



To: School Board, Sheriff and County Commissioner Candidates for the 2020
IRC Election

From: Moonshot Community Action Network Leadership Council (MCAN)

Date: July 8, 2020

Re: MCAN Candidate Forum Invitation

Ten years ago, a small but determined group of concerned citizens realized that there were far too many struggling readers in Indian River County. They courageously set out to transform our community's future by fostering a culture where 90% of children were ready for Kindergarten and could read on level by the end of third grade. What started as a Moonshot Goal has become a movement that has turned Indian River County into a **Moonshot Community** -- one that is transforming lives of young children and their families through literacy.

Each year, Indian River County continues to receive national attention for our Moonshot work, from a PBS News Hour special in 2014 to annual Pacesetter recognition from the Campaign for Grade Level Reading. Over 125 local organizations and community leaders support the Moonshot Moment. Together, they are working to build a thriving community where children have the skills to be successful in the 21st Century and Indian River County can prosper.

Our Moonshot literacy movement is led by the Moonshot Community Action Network (MCAN). MCAN meets monthly for leadership development, networking, and work on six bold ideas that are focused on reaching the 90% literacy goal. Our collective investment in the County represents over \$6 million per year.

We would like to invite you to share your views and commitment to the Moonshot Moment at our July 29, 2020 MCAN meeting. We will segment

the meeting into three time sessions, so each OFFICE will receive their preset time (such as 9:30 – 10:00 am) after we receive your RSVP.

What: MCAN Candidate Forum Invitation

Why: Tell us how you will support the Moonshot Moment

Where: Zoom meeting

When: Wednesday, July 29, 2020

Time: 9:30 am - 11:00 am (each OFFICE will have a preset time slot)

How: You will each receive the same pre-determined question two weeks prior to the event, and each candidate will be given about 4 minutes to respond. (The allotted time will depend on how many candidates RSVP to participate.) Prior to July 16, each participating candidate must please supply a 1-2 paragraph bio to be shared in advance with our MCAN members. **The Zoom session will be recorded and shared on our social media/other online sites after the meeting.**

Next Steps: By July 16, please send your RSVP to attend or to decline this invitation to Marie O'Brien, Coordinator of the MCAN group. MOBrien@MoonshotMoment.org. Please include your contact information of email, phone and bio.

To learn more about the Moonshot Moment Literacy Movement and the history of our Moonshot Community Action Network, visit our website, moonshotmoment.org. The links on the home page will provide you with information on our “MCAN Six Bold Ideas,” and several facts about the importance of literacy in a community.

Thank you for your desire to improve and support the residents of Indian River County, Florida. We look forward to learning how you plan to support our youngest citizens and their families — so that we may together offer the promise of a better future for our entire community.

Sincerely,
2020 MCAN Leadership Council and Citizen Leaders

MCAN Citizen Leaders:

Liz Crowther

Marybeth Cunningham - Chairman
Indian River Hospital District

Susan Donovan - Board Chair,
Childcare Resources of Indian River

Wanda Lincoln - Chairperson, Quail
Valley Charities

Ray Oglethorpe - Past president of
AOL and Chairman of the Board of
The Learning Alliance

Jeff Pickering - President and CEO
of Indian River Community
Foundation

Hope Woodhouse - Ex-officio,
Former John's Island Service League
President

MCAN Leadership Council:

Dr. Fran Adams, retired
Superintendent of SDIRC

Andrea Berry, CEO of Healthy Start
of Indian River County

Shannon Bowman, CEO of Childcare
Resources of Indian River County

Meredith Egan, COO of United Way
of Indian River County

Barbara Hammond, Co-Founder and
CEO of The Learning Alliance (TLA)

Margaret Ingram, Founder and
Executive Director of the Science
Institute of Discovery, Inc. and former
FL Teacher of the Year

Dr. Judi Miller, retired CEO of Big
Brothers Big Sisters of St. Lucie,
Indian River and Okeechobee
Counties

Marie O'Brien, Manager of Moonshot
Community Connections – TLA

Liz Remington, Co-Founder and
Educational Consultant – TLA

Jessica Schmitt, Executive Director
of Literacy Services of IRC

Adam Schnell, Executive Director
and Founder of Ballet Vero Beach

Dr. Nivea Torres, Executive Director
of the Kindergarten Readiness
Collaborative