



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, October 22, 2019
RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400
BENTON COUNTY, RICHLAND, WASHINGTON

The Board of Directors of Richland School District No. 400 met for a regular meeting Tuesday, October 22, 2019, at 6:30 P.M. at the Administrative Service Center, 615 Snow Avenue, Richland, Washington. School Board President Rick Jansons presided. Board members present: Heather Cleary and Jill Oldson. Administrators present: Superintendent Rick Schulte, Deputy Superintendent Mike Hansen, Executive Director of Financial Services Rich Puryear, Assistant Superintendent K-5 and Assessment Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Tony Howard, Executive Director of Support Services Richard Krasner, Public Information Officer Ty Beaver, Executive Director of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Nicki Blake, Executive Director of Special Education Mandy Cathey, and District Counsel Galt Pettett.

The Board meeting was called to order at 3:45 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Interview Superintendent Search Firms)

The Board adjourned to executive session at 3:45 P.M. to discuss qualifications of an applicant for employment or review of performance of an employee (final actions must be taken in public and discussions affecting employees generally must be held in public) 42.30.110 (1) (g). The executive session was projected to last one hour and thirty minutes, with no action expected. Executive session ended at 5:24 P.M. The meeting was recessed until the regular meeting time.

The Board returned to the regular meeting at 6:34 P.M.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Roll Call-Rick Donahoe was excused.

1.3 Approval of Minutes (October 8, 2019)

It was moved by Jill Oldson and seconded by Heather Cleary that –

THE BOARD APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 8, 2019.

Vote: Cleary, yes; Oldson, yes; and Jansons, yes.

Motion was approved.

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS

2.1 Student Representative Report

Delaney Mayer, Holly Craven, and Zaina Ibrahim, Hanford High School Students, shared information from the recent Student/Superintendent Advisory Committee meeting including: concern regarding the 24 credit requirement, waivers for physical education requirements, and concern regarding graduation ceremonies and the number of speeches. Mr. Jansons stated the

Board is also trying to make changes to the 24 credit requirement and would appreciate the information shared at the meeting in writing to forward on to legislators.

2.2 Presentations/Recognitions

2.2.1 Sacajawea Elementary

Kindra Clayton, Principal, introduced Melissa Ferris, Assistant Principal, and honored Ellie Rosser, Communities in Schools Site Coordinator. Ms. Clayton shared Ms. Rosser is new this year and cares deeply about students and families. She attended home visits before school started, is involved with the Richland Fire Department reading program, and is starting a morning breakfast club for students. Ms. Rosser is a valued and trusted employee.

2.2.2 Jefferson Elementary

Derek O’Konek, Principal, introduced Stephenie Nondorf, Teacher, and Isla Fowler, Student, who has shown tremendous growth, both socially and academically, from last year to this year. Isla set goals for herself and offers to help teachers and others. She always completes her homework, treats people with kindness, always with a smile. She has made these changes in her home life as well.

2.3 Requests and Comments by Visitors (20 minute time limit)

Deanie Sullivan, 1857 Kingston Road, asked the Board to bring back the two hour Professional Learning Community (PLC) time from years ago. This allowed staff to meet once a month with staff from other buildings which she found valuable. Ms. Sullivan felt this collaboration is missing. She also suggested changing the day of the week from Friday to Wednesday.

Liz Cronin, 221 Brookwood Loop, shared her concern regarding special education plans not following students when they change schools and lack of training for teachers.

Lacey Kogen, 2314 Benton, shared her concern for student safety at Jefferson Elementary. Ms. Krogen advised education is being sacrificed while staff members are attending to behavior issues.

Scott Sintay, 368 Temple Meadow Lane, stated he is a volunteer with the Tri City Youth Choir. He shared his concern for the difficulty scheduling performances using District facilities and asked, as the new Richland High School Auditorium is being built, that the District have a top notch management team (additional technicians).

Rebecca Peterson, 1337 Haupt, also shared her concern with 504 plans not following students and stated this is a systems issue and students are not receiving the accommodations needed for their success.

3.0 BUSINESS

3.1 Boys & Girls Clubs Update

Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, reported this is the second year partnering with Boys and Girls Clubs for before and after school daycare. He advised last year the Boys and Girls Clubs served 275 students (daily average) at 11 school sites. This included two preschool programs offered at the Early Learning Center (ELC) and Jason Lee Elementary. The Boys & Girls Clubs also provided summer camps and daycare for 225 students spread over 5 sites.

These camps offered activities in STEM, science education, field trips, community events, community service, and hosted a variety of guest speakers.

A parent survey reported very positive results including:

- 99% of parents felt staff members were professional
- 98% of parents felt staff were friendly and make an effort to get to know students
- 87% of parents would recommend Boys and Girls Clubs to others

Mr. Moore advised site coordinators at each school are heavily involved within the schools and have built strong relationships with school staff. Many volunteer during the day and attend many school events.

Public Comment:

Rebecca Peterson, reported the collaboration between school staff and Boys and Girls Clubs has been very positive.

3.2 School Employee Benefit Board (SEBB) Transition

Clinton Sherman, Executive Director of Finance, shared the School Employees Benefits Board (SEBB) was created by House Bill 2242 during the 2017 legislative session. Their role was to design and approve insurance benefit plans for school employees and to establish eligibility criteria for participation in those insurance benefit plans. SEBB currently covers medical, dental, vision, long term disability and life insurance, as well as, supplemental policies for life insurance and long term disability. Mr. Sherman reported staff members are in the middle of the open enrollment period which ends November 15, 2019. He explained this has been a difficult change and involves all employees working at least 630 hours per year. Staff members have visited all schools to share information and help assist staff with online enrollment.

The impact of this unfunded legislative mandate has both positive and negative outcomes. Employees covering full family have mostly seen a substantial decrease in their out of pocket costs, while some employees only covering themselves have an out of pocket cost for the first time. One of the largest changes is the change in the offered Premera network that excludes Kadlec and Lourdes from being in-network providers.

Public Comment:

Matthew Bishop, 2105 North Steptoe Street, stated to be sure to research your doctors to be sure they are in-network providers before enrolling.

3.3 Facility Planning-Request for Qualifications (RFQ) *November 4, 2019; November 12, 2019

Dr. Schulte asked which Board members wanted to participate in the RFQ selection process? All members present stated they would like to attend if available. Richard Krasner, Executive Director of Support Services, and Caren Johnson, Director of Capital Projects, have arranged the interviews with the architect firms. There was a request for volunteers for the Facility Committee posted on the District website, with only six applications received so far. Board members were asked to encourage people in the community who might have a broad interest in this planning process.

Public Comment:

Miriam Bradshaw, 170 Hills West Way, stated the online application seemed to be geared toward those with facility expertise. Mr. Jansons stated this phase is mainly to find out what the community wants regarding facilities in the future. The Facilities Committee will go into more detail.

3.4 Superintendent Search Firm Selection

Mr. Jansons stated the District received proposals from three search firms: Ray and Associates, Hazard, Young and Attea, and Northwest Leadership. Interviews were conducted today before the Board meeting. Jill Oldson checked references and shared her input with Board members beforehand. Mr. Donahoe was unable to attend tonight's meeting, but shared his thoughts and preference with the Board earlier this week.

Public Comment:

Brandee Hogg, 1859 Birch Avenue, asked Board members to share their views and goals in finding a new superintendent. It is important for the new superintendent to facilitate solutions and listen to staff.

Mr. Jansons shared the firm will work with the Board as well as staff, parents and community members to decide what attributes, qualities, and characteristics are wanted, then go out and look for candidates with those qualities. After discussion, Mr. Jansons reported he will attempt to schedule a special meeting within the next few days when all members can attend to make the final selection.

Public Comment:

Rama Devagupta, 417 Adair Drive, asked that the process be comprehensive and transparent to gain trust, with the decision in a public meeting.

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA (approval by a single vote of the Board)

It was moved by Heather Cleary and seconded by Jill Oldson –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (4.1) THROUGH (4.4) INCLUDING A REVISED PERSONNEL ACTION.

Vote: Cleary, yes; Oldson, yes; and Jansons, yes.

Motion was approved.

4.1 Personnel Actions

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL:

RESIGNATIONS

Huntington, Annemarie, Paraeducator, effective 10/24/19

Perot, John Jr., Bus Driver, effective 10/14/19

Schmidt, Tena, Paraeducator, effective 10/10/19

Taylor, Valerie, Paraeducator, effective 10/01/2019

RETIREMENTS

Rhoten, Gaylene, Paraeducator, effective 11/01/2019

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL:

RESIGNATIONS

Maloy, Anne, Teacher, Jefferson Elementary 1st Grade effective 10/10/2019

FTE CHANGE

Simpson, Elise, Teacher, added .1 FTE music at Badger, now .7 FTE effective 10/25/2019

4.2 Enrollment Monthly Report

4.3 Policy No. 3423-Parental Administration of Marijuana for Medical Purposes

4.4 Warrant Approval

General Fund Warrant Nos. 10069601 through 10069698 for \$239,965.73

Nos. 51000698 through 51000705 for \$367,842.40

Nos. 71001183 through 71001201 for \$46,021.60

Nos. 10069701 through 10069773 for \$517,596.38

Nos. 51000706 through 510007111 for \$249,518.50

Nos. 71001202 through 71001218 for \$49,149.10

Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20001316 through 20001319 for \$894,717.30

Nos. 52000124 through 52000125 for \$718,582.57

Nos. 20001320 through 20001323 for \$3,022.23

Nos. 52000126 through 52000127 for \$242,581.36

Debt Services Fund Warrant No. 30000127 for \$750.00

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40006366 through 40006380 for \$15,120.12

No. 54000248 for \$126,641.25

Nos. 40006381 through 40006403 for \$25,635.87

Nos. 74000086 through 74000087 for \$6,385.00

Self-Insurance Fund Warrant Nos. 70000113 through 70000114 for \$6,150.75

No. 70000115 for \$495,840.78

5.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Dr. Schulte asked Board members to suggest topics for student advisory meetings if they would like any particular topics discussed.

Mr. Jansons would like to further discuss graduation ceremonies, physical education waivers, and dual credit opportunities.

Jill Oldson suggested discussing a change of credit amount for some classes.

6.0 BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

6.1 Strategic Plan-Draft

*Parent/Community Meetings-November 5, 2019; November 14, 2019

Rick Schulte attended the Tri Cities Connect Luncheon.

Jill Oldson reported calling references of the search firms and visited both Chief Joseph Middle School and Jefferson Elementary.

Rick Jansons attended the one act plays at Hanford High School.

Mr. Jansons will check with Rick Donahoe to set a time for a special meeting, possibly Friday, October 25, 2019. The special meeting will be publicized as required.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS