

The District School Board of Indian River County met on March 12, 2019, at 12:00 p.m. The School Board Discussion Session was held in the Joe N. Idlette, Jr. 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 Laura Zorc, Vice Chairman Tiffany M. Justice, and Board Members: Teri Barenborg, Jacqueline Rosario, and Dr. Mara Schiff. Dr. Mark J. Rendell, Superintendent of Schools; and Suzanne D’Agresta, School Board Attorney, were also present.

Board Discussion Session Minutes

- I. Board Discussion Session was called to order by Chairman Zorc at 12:00 p.m.

Chairman Zorc prefaced the meeting with advising the Board Members and audience, there would be a 15-minute break at 2:00 p.m. and the discussion time for each item would be 20 minutes. She advised everyone that Mrs. D’Agresta would advise the speaker three minutes before their time was up. This would allow them to make a closing statement. Chairman Zorc added that by starting the meeting one hour earlier, it should give them ample time to get through each member’s two items. Dr. Schiff also asked that they try to make a resolution to the items, if possible. Chairman Zorc did say that some items may need to be brought back to re-discuss.

- II. ITEMS PLACED ON AGENDA BY BOARD MEMBERS

1. Tiffany Justice

- a) Board Protocol

Mrs. Justice shared some samples as a starting point. She asked for these to be reviewed and suggestions made for items to be agreed upon. Then they could be brought to a Business Meeting to be voted upon. Through much discussion, Mrs. D’Agresta pointed out 0123 of the By Laws – Standards for Boardmanship.

- b) School Start Time

Mrs. Justice said she wanted to bring this back to the Board Members and to get a consensus. Mrs. Justice will send links to Mrs. Esplen, for her to share with the other Board Members. They will, in turn, provide edits and Mrs. Esplen will combine them for a future discussion session.

2. Laura Zorc

- a) Follow up on General Counsel and Other Legal Counsel

Chairman Zorc explained the Audit Committee Recommended putting out an RFP every two to three years. After discussing the process, the Board came to a consensus for the General Practice/SCREMP search. Direction was provided to the Superintendent.

- b) Legislative Plan
Chairman Zorc reviewed the items that she and Dr. Rendell put together. She said this would be added to the next Business Meeting to be voted upon.
- 3. Teri Barenborg
 - a) Climate Issues on Our Campuses and in Departments
Mrs. Barenborg started off with explaining she wanted a summary on four areas and apologized for the amount of paper that was produced. That wasn't her intention. She asked questions about some of the areas. Dr. Rendell explained that HR collects all of the exit interviews along with the stay survey's and how they are used.
 - b) Absentee Committees
Mrs. Barenborg asked what was being done? She asked for feedback. Dr. Rendell said the Attendance Committee at both high schools show 90% or higher. Along with the Graduation Coaches, Brooke Flood, Eric Seymour, and LaVonne Walker participate in this process.
- 4. Jacqueline Rosario
 - a) Superintendent's Evaluation Timeline
Mrs. Rosario asked to bring Dr. Rendell's 2nd Amendment of his Employment Agreement to attention along with his Timeline. She shared that the Timeline for this year was not created and the Board needs to agree to his Goals, Objectives, etc. She also discussed his contract being up on 6/30/2020 and according to his agreement, they need to vote on or before 7/21/2019 as to extend or decline his contract going to 2021. After a few comments, there was a consensus to bring this forward at a Business Meeting in July before the deadline.
 - b) Personnel File Policy
Mrs. Rosario reviewed back up from other school districts. She requested a written policy be done to follow State Statute. It was discussed to have the Board Attorney review the draft language, after which time, it will be brought back for consensus.
- 5. Mara Schiff, Ph.D.
 - a) School Board Strategic Plan: Board Vision, Objectives, Strategy, Collective Priorities, and Responsibilities
Dr. Schiff suggested putting together Board Goals, as a collective body, with what they wish to accomplish, along with accountability. She asked, who do we want to be as a Board? It was suggested to review some framework samples and initiatives.

Chairman Zorc called for a 15-minute break at 1:41. The Discussion Session was reconvened at 2:00.

b) Creating a SDIRC Citizen Academy

Dr. Schiff would like to see this academy created and invite the public. Mrs. Justice said that many of the other School Districts do this. Have the research done and bring it back to possibly a June workshop. Mrs. Justice suggested this be done after the budget process is complete, possibly Spring of 2020.

III. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Justice

MPO Meeting – Citizen Position being filled is pleasing to everyone.

VAB – Property Values

Mrs. Barenborg

Attended the Fellsmere Planning and Zoning. Indian River County Planning and Zoning was cancelled.

Mrs. Rosario

VAB – Meets on 3/25

Dr. Schiff

County Commission – reached out and spoke to my district person.

Each of the Board Members also discussed the Sheriff's Budget Workshop in July that they were asked to attend.

IV. ITEMS PLACED ON AGENDA BY SUPERINTENDENT – Dr. Rendell

Nothing to report

V. ADJOURNMENT – Chairman Zorc

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:58 p.m.