

The District School Board of Indian River County met on January 24, 2017, at 6:02 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, Vice Chairman Shawn R. Frost, 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. Prior to the meeting, an invocation was given by Pastor Bob Bremer from Pillar Church.

Business Meeting Minutes

- I. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Searcy.
Chairman Searcy requested a moment of silence for the Fritz and Johnson families regarding the passing of Harold L. Johnson; and for the family of Dianne T. Falvo, who faithfully represented the Teachers Union of Indian River County for many years as the Treasure Coast Service Unit Director.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG AND PRESENTATION OF COLORS BY: Vero Beach High School’s Air Force Junior ROTC Detachment 043 under the Direction of Wade E. Dues, Chief Master Sergeant (Retired), Aerospace USAF Science Instructor
- III. ADOPTION OF ORDERS OF THE DAY
Dr. Rendell requested to remove from the Agenda Action Items F, G, and H. Chairman Searcy called for a motion to adopt the Orders of the Day. Mr. Frost moved approval of the Orders of the Day, with the removal of Action Items F, G, and H. Mrs. Simchick seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.
- IV. PRESENTATIONS
 - A. Casual for a Cause, Veteran’s Council of Indian River County – Dr. Rendell**
Students, teachers, and staff raised over \$3,000 for the Veterans Council of Indian River County from the Casual for a Cause dress down day in November.
 - B. School Related Employee of the Year – Dr. Rendell**
Jennifer Riddick, Vero Beach Elementary School’s Student Support Specialist was recognized by the District School Board and Superintendent as the 2017 District Wide Employee of the Year.
 - C. Teacher of the Year – Dr. Rendell**
Katelyn Fiori, Vero Beach Elementary School’s 4th Grade Teacher was recognized by the District School Board and Superintendent as the 2018 District Wide Teacher of the Year.

D. Star Superintendent Award Finalist – Mrs. Falardeau

Dr. Rendell was recognized for being a Consortium of Florida Education Foundation’s Statewide STAR Superintendent Finalist by Gifford Youth Achievement Center Executive Director Angelia Perry, Education Foundation of IRC Executive Director Cynthia Falardeau, and The Learning Alliance CEO Barbara Hammond.

E. Musical Rendition

Sebastian River High School Chorus performed under the direction of Larry Stanley.

F. Short Video on School Initiatives

Celebrating Literacy Week video from Vero Beach Elementary School. Also noted was the “Stop, Drop, and Read” activity that was to be held on Friday, January 27, 2017, throughout the School District.

V. CITIZEN INPUT

No Citizen Input requests were received.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mrs. Zorc moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Mr. Frost seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.

A. Approval of Minutes – Dr. Rendell

1. Special Meeting held 12/21/2016.
2. Discussion Session held 1/10/2017.
3. Business Meeting held 1/10/2017.

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 Out of Field Report – Dr. Fritz

Approval was recommended for the attached Out-of-Field Teachers Report for the second semester. The Report included teachers who were out-of-field for course work, not Highly Qualified, or who were out-of-field or out of compliance for ESOL. A copy of the Report was available prior to the meeting. Superintendent recommended approval.

D. Approval of Donations – Mr. Morrison

1. Sebastian River High School received a donation in the amount of \$2,500 from the Sebastian Exchange Club Foundation. The funds would be used for the Chum Bucket Program at Sebastian River High School.

2. Dodgertown Elementary School received a donation in the amount of \$1,000 from the Community Church. The funds would be used to purchase books for the needy students of Dodgertown Elementary School.

Superintendent recommended approval.

VII. ACTION AGENDA

A. Approval to Purchase Additional Tablet PCs and Tablet PC Carts from United Data Technologies (UDT) through the OCPS RFP1508150 Contract – Mr. Green

This request was to grant the authority for the Superintendent to issue purchase orders as per the terms listed below. UDT would provide the District with tablet PCs and tablet PC carts. These will be used for the purposes of instructional technology, delivering digital curriculum, and for delivering online assessments. This purchase would include 15 complete carts as requested by various schools through their school-based technology needs assessment. The carts would be distributed as follows: Vero Beach High School - FLC (2), Sebastian River Middle School (3), Storm Grove Middle School (3), Beachland Elementary (1), Fellsmere Elementary (2), Glendale Elementary (1), Indian River Academy (1), Osceola Magnet (1) and Rosewood Magnet (1). The cost impact would be \$242,750.55 and the quotes were attached. This would be funded through the 0.6 voter approved millage. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mr. Frost moved approval to purchase additional tablet PCs and tablet PC carts from United Data Technologies (UDT) through the OCPS RFP1508150 contract. Mrs. Simchick seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.

B. Approval to Accept Internal Accounts Audit Report for Fiscal Year that Ended June 30, 2016 – Mr. Morrison

The annual Internal Accounts Audit for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2016, had been completed by Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines and Frank. Incorporated within the Internal Account Audit Report were the Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters as completed. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mrs. Simchick moved approval to accept Internal Accounts Audit Report for Fiscal Year that ended on June 30, 2016. Mr. Frost seconded the motion. Mr. Morrison responded to questions from Board Members. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion, with a 5-0 vote.

C. Approval to Accept the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP), Full-Time Equivalent Student Enrollment (FTE) and Student Transportation Audit Report #2017-085 for Fiscal Year that Ended June 30, 2015 – Mr. Morrison

Approval was requested to accept the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP), Full-Time Equivalent Student Enrollment (FTE) and Student Transportation Audit Report #2017-085 for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015, completed by the Auditor General, State of Florida. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mrs. Simchick moved approval to accept the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP), Full-Time Equivalent Student Enrollment (FTE) and Student Transportation Audit Report #2017-085 for Fiscal Year that ended on June 30, 2015. Mrs. Zorc seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, with a 5-0 vote.

D. Approval to Accept Annual Operational Audit Report #2017-095 for Fiscal Year that Ended June 30, 2016 – Mr. Morrison

Approval was requested to accept the Annual Operational Audit Report 2017-095 for the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2016, completed by the Auditor General, State of Florida. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mr. Frost moved approval to accept the Annual Operational Audit Report #2017-095 for Fiscal Year that ended on June 30, 2016. Mrs. Justice seconded the motion. Dr. Rendell and Mr. Morrison answered questions regarding the self-insured health insurance deficit payments. Mr. Morrison said that included in an agreement with the State was that the District would create a policy similar to the fund balance policy; whereby, the School District would set a minimum fund balance threshold at which point the Superintendent would bring recommendations to the Board for a put back plan. In answer to a Board Member's question, Mr. Morrison said that recent figures in the health insurance claims show a downward trend; however, it was too soon to give a complete claims picture. Dr. Fritz reported that they should have better predictions by the end of March. Other questions were in the area of scholarship disbursements, student attendance records, direct deposit access, and Workforce Education spending plan. With no further questions, the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion, with a 5-0 vote.

E. Approval to Accept Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) #2017-067 for Fiscal Year that Ended June 30, 2016 – Mr. Morrison

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2016, had been completed by the State of Florida Auditor General. Incorporated within the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report were the Independent Auditor's Report on Financial Statements, the Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program, and Report on Internal Control over compliance required by the Uniform Guidance. Superintendent recommended approval.

Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mrs. Simchick moved approval to accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) #2017-067 for Fiscal Year that ended on June 30, 2016. Mrs. Zorc seconded the motion. Board Members were given an opportunity to ask questions and discuss the CAFR with Mr. Morrison. Board Members voted unanimously in favor of the motion, with a 5-0 vote.

F. Approval to Increase Purchase Order Authority for Specific Vendors for Routine Recurring Products and/or Services - Mr. Morrison

Removed from the Agenda.

G. Approval to Renew RFP #2015-12 for Programming, Service, and Repair of Andover BAS Systems with Delta Automation, Inc., as the Primary Vendor and MC2, Inc., as the Secondary Vendor - Mr. Morrison

Removed from the Agenda.

H. Approval to Renew RFP #2016-12 for Low Voltage Contractors - Mr. Morrison

Removed from the Agenda.

Dr. Rendell spoke to the three Action (F, G, H) items that he requested to remove. Board Members asked questions and discussed privatization of services as it related to the Communication Workers of America (CWA) contract.

I. Approval of Budget Amendment – Mr. Morrison

This request was for approval of the following budget amendment for fiscal year ending June 30, 2017:

Amendment #1 - General Fund - September-December 2016

Superintendent recommended approval.

Mr. Morrison gave Board Members a report titled, "Florida Education Finance Program 2016-2017 Third Calculation from Office of Funding and Financial Reporting". Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mrs. Simchick moved approval of the Budget Amendment #1 General Fund dated September-December 2016. Mr. Frost seconded the motion. Board Members spoke to the motion. Mr. Morrison responded to Board questions. He said that as requested by the Board, there would be a mid-year presentation on the budget for this school year. With no further questions, the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion, with a 5-0 vote.

J. Approval of 2017-2018 Instructional Calendar – Dr. Fritz

Current Florida Statute required District Administration to submit a school calendar for approval by the District’s governing body. The submitted 2017-2018 Calendar reflected District priorities for ensuring effective instruction and provided seamless delivery of school support services throughout the year. The presented Calendar was the work-product of the Instructional Calendar Committee, a collaborative team comprised of representatives of relevant stakeholder groups. Over the course of several months, the Committee used an iterative process to draft and refine potential school year calendars. Each successive draft reflected the addition of pertinent stakeholder feedback and the results of an online survey. The presented recommendation was reflective of student and family needs, teacher and administrator suggestions, and District priorities and requirements. Superintendent recommended approval.

Dr. Rendell talked about feedback from the “draft” Calendar that resulted in changes to the Calendar. Chairman Searcy called for a motion. Mrs. Justice moved approval of the 2017-2018 Instructional Calendar. Mrs. Simchick seconded the motion. Dr. Rendell noted a correction to remove Wednesday, March 21, as March 13 was the true end of the third quarter. He requested to have the motion include the correction. Dr. Rendell addressed a question regarding emergency days. Mrs. Justice withdrew her motion and proposed a new motion noting the correction to remove Wednesday, March 21, from the Calendar. Mrs. Simchick withdrew her second and seconded the new motion, with the removal of March 21. Board Member asked about possible adjustments that may need to be made after negotiations with the Teachers’ Union. Dr. Fritz explained that he did not anticipate having any changes to the start and ending dates. Dr. Rendell and Dr. Fritz said that the start time and end time was not likely to affect the start dates and end dates. Dr. Rendell confirmed that the Student Council reviewed the Instructional Calendar. Chairman Searcy called for a vote. Board Members voted unanimously in favor of the motion, with a 5-0 vote.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Rendell introduced Robert Michael, Director of Physical Plant. Mr. Morrison spoke to his extensive experience in the areas of physical plant. Dr. Rendell talked about the Martin Luther King Holiday events that included participation of schools, students, parents, and staff. He also talked about Literacy Week events that began with a kickoff at Vero Beach Elementary School, with several community members participating. On Friday, a Drop Everything and Read event would take place throughout the District from 9:30 to 10 a.m.

Mr. Green talked about the new FOCUS application. He explained how parents and students could download the application to their cell phone devices. Courses, grades, attendance, and a more information button was included for additional information such as homework. Non-account holders could view the twitter feeds and other customized links such as transportation and virtual backpack. Mr. Green encourage parents and students to sign on as a quick way to get information without signing onto the webpage.

IX. DISCUSSION

A. Grants and Grant Opportunities – Mrs. Zorc

Board Members discussed grant fund opportunities and the feasibility of utilizing outside grant writers, in turn for a percentage. Dr. Rendell said that he would find out some information on what companies were out there and bring that information back to the Board.

B. Discussion Sessions – Mr. Frost

It was noted that the purpose of the afternoon Discussion Session was to give Board Members an opportunity to talk about topics of interest and to give the Superintendent a consensus as to whether the Board was interested in having more information on a particular topic. The Board talked about having discussion included as part of the regular Business Meetings to ensure that there was an opportunity for the viewing public, teachers, and parents to hear/witness the discussion. Mrs. D’Agresta said that it was not required by law to come to a consensus on this issue by placing it on a business meeting for a vote; however, she would recommend that it be done that way to properly document the decision of the Board. Mrs. Simchick requested an Action item for the February Business Meeting to discontinue the afternoon Discussion Sessions. Chairman Searcy announced that he would cancel the next (February 14) Discussion Session. Board Members briefly discussed whether there would be a need to start Business Meetings earlier, due to the added discussion.

X. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER MATTERS

Mrs. Justice acknowledged and thanked the donators listed under Consent. She participated in the Martin Luther King Day Parade and reported on schools participation. Mrs. Justice thanked those who participated in the Literacy Week Kickoff at Vero Beach Elementary School. She also noted the “Drop Everything and Read” event that was held on Friday, January 27. Mrs. Justice thanked staff who answered questions and met with her prior to business meetings.

Mrs. Simchick personally thanked Mrs. Riddick, School District School-Related Employee of the Year, for personally purchasing headphones for students. She also thanked Mr. Stanley, whose students from Sebastian River High School performed tonight.

Mrs. Zorc said that she appreciated all the invitations to school events. She said that she would begin meeting with Principals. Mrs. Zorc said that she was looking forward to being a guest reader at Glendale Elementary School. She thanked Dr. Rendell for the information he had provided to prepare her for meetings.

Mr. Frost gave an update on legislative activities in Tallahassee. He said that Legislators were given an exercise in cutting budgets. Mr. Frost said that for those who were anticipating an increase in the education budget, there would not be an increase. Other issues that may come up during the Session included the issue of VAM “Value Added Model” and Best and Brightest Scholarships. He mentioned that this was “School Choice Week”. Mr. Frost reported that he participated in Literacy Week at Vero Beach Elementary School.

Mr. Searcy reported on his attendance at the Value Adjustment Board Meeting. He talked about the Treasure Coast Elementary School’s vegetable garden. Mr. Searcy encourage the community to visit schools.

XI. INFORMATION AGENDA

A. Financial Reports for Month ending November 2016 - Mr. Morrison

Attached were the Financial Reports for the month ending November 30, 2016.

B. Recurring Vendor 2nd Quarter Report of Released Purchase Orders - Mr. Morrison

Pursuant to Action Agenda Item E. Business Meeting June 28, 2016, staff, hereby, presented the second quarter, fiscal year 2016-17 report of released purchase orders for all vendors included on the Recurring Vendor list. This report was updated on a perpetual basis and ensured that previously approved expenditure amounts were not exceeded. Attached was backup.

XII. SUPERINTENDENT’S CLOSING

No closing.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT – Chairman Searcy

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:17 p.m.