

The District School Board of Indian River County met on January 10, 2017, 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 Charles G. Searcy and Board Members: Dale Simchick, Laura Zorc, and Tiffany M. Justice. Dr. Mark J. Rendell, Superintendent of Schools; and Suzanne D’Agresta, School Board Attorney, were also present. Vice Chairman Shawn R. Frost was not present. Prior to the meeting an invocation was given by Rev. David Johnson from Community Church of Vero Beach.

### **Business Meeting Minutes**

- I. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Searcy.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG AND PRESENTATION OF COLORS BY: Sebastian River High School’s Navy Junior ROTC under the Direction of (Lieutenant Commander) LCDR James Landis USN (retired) and (Master Sergeant) MSgt Michael Hussey USMC (retired).
- III. ADOPTION OF ORDERS OF THE DAY  
Chairman Searcy asked Board Members if they had any items they wanted to move from the Consent Agenda. Hearing no requests, Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mrs. Simchick moved approval of the Orders of the Day as presented. Mrs. Zorc seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 4-0 vote.
- IV. PRESENTATIONS
  - A. **Musical Performance by Gifford Youth Orchestra, College of Performing Arts**
  - B. **Short Video on School Initiatives, Inclusion Show held at Sebastian River High School’s Performing Arts Center.**
- V. CITIZEN INPUT  
Maria Sayre requested to speak on Read Letter of Resignation as requested by Board Member.  
Mike Murray requested to speak on CWA insurance issues.  
Carter Taylor requested to speak on County parcel adjoining Vero Beach High School.  
Liz Cannon requested to speak on VAM “Value Added Model”.  
Bonnie Julin requested to speak on teachers.
- VI. CONSENT AGENDA  
Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mrs. Justice moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Simchick seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 4-0 vote.

**A. Approval of Minutes – Dr. Rendell**

1. Impasse Hearing held 12/5/2016
2. Superintendent Workshop held 12/13/2016
3. Discussion Session held 12/13/2016
4. Business Meeting held 12/13/2016

Superintendent recommended approval.

**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.

**C. Approval of 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 Donations – Mr. Morrison**

1. Beachland Elementary School received a donation in the amount of \$1,670.25 from the Beachland PTA. The funds would be used by the Beachland Elementary Media Center.
2. Fellsmere Elementary School received a donation from St. Augustine of Canterbury in the amount of \$2,600. The funds would be used to aid the families of Fellsmere Elementary School.
3. Osceola Magnet School received a donation in the amount of \$3,333 from Suzanne Hammond. The donation would benefit the staff and students of Osceola Magnet School by providing training and materials for the Singapore Math series.
4. The Professional Development Department received a donation in the amount of \$2,500, from Gould Cooksey Fennell, P.A. The funds would be used by Professional Development for Teacher of the Year.

Superintendent recommended approval.

**E. Approval of Collegiate High School, Dual Enrollment Agreement Renewal, with Indian River State College for 2017-2018 – Mrs. Dampier**

Florida Statute 1007.273 required that the District have a Collegiate High School, Dual Enrollment articulation agreement, with a college designated within our servicing area. Florida Statute 1007.271 required Collegiate High Schools to provide secondary students with an opportunity to complete 30 college credit hours, in conjunction with CAPE certification. Florida Statute 1007.271 (21), in support of Section 1007.273, required that School Districts pay the standard tuition rate per credit hour and for the associated course materials for courses taken on the college campuses. This agreement, in conjunction with our current Dual Enrollment agreement, sets forth the criteria for students taking college level courses. Attached was the agreement with Indian River State College. Superintendent recommended approval.

**F. Approval of Students Transferring from Indian River County for 2017-2018 School Year—Mrs. Dampier**

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

VII. ACTION AGENDA

**A. Approval to Set Public Hearing Date to Adopt New, Revised, and Repealed School Board Policies – Dr. Rendell**

On December 13, 2016, the District School Board discussed new, revised, and repealed Board Policies and requested to move forward with the adoption process. The purpose of the revisions was to be consistent with present practice and legislation. The Public Hearing and adoption would be noticed for the regular Business meeting on February 14, 2017. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mrs. Justice moved approval to set the Public Hearing date to adopt new, revised, and repealed School Board policies. Mrs. Simchick seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 4-0 vote.

**B. Approval to Amend Medical Insurance Premiums and Board Contributions for Non-Represented Employees - Dr. Fritz**

Approval would amend health insurance premiums and Board contributions for non-represented employees. The amended rates would match those bargained with IRCEA and CWA and would retroactively take effect on December 1, 2016. As with other employees, \$27 per employee per month shall be directly transferred to the insurance fund from the general fund to offset the premiums. This action would also authorize staff to refund the premium change implemented on November 1, 2016, for this group to equalize the non-represented employees' annualized premiums with all union employees. Superintendent recommended approval.

Dr. Rendell stated that the total cost to the District for all employee groups was \$41,940.00 to ensure that all employee groups received the same contribution from the Board and paid the same rates for insurance for this year. Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mrs. Simchick moved approval to amend the medical insurance premiums and Board contributions for non-represented employees. Mrs. Zorc seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 4-0 vote.

**C. Approval of Appointment to School Board's Land Use and Acquisition Committee – Chairman Searcy**

As per the guidelines established by the Board, each Board Member shall appoint a member of the community to serve as a volunteer for a four-year term that begins and ends with the Board Member's term.

The Board, as an elected body, shall approve the appointments. Newly elected School Board Members were to submit their recommendations for approval.

Mrs. Zorc spoke to her recommended appointee, Mr. Wesley Davis. Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mrs. Justice moved approval of the appointment of Mr. Wesley Davis to the School Board's Land Use and Acquisition Committee. Mrs. Simchick seconded the motion. Board Members spoke to the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the appointment of Wesley Davis to the School Board's Land Use and Acquisition Committee, with a 4-0 vote.

**D. Approval of Appointment by the Chairman to Indian River County Commission's Metropolitan Planning Organization Alternate Position – Chairman Searcy**

Board Member requested to withdraw as the Alternate on this Committee. The Board would discuss and the Chairman would appoint a new Board Member to serve as the Alternate.

Chairman Searcy called for discussion. Mrs. Simchick volunteered to serve. Chairman Searcy appointed Mrs. Simchick to serve on the Indian River County Commission's Metropolitan Planning Organization as the Alternate Member.

**E. Approval of Second Amendment to School Board Resolution #2014-08 to Revise Meeting Protocol – Chairman Searcy**

In compliance with School Board Policy 0166.1, entitled Work Sessions, the School Board was revising its meeting setup procedures to televise union impasse hearings. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mrs. Justice moved approval of the second amendment to School Board Resolution #2014-08 to revise meeting protocol. Mrs. Simchick seconded the motion. Board Members discussed the motion. They also talked about televising Discussion Sessions, video recording Discussion Sessions, holding all Board discussion during the business meetings, and scheduling meetings once every week at night. If discussion were held during the business meeting, Dr. Rendell was concerned about adding three hours to the meeting based upon the three-hour Discussion Session held at 1 p.m. on this date. Hearing no further discussion, Chairman Searcy called for a roll call vote from Miss Stang as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:**

Mrs. Justice	Yes
Mrs. Simchick	Yes
Mrs. Zorc	Yes
Chairman Searcy	Yes

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion, with a 4-0 vote.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

**A. School Report Cards**

Dr. Rendell said that he wanted to share with the Board the latest addition of the local School Report Cards. The State submitted letter grades for the School District; however, he did not feel as though that letter grade gave a clear picture on student growth and performance. Mr. Green presented a PowerPoint that he went over page by page for the 2015-2016 school year that included the District Report Card Indicators, District Profile, District Grads, Percent Proficient, Parent Satisfaction Grade, Gains, Attendance, Discipline, Moonshot Moment Targets, Gateway ELA Performance, and an Appendix. Mr. Green noted that the Report would be available on the District website for the public and for the community at [www.indianriverschools.org](http://www.indianriverschools.org); by clicking on the Schools tab; then, clicking on the School Report Card where each school was listed and included information on the School District Report Card. Board Member noted that other Districts around the State were using the model created in Indian River County.

IX. DISCUSSION

Mrs. Zorc requested a cost breakdown of how many employees were attending meetings outside of the District and what the costs were to attend those meetings. Dr. Rendell said that he should have all information ready by tomorrow. Dr. Rendell explained the travel authorization process within the District. He also noted valuable information obtained from attending professional conferences. Board Members talked about misinformation that was published in the newspaper regarding travel. Dr. Rendell said that they reviewed the travel process against the statements made in the newspaper articles and found nothing wrong with the process utilized by School District Staff. Mrs. Zorc also mentioned the discussion at the afternoon Discussion Session regarding the need for an Audit Committee and an outside Auditor to work directly with the District School Board. Mrs. Zorc reported on her meetings with Departments within the District Office.

Mrs. Justice talked about the discussion the Board had with the Superintendent at the Discussion Session regarding the creation of a Strategic Plan for the District. She hoped that the Board Auditor would work with the Board during that process. She asked the community to support the School Board in the mission to education and inspire every student to be successful.

Chairman Searcy brought up the need to hold exit interviews. Dr. Fritz said that they send an automatic electronic exit survey that goes to the employees' email address, unanimously. He said that face-to-face interviews would be implemented this year for "stay interviews". Board Members brought up issues received from schools regarding school issues; such as, teacher evaluations, need for reasonable school supply lists, Principals not listening to teachers, Principal evaluations, mandated testing, etc.

X. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER MATTERS

Mrs. Justice thanked the Gifford Youth Orchestra students for their performance. She reported on the Teacher and Employees of the Year recognition event. Mrs. Justice talked about the upcoming Literacy Week (January 23-27) and invited everyone to read at a school. She said that there would be a Kickoff Reading Event at Vero Beach Elementary School, with numerous reading programs being held throughout the District. Mrs. Justice said that on Friday, January 27, at 9:30 a.m. there would be a "Drop and Read" event with participation from all schools, facilities, and staff. Mrs. Justice also spoke about the January 14 fundraiser for Vero Beach High School's Orchestra trip to Austria to perform.

Mrs. Simchick thanked Flynn Fidgeon, Public Information Officer, for keeping the Board and the public up to date on events affecting the School District. She spoke to the County owned baseball property that was for sale and an opportunity to exchange property that the County needed for sidewalks in the north county. Mrs. Simchick recognized teachers and their frustration. She said that student safety was also needed, proportionate to the school.

Mrs. Zorc thanked Mrs. Cannon and the teachers who spoke tonight. She said that they were one of the most valuable assets that the District had and encouraged them to continue to write letters to her. Mrs. Zorc said that the ballfields would be a valuable property asset for the School District. She said that if the public wanted to contact her, they could call Miss Stang at the Board Office for her email address.

Chairman Searcy reported on an upcoming Value Adjustment Board Meeting to elect a Chairman or Vice Chairman.

XI. INFORMATION AGENDA

No information items

XII. SUPERINTENDENT'S CLOSING

Dr. Rendell, in closing, talked about the upcoming Martin Luther King Day Parade. Schools, students, and staff would be participating in the parade. Dr. Rendell and his Cabinet would be participating in the parade, riding in a school bus. If Board Members wanted to participate, we could advertise their attendance.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT – Chairman Searcy

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:04 p.m.