

**Indian River County School Board
Resolution #2015-07 Concerning Accountability**

WHEREAS, the Indian River County School Board believes in accountability to sustain quality instruction and student learning gains; and

WHEREAS, valid, reliable and consistent statewide measures that reasonably impact instructional time are crucial to ensure all students are engaged and prepared for success in college, workforce and life; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) has not sufficiently field tested the new Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) with Florida students to responsibly determine learning gains and calculate school grades; and

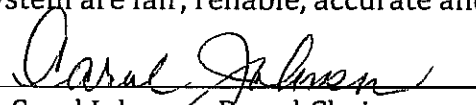
WHEREAS, over thirty (30) changes to the accountability system over the last three years have caused parents, communities and educators to lose confidence in the school grading system and public schools; and

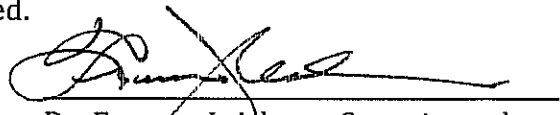
WHEREAS, FLDOE did not release item specifications for the new assessments in a timely manner to properly ensure teacher preparation, instructional plan adjustments and alignment of progress monitoring tools prior to the start of the 2014-2015 school year; and -

WHEREAS, over-reliance on Florida's high stakes standardized testing is undermining Article IX of the Constitution of Florida with regard to the adequate provision for a uniform, efficient, high quality system of public schools; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Indian River County calls on the Florida Legislature, in cooperation with the Governor and FLDOE, to provide a realistic transition to FSA implementation by using the 2014-2015 FSA results to begin to establish baseline data without issuing school grades or tying results to teacher and principal evaluations, retention of students at the third grade level and graduation requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Board of Indian River County, calls on the State Board of Education, in cooperation with the Governor and FLDOE, to empower a truly representative panel of stakeholders, especially educators and parents who represent all of Florida to assure that all segments of the accountability system are fair, reliable, accurate and funded.


Carol Johnson, Board Chairman


Dr. Frances J. Adams, Superintendent

October 7, 2014

Date