School District had no control as to what was distributed in the media to the public. He said that he wanted to take this time to talk about this misinformation.

IX. DISCUSSION

No discussion items

X. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER MATTERS

Mr. Searcy requested an update on the Fellsmere School building noted in social media.

Mr. Sanders talked about the repairs and why this occurred. Mr. Searcy requested that the new Beachland building be painted to complement the area and not be various, random colors.

Ms. Jiménez asked Mr. Sanders if the small amount of mold on the back of one marker board was the issue that was being highlighted in the media. Mr. Sanders replied that the only mold was on the back of one marker board due to the board being placed flush with the wall, with no air circulation. He also described the small amount of water intrusion and the monitoring system that automatically notified staff when the humidity levels rise through the H/VAC system.

Mr. Searcy asked the Superintendent to readdress the situation regarding Coach Joe. He said that a letter generated from the State's Attorney's Office indicated, to him, that the action by the School District should be reconsidered and that the Coach be reinstated. Ms. Jiménez requested a copy be given to the Board. Ms. Jiménez reiterated for the public that the School District did not withhold the letter. She noted that it was never given to the School District.

Ms. Jiménez talked about the Insurance Workshop held earlier in the day. She mentioned the struggle of being self-funded and the clinic for employees. Ms. Jiménez said that staff would present alternatives to the Board in order to keep the program financial stable. She talked about a transitioning program proposed for Wabasso School with utilizing workforce dollars. Ms. Jiménez also spoke of the changes coming forward from the 2016 Legislative Session. She said that the Board had a conversation regarding race issues and the unresolved issue of the Confederate Flag on campus and tee shirts being worn. Ms. Jiménez said that she was looking forward to the conversation on this issue. She said that the School District could not control the community but could control the school climate. Ms. Jiménez thanked the community for sharing their concerns.

Mr. Frost spoke about the academic games. He thanked the parents who volunteered to chaperone and wished the students great success.

Chairman Simchick thanked parents for coming out in the rain to attend the meeting. She talked about the upcoming softball game for autism, followed by a drive-in movie. Chairman Simchick thanked staff for their work and input. She thanked Dr. Rendell for handling the Freshman Learning Center situation swiftly and hoped that there would be healthy changes made for our community.

Mr. Searcy recognized Andrew Rynberg for his academic achievement of Ph.D.

XI. INFORMATION AGENDA

A. Monthly Facilities Report – Mr. Morrison

XII. SUPERINTENDENT’S CLOSING

XIII. ADJOURNMENT – Chairman Simchick

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.