

The District School Board of Indian River County met on April 12, 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, the Chairman called for a moment of silence.

Business Meeting Minutes

- I. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Simchick.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG AND PRESENTATION OF COLORS BY: Sebastian River High School Navy Junior ROTC Students under the Direction of Lieutenant Commander James Landis.
- III. ADOPTION OF ORDERS OF THE DAY
Chairman Simchick announced that the Superintendent had requested to add three items to the agenda: Consent H, Action F, and Action G. She asked Board Members if they had any Consent items they wished to move to follow the Consent Agenda for discussion. Ms. Jiménez requested to move Consent H. Mr. Searcy call for a Point of Order. He said that these added items were not advertised seven days in advance. Mrs. D’Agresta stated that once the Agenda was posted, items could be added or deleted. She said that the Chairman had the authority to do so. Mr. Searcy requested to move Consent B.

Chairman Simchick called for a motion to adopt the Orders of the Day adding Consent H, Action F, and Action G; and moving Consent items H and B to follow the Consent Agenda for discussion. Ms. Jiménez moved approval of the orders of the day. Mr. Frost seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

A. Casual for a Cause

The recipient of the District’s Casual for a Cause fundraiser for the month of January was The American Red Cross. Teachers, Students, and Staff across the District paid a small fee to dress down for the day on January 28, 2016. Their donations for this cause totaled \$2,676.58. American Red Cross Chapter Executive Director, Sarah Ruwe, accepted the check on behalf of American Red Cross.

B. Recognition of Sponsors of the Teacher and Employee of the Year Gala Event

The District School Board Members and Superintendent recognized the following community members and partners who sponsored this year's Teacher and Employee of the Year Gala Event: MIDFLORIDA Community Credit Union; Napier & Rollin, Gould Cooksey Fennell; and The Learning Alliance were presented with plaques as a sign of appreciation for their sponsorship efforts with the Teacher and Employee of the Year Gala.

C. Recognition of Marina Martinelli as the 2016 Joseph C. Gilliam Academic Achievement Award Winner

The District School Board and Superintendent presented Sebastian River High School Navy Junior ROTC Cadet, Marnia Martinelli, with a Certificate of Excellence for being awarded the 2016 Joseph C. Gilliam Academic Achievement Award. Senior Naval Science Instruction Lieutenant Commander Jim Landis, US Navy Retired, spoke to Ms. Martinelli's achievements.

D. Musical Rendition by Students from Dodgertown Elementary School 5th Grade Chorus with Musical Instrument Accompaniment

E. Short Video on School Initiatives

V. CITIZEN INPUT

No requests to speak.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Simchick called for a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. Ms. Jiménez moved approval of the Consent Agenda, moving Consent B and H for discussion. Mr. Frost seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.

A. Approval of Minutes – Dr. Rendell

1. Employee Insurance Workshop held 3/29/2016
2. Superintendent's Workshop held 3/29/2016
3. Business Meeting held 3/29/2016

Superintendent recommended approval.

B. Approval of Personnel Recommendations – Dr. Fritz

(Moved to follow the Consent Agenda.)

C. Approval to Dispose of Surplus Property – Mr. Morrison

This request was for approval to dispose of surplus property in accordance with Florida Statutes 274.05 and 274.06. The attached lists represented property to be deleted from various inventories and/or for items that had been declared surplus. After Board approval, property would be recycled and/or auctioned. Superintendent recommended approval.

D. 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 # 2 Capital

Amendment # 2 Debt Service

Superintendent recommended approval.

E. Approval of Students Admission to Indian River County for 2016-2017 – Dr. Rynberg

This was a renewal request to attend school in Indian River County for 2016-2017 school year. Superintendent recommended approval.

F. Approval of Students Transfer from Indian River County for 2016-2017 – Dr. Rynberg

This was a renewal request to attend school in Brevard County for 2016-2017 school year. Superintendent recommended approval.

G. Approval of Sebastian River High School Band Trip to Seattle, Washington in November 2016 – Dr. Rynberg

Principal Todd Racine requested approval of Sebastian River High School Band travel to Seattle, Washington, November 18-21, 2016. They had been invited to play at the Western International Band Clinic. Travel arrangements and funding would be secured by the individual families and fundraising activities. All necessary insurance information had been provided to Risk Management. Superintendent recommended approval.

Item Added on 4/11/2016:

H. Approval of Suspension of Instructional Employee – Dr. Fritz

(Moved to follow the Consent Agenda.)

Items 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 job sharing under item #1. Dr. Fritz answered the question on item #19 job descriptions for Trades Technician for Food and Nutrition Services, granting a full year to obtain the second certification. Chairman Simchick called for a motion. Mr. Frost moved approval of the Personnel Recommendations. Mr. McCain seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.

H. Approval of Suspension of Instructional Employee – Dr. Fritz

The Superintendent recommended an unpaid suspension of an instructional employee for seven (7) days. Details were attached. Superintendent recommended approval.

Dr. Rendell answered questions from the Board regarding the recommendation for a seven-day, unpaid suspension. This was the second step in the progressive disciplinary action taken in regard to this individual in accordance with the Indian River County Education Association contract. An improvement plan was in place that included training and coaching support that would continue to be offered to the employee. The third step would probably be a recommendation for termination. Dr. Fritz answered questions from the Board. Board Members expressed their concern about returning the teacher to a classroom. Dr. Rendell stated that the teacher would not be returned to the classroom until he felt that she was ready.

Mrs. D'Agresta stated that if the Board rejected the Superintendent's recommendation, the teacher would immediately return to the classroom. She noted that moving forward, a new process could be negotiated with the teachers' union. Board Members talked about possible options to the recommendation. Dr. Rendell suggested that the recommendation be amended to suspend the teacher without pay for seven days and that she be reassigned to an alternate position until it was appropriate to return her to the classroom.

Chairman Simchick moved approval to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and included that the teacher not be returned to the classroom until receiving a satisfactory improvement plan and, if not, a further recommendation from the Superintendent. Mr. McCain seconded the motion.

After discussing the motion, Chairman Simchick amended her motion to state that upon completion of the suspension, the teacher would be placed in alternate placement pending recommendation from the Superintendent to place her back in a classroom. Mr. McCain seconded the amendment.

Board Members discussion the motion. Dr. Rendell said that he would bring this back to the Board before the teacher was placed back in a classroom. Mr. Searcy Called the Question. The Board voted 4-1 in favor of the motion. Mr. Searcy, Mr. McCain, Ms. Jiménez, and Chairman Simchick voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Frost voted against the motion.

VII. ACTION AGENDA

A. Public Hearing and Adoption of New, Revised, and Repealed School Board Policies – Dr. Rendell

On March 8, 2016, the School Board moved approval to set the Public Hearing date for the adoption of new, revised, and repealed Board Policies; and requested to move forward with the adoption process. The purpose of the revisions was to comply with changes in State and Federal Legislative action during the 2015 Legislative Session, as well as current practice. New policies included Athletic Injuries Prevention and Treatment Program, and Nonimmigrant Students and Foreign Exchange Programs, and Sexual Violence. A list of all new, revised, and repealed Board Policies and a copy of the policies were attached. The policy change process was followed in accordance with Florida Administrative Procedures Act, Statute Statutes, and School Board Policy. Superintendent recommended approval.

Public Hearing

Chairman Simchick asked the Superintendent if the Public Hearing was properly advertised in accordance with State Statutes. Dr. Rendell said, "Yes, it was." Chairman Simchick recessed the meeting to conduct the Public Hearing.

Chairman Simchick announced that the Public Hearing was in session. She asked Dr. Rendell if there were any written responses to be read. Dr. Rendell said, "No, there were not." The public was invited to address this issue.

Hearing no requests to speak, Chairman Simchick announced that the Public Hearing was conducted pursuant to notice and that ample opportunity to address this issue was provided to all. The Board meeting was reconvened.

Chairman Simchick called for a motion. Ms. Jiménez moved approval of the adoption of new, revised, and repealed School Board policies. Mr. Searcy seconded the motion. A Board Member was pleased that the issue of transgender was included as a protective category. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion, with a 5-0 vote.

B. Approval to Award RFQ #2016-10 to Multiple Vendors for a Continuing Contract for Commissioning Agent Services - Mr. Morrison

A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was promulgated to enter into a continuing contract with Commissioning firms. The purpose and intent of this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was to obtain proposals from qualified commissioning agents licensed to do business in the State of Florida for services on an as needed basis for all projects over 40 tons of HVAC as per the requirements of the new Florida Building Code.

The District received responses from three (3) firms to provide commissioning services. Utilization would be on a rotating or best fit basis. The estimated annual financial impact to the District was \$100,000.

The Purchasing Department recommended award to Sebesta, Inc., SGM Engineering, Inc., and TLC Engineering for Architecture, Inc., as the best responsive and responsible vendors meeting specifications, terms, and conditions. The term of this RFQ was from April 13, 2016, through April 12, 2017, and may, by mutual agreement between the Board and the awardees, be renewable for two additional one-year periods. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Simchick called for a motion. Mr. McCain moved approval of the award of RFQ #2016-10 to multiple vendors for a continuing contract for commissioning agent services. Mr. Frost seconded the motion. At the request of a Board Member, Dr. Rendell stated that next year he would include a list of vendors that were awarded for the 2016-2017 school year. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion, with a 5-0 vote.

C. Approval to Award RFP #2016-09 to Multiple Vendors for a Continuing Contract for Electrical Services - Mr. Morrison

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was promulgated to enter into a continuing contract with electrical contractors for small electrical projects on an as-needed basis. The estimated annual financial impact to the District was \$150,000. Award would be made to a minimum of three (3) responsive and responsible bidders. Award was being recommended not on the basis of price alone, but to the contractor(s) whose submission contained the most advantageous combination of hourly rates, qualifications, staff's experience, litigation, and recent commercial projects. Projects less than \$5,000 would be awarded on a rotational or best fit basis. All awarded vendors would be invited to quote projects that exceed \$5,000. Award would be made to the lowest bidder. The term of this RFP was from April 13, 2016, through April 12, 2017, and may, by mutual agreement between the Board and the awardees, be renewable for two additional one-year periods. All prices, terms, and conditions shall remain the same. The Purchasing Department recommended award to Bismark Electrical Services, Inc., Complete Electric, Inc., Gerelcom, Inc., and Paragon Electric of Vero, Inc., as the best responsive and responsible bidders meeting specifications, terms, and conditions. Please see attached backup. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Simchick called for a motion. Mr. Frost moved approval of the award of RFP #2016-09 to multiple vendors for a continuing contract for electrical services. Ms. Jiménez seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.

D. Approval to Piggyback the Palm Beach County School District's Bid #11C-36S and to Issue a Purchase Order to Holb-Sierra Corporation for the Installation of Surveillance Systems at all Elementary Schools - Mr. Morrison

Pursuant to School Board Policy 6320, the Superintendent's authority was limited to purchase commodities and/or contractual services where the total amount did not exceed \$50,000 and did not exceed the applicable appropriation in the District Budget. This request was to grant the authority for the Superintendent to issue a purchase order under this item in the amount of \$104,571. The scope of this project was for Holb-Sierra to provide and install security cameras to all District elementary schools. This was a Capital project and was part of the District's overall security initiative. This purchase was as per the specifications, terms, and conditions of the Palm Beach County School's Bid #11C-36S for the Avigilon camera equipment that would expire May 4, 2016. Please see the attached bid documentation. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Simchick called for a motion. Ms. Jiménez moved approval to piggyback the Palm Beach County School District's bid #11C-36S and to issue a purchase order to Holb-Sierra Corporation for the installation of surveillance systems at all elementary schools. Mr. McCain seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.

E. Approval of the Educational Facilities Supplementary Plant Survey Number 5 Version 4 for the School District of Indian River County – Mr. Morrison

Approval was recommended for the Educational Facilities Supplementary Plant Survey for the School District of Indian River County. On June 25, 2013, the School Board approved the Educational Facilities Plant Five Year Survey Report for 2013-2018. A Supplemental Survey was recently conducted in order to update the 2013-2018 survey information and to make the necessary survey changes in association with the classroom building addition at Beachland Elementary School. The recommendations for Survey Amendment Number 5 Version 4 requested permission from the Department of Education for the addition of a 16 classroom building. The new classroom building would replace portable student stations, as well as permanent student stations currently housed in Buildings 1-5 that were scheduled for demolition. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Simchick called for a motion. Mr. Frost moved approval of the Educational Facilities Supplementary Plant Survey Number 5 Version 4 for the School District of Indian River County. Ms. Jiménez seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.

Item Added on 4/11/2016:

F. Approval of Office of Educational Facilities Building Condition Change Building Replacement/Raze for Vero Beach High School Citrus Bowl Buildings 1, 3, 4 & 5 – Mr. Morrison

Approval was recommended for the attached Office of Educational Facilities Room Condition Change Building Replacement/Raze Forms (OEF Form RCC-BRR) to be submitted to the Florida Department of Education for Vero Beach High School Citrus Bowl, Buildings 1, 3, 4 & 5. This form was a request to the Department of Education for an Unsatisfactory Building Determination that would give the School Board permission to demolish the buildings indicated on the form. A Castaldi Analysis Study was conducted and supports replacement of the existing buildings with new facilities. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Simchick called for a motion. Mr. McCain moved approval of the Office of Educational Facilities Building Condition Change building replacement/raze for Vero Beach High School Citrus Bowl buildings 1, 3, 4 & 5. Ms. Jiménez seconded the motion. Dr. Rendell stated that it was necessary to add this item in order to keep the timeline moving as scheduled. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion, with a 5-0 vote.

Item Added on 4/12/2016:

G. Approval of Educational Facilities Supplementary Plant Survey Number 5 Version 5 for School District of Indian River County – Mr. Morrison

Approval was recommended for the Educational Facilities Supplementary Plant Survey for the School District of Indian River County. On June 25, 2013, the School Board approved the Educational Facilities Plant Five Year Survey Report for 2013-2018. A Supplemental Survey was recently conducted in order to update the 2013-2018 survey information and to make the necessary survey changes in association with the Citrus Bowl Stadium Renovations at Vero Beach High School. The recommendations for Survey Amendment Number 5 Version 5 were to request permission from the Department of Education for the construction of new restrooms, locker rooms, and concession facilities in conjunction with the Citrus Bowl Stadium Renovations. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Simchick called for a motion. Mr. Frost moved approval of the Educational Facilities Supplementary Plant Survey Number 5 Version 5 for School District of Indian River County. Mr. McCain seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Rendell announced that District Staff would hold a public meeting on Wednesday, April 13, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., to address the inaccuracies of the media coverage regarding the air quality at Fellsmere Elementary School. He stated that Pelican Island was named as a Project Learning Tree School by bringing into the classrooms the natural habitat that surrounded the school to become part of the science curriculum. Dr. Rendell attended Vero Beach High School's "Pride of the Tribe", formerly known as the Top 10% Awards Night. In addition to honoring student academics, students honored one of their teachers who had the greatest influence on their educational experience. Last Saturday night, Dr. Rendell attended the Gifford Youth Activities Center, where Seniors were honored as part of the TRIO Program.

IX. DISCUSSION

No discussion items

X. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER MATTERS

Ms. Jiménez thanked Dr. Rendell for being visible/transparent in the community and for holding the public hearing at Fellsmere. She asked the community to give the School District the benefit of the doubt when hearing negative information regarding the District.

Mr. Frost stated that during the Discussion Session today, the Board discussed going out to the schools. He said that he hoped that the community would come out to those events and to School Board meetings. Mr. Frost talked about the pancake flipping event. He said that he would be in attendance at the public hearing tomorrow night at Fellsmere. Mr. Frost asked community members to let him know if they had any questions about the District because some of what you hear was not always accurate.

Chairman Simchick said that she attended the Vero Beach High School "Pride of the Tribe" event. She said that she had the privilege of participating on the Agnes Peebles Memorial Scholarship Committee, with Principal O'Keefe and Principal Racine. The purpose of the scholarship was to enable female students to attend a university that was established at a time when females were not given that opportunity. She said that she was proud of the caliber of students and their maturity. Chairman Simchick stated that the generosity of this family to setup this scholarship was to be recognized.

XI. INFORMATION AGENDA

No information items

XII. SUPERINTENDENT'S CLOSING

No closing comments.

- XIII. ADJOURNMENT – Chairman Simchick
Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:37 p.m.