

The Indian River County District School Board met on Tuesday, January 24, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. The workshop was held in the Teacher Education Center located at the Central Administrative Offices, 1990 25th Street, Vero Beach, Florida. School Board Members attending were: Chairman Jeff Pegler, Vice Chairman Carol Johnson, and Board Members: Matthew McCain, Karen Disney-Brombach, and Claudia Jiménez. Dr. Frances J. Adams, Superintendent of Schools, and School Board Attorney Suzanne D'Agresta were also present.

### **CURRICULUM UPDATE WORKSHOP**

- I. Called Workshop to Order – Chairman Pegler
- II. Purpose of the Workshop – Dr. Adams  
Dr. Adams stated that Curriculum and Instruction had a lot of information to share with the District School Board. She turned the workshop over to Mrs. D'Albora.
- III. Curriculum Update – Mrs. D'Albora  
Mrs. D'Albora stated that many changes were the result of the last Legislative Session. She introduced presenters and reviewed the Agenda that included High School Grades, Assessment Updates, FCAT Cut Scores, State Assessment Schedule, PERT, Data Forensics, Progress monitoring (Benchmark), Teen Dating Violence Program, and Unified Dress Code.

#### **High School State Grades**

Ms. Idlette-Bennett stated that all three high schools (Vero Beach High School, Sebastian River High School, and Indian River Charter High School) earned enough points to receive an "A" grade. However, the high schools received a "B" grade because a school earning an "A" by points, but its students in the lowest quartile did not demonstrate Adequate Progress, the final grade was reduced by one letter grade; and, under the new at-risk graduation cohort requirements, if a school earned an "A" by points, but at least 75% of its "at-risk" students did not graduate in four years, the final grade would be reduced by one letter grade. Ms. Idlette-Bennett reviewed the steps that the District was taking that included site visits, training, and review of secondary reading curriculum.

Mr. Green reviewed the new FCAT Cut Scores standards, with scale scores. He said that the new scale had much more consistency between the levels. Mr. Green explained that the new standards would be dramatic to parents the first year because under the new scale, 100 students last year would not have made the graduation requirement. Mr. Green explained the data using last year's scores as an example.

Board Members were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mrs. Lane explained that the intent of the changes was to raise the bar for Florida and to show that Florida students were college ready and could compete.

### **P.E.R.T. (Postsecondary Education Readiness Test)**

Ms. Rountree explained the new 2011 college readiness test that was aligned with the Postsecondary Readiness Competencies that Florida's university faculties have identified as necessary for success in entry-level college credit coursework. This test would replace the CPT (College Placement Test). Ms. Rountree presented a matrix of required testing. She said that February was the only date they could find for students to take the test. Ms. Rountree said that this year was also the first year for course credit testing. She said that the purpose of course credit testing was to eliminate FCAT. The courses and text book for P.E.R.T. have not been developed. Ms. Rountree explained data forensics—focus on security and validity.

### **Benchmark Updates**

Mrs. Lane, Math Specialist; Ms. Rockwood, Science Specialist; and Ms. Shaw, Reading Specialist, reviewed the assessment process for testing. Major components of publishing tests included the source, validation, editing, and revision of test items. The production of testing included the assignment of tests and print scantrons; and the printing, organizing, and delivery of the tests.

### **Teen Dating Update**

Mrs. Gielow gave an update regarding the new Teen Dating Violence and Abuse Prohibited Board Policy #5.40. She reported that procedures were being developed and would be provided to Principals. Ms. Long stated that P.E. Teachers and Health Educators were currently preparing the curriculum to be presented to students in grades 7-12 this semester. The Department of Education was preparing the curriculum to be implemented in 2012-2013.

### **Unified Dress Code Update**

Mrs. Gielow reported on the status of the district-wide unified dress code for all elementary schools. Mrs. Gielow stated that research was not available to show that dress codes had a significant part in student learning success but the soft effect in the areas of discipline and attendance were notable. Mr. Kramek spoke on behalf of the middle school Principals. He stated that at the beginning, 90% of the PTA Members were not in favor of a unified dress code for middle schools. Mr. Kramek also noted that by Florida Statute, the change must be submitted by vote to parents with a 66 2/3 in favor of the unified dress code. He said that schools had a lot to deal with but would follow Board direction. Board Members were given an opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions. Chairman Pegler stated that at the present time the Board would leave the middle school dress code as it currently was and focus on curriculum.

## **IV. ADJOURNMENT – Chairman Pegler**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:15 a.m.