

The District School Board of Indian River County met on July 26, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. The workshop 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.

Superintendent’s Board Workshop Minutes

- I. Workshop was called to order by Chairman Simchick.

- II. **PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP**
Dr. Rendell stated that the purpose of the workshop was to talk about the budget and millage levy. The first Public Hearing on the budget and millage was to be held at 5:01 this evening. Time permitting, Dr. Rendell stated that staff would go over performance contracting at the end of this workshop.

- III. **Review 2016-2017 Proposed Tentative Budget and Proposed Millage Levy**
Mr. Morrison reviewed the budget book, highlighted specific areas, reviewed the proposed millage levy and resulting residential taxes. Board Members were given an opportunity to ask questions and to make suggestions. It was noted by the Board that the School District was the only public entity that does not have control of the amount collected for RLE (Required Local Effort taxes). The calculation was totally dictated by the State of Florida. The School District was required to go directly to the taxpayers to ask them to vote on a referendum for insufficient State funding.

Mr. Morrison answered questions from the Board on the following topics:
 - Classroom Instructional Materials
 - Funding for various projects
 - Teacher Training
 - Reserves
 - Safe Harbor Reserves for Self Insured Health Insurance Program
 - TANs (Tax Anticipation Notes, Loan) Covers 30-days expenses until the tax money was received by the School District
 - Course recovery software
 - Safe schools
 - Fund Balance
 - Preparing for anticipated, future shrinking revenues

Chairman Simchick called for a break at 10:20 a.m. and reconvened at 10:30 a.m.

IV. Millage Rates and Performance Contracting

Dr. Rendell stated that Mr. Morrison would review the proposed millage rates and performance contracting. Mr. Morrison, utilized a PowerPoint presentation, presented information on the proposed millage rates. The PowerPoint was the same document that would be used for the Public Hearing at 5:01 p.m. Mr. Morrison answered questions from the Board regarding the following:

- Prior workshops held from May 2016 through June 2016 on budget and millage rates
- RLE (Required Local Effort)
- Rolled Back Rate Options

Representatives from FPL and Con-Edison were present to talk to the Board about their accomplishments during the past 12 months and the dollar savings realized to date and the guaranteed, projected savings by school. Board Members were given an opportunity to ask questions. After discussing expanding the program to other District Schools, the Board agreed to have FPL and Con-Edison prepare a proposal for additional schools, at no obligation or cost.

Utilizing the remaining workshop time, Mr. Morrison reviewed additional budgets such as: debt services, capital outlay, food service, group insurance, and enterprise (afterschool program). Mr. Morrison stated that the final Public Hearing would be held on September 8, 2016, at 5:01 p.m. He said that the budget book was on the District website, with contact numbers for any questions from the community or from the Board.

Board Member asked about the positions that were eliminated during the downed economy in 2008 that had not been added to the general fund. Dr. Rendell answered the question. Board Members talked about why the District desperately needed the .50 Referendum to cover vital services for children. They also gave recommendations to staff in the areas of transparency, plan of action for unfunded student needs, available funds from other facility projects, school rental fees, request to provide copy of procedures for Board Members regarding renting school facilities, funding from marque rentals, removal of campaign signs from all school facilities, report back on schools over charging for use of facilities, and the creation of a bonus program regarding additional electric cost savings.

Community member asked a question. Mr. Morrison said that the budget book was placed on the internet for the public last Monday, July 18, 2016.

V. ADJOURNMENT – Chairman Simchick

Workshop adjourned at approximately 11:43 p.m.