

The Indian River County District School Board met on Tuesday, January 31, 2013, at 9:45 a.m. The information session was held in the Eagle's Nest located at the Alternative Education Center at 4680 28th Court, Vero Beach, FL 32967. School Board Members attending were: Chairman Carol Johnson, Vice Chairman Claudia Jiménez, and Board Members: Jeff Pegler, and Matthew McCain. Dr. Frances J. Adams, Superintendent of Schools was also present. Board Member Karen Disney-Brombach and School Board Attorney Suzanne D'Agresta were not present.

Location: Alternative Education Center, Eagle's Nest, at 4680 28th Court, Vero Beach, FL 32967

Annual Legislative Summit Information Session

Note: Rick Kendust and Curt Siegmeister were not present.

- I. Called Session to Order – Chairman Johnson
- II. Welcome and Introductions – Chairman Johnson
Local Legislative Delegates that attended were:
State Representative Deborah Mayfield
Andrew Liebert, Legislative Aide
Curt Siegmeister, Governor Scott's Regional Representative
Rick Kendust, Legislative Aide for Senator Thad Altman
Carrie Lira, Legislative Aide for Senator Joe Negron

Chairman Johnson introduced attendees:
Jorge Lugo, Indian River County Education Association Representative
Katrina McMahan, President of Indian River County PTA
Rosemarie Wilson, Citizen
Coleen Wixon, Reporter from Vero Beach, Treasure Coast Scripps
- III. Purpose of the Summit – Dr. Adams
Dr. Adams talked about the District's goal to make students successful and the need to have the State's support to accomplish the goal.
- IV. Presentations – Chairman Johnson
Mr. Pegler spoke of the success of the District's Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) program in Indian River County. Dr. Adams stated that there was a waiting list; therefore, funding was an issue in order to serve additional students. Mr. Pegler stated that it was important that the State ensure that private providers had a constringent program, with accountable to the State. Dr. Adams noted that the funding for public VPK came from the Early Learning Coalition and not from FEFP funding. Dr. Adams stated that to qualify for the same funding as regular students, the three and four year-old-students must be identified with some form of handicap. Mr. Morrison said that funding was cut in 2010-2011 and

was not restored. He said that the District was managing but could not grow the program without additional funds. Mr. Morrison noted to the Legislators that the way it was written now, charter schools were being funded using a matrix. That same matrix was taken away from public schools. Charter schools were being paid twice as much for Exceptional Student Education services, when compared to public schools for the same student category.

Mr. McCain talked about the vital role that the vocational/technical certified program had in providing services to the community and life skills for students who do not attend college. He gave testimony from a local doctor and mechanic who attested to the high-quality skills obtained by students they hired from the high school vocation/technical programs.

Chairman Johnson addressed concerns with Class Size Legislation. She stated that the District met Class Size by hiring 160 teachers, at a time with virtually no student growth, and enlarged existing schools rather than building new schools. Chairman Johnson noted that charter schools had only to meet the average class size, rather than classroom by classroom size. Dr. Adams said that the District was asking for a level playing ground that was flexible for all students.

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Mr. Morrison gave the history of the taxes and the technical upgrades required to comply with State mandates. He also spoke of sequestration. Mr. Morrison also noted that class size was implemented at the same time that categorical funds were taken away.

Dr. Adams presented a video on Moonshot Moment, a Partnership with the Indian River County Learning Alliance. The goal was to have all third-grade students reading on grade level by 2018. Ms. Jiménez stated that the program engaged the entire community and tied everything together for a common goal. She said that it was cost effective, self-sustaining, prevented learning problems later on, and forward thinking. Dr. Adams talked about the FACES campaign, "Help me to read, it changes who I become".

V. District School Board's 2013 Legislative Priorities – Mrs. Disney-Brombach
Not addressed.

VI. Open Discussion between the District School Board and Local Legislative Delegation Members
The Local Legislative Delegation and Representatives were given an opportunity to ask questions and respond to information presented.

VII. ADJOURNMENT – Chairman Johnson

With no further information, the session adjourned at approximately 11:20 a.m.