



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, February 25, 2020  
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, February 25, 2020, at 4:30 P.M. at the Administrative Service Center, 615 Snow Avenue, Richland, Washington. School Board President Rick Jansons presided. Board members present: Heather Cleary, Rick Donahoe, Kari Williams and Jill Oldson.

The Board meeting was called to order at 4:30 P.M.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel, Real Estate)**

The Board adjourned to executive session at 4:30 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) and acquisition of real estate, if public knowledge might increase the price 42.30.110 (1) (b). The executive session was projected to last two hours, with no action expected. Executive session ended at 6:30 P.M.

The Board returned to the regular meeting at 6:33 P.M.

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

**1.1 Pledge of Allegiance**

**1.2 Roll Call-All Here**

**1.3 Approval of Minutes (February 11, 2020)**

It was moved by Rick Donahoe and seconded by Heather Cleary that –

THE BOARD APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 11, 2020.

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

Motion was approved.

**2.0 COMMUNICATIONS**

**2.1 Student Representative Report-Postponed**

**2.2 Presentations/Recognitions-Jason Lee Elementary**

Debbie Whitney-Principal, introduced Liahna Rogers-Student. Ms. Whitney explained Liahna has been attending Jason Lee since kindergarten and is a highly motivated student, an eloquent writer and speaker, and organized donations for a “Buddy Bench” on the Jason Lee playground.

Richard Krasner introduced Joe Kovolyan, the newly hired Grounds Manager. Mr. Krasner shared his vast experience working in grounds management and several awards he received. Mr. Kovolyan is also Vice President of the Professional Grounds Managers’ Society (PGMS).

## **2.3 Requests and Comments by Visitors (20 minute time limit)-None**

### **3.0 BUSINESS**

#### **3.1 Construction Projects**

##### **3.1.1 Badger Mountain Elementary Construction Documents**

Caren Johnson, Director of Capital Projects, advised the Construction Document phase of both the Badger Mountain Elementary School and Richland High School Auditorium projects are now complete, including scope, schedule and budget. Final documents have been submitted to the Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJs) for review and permitting in preparation for bidding. Ms. Johnson asked for Board approval to move forward.

*Public Comment: None*

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

THE BOARD APPROVE THE 100% COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS INCLUDING SCOPE, SCHEDULE AND BUDGET AND AUTHORIZATION TO BID FOR THE BADGER MOUNTAIN CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

Vote: Cleary, yes; Donahoe, yes; Oldson, yes; Williams, yes; and Jansons, yes.  
Motion was approved.

##### **3.1.2 Richland High School Auditorium**

It was moved by Rick Donahoe and seconded by Kari Williams that –

THE BOARD APPROVE THE 100% COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS INCLUDING SCOPE, SCHEDULE AND BUDGET AND AUTHORIZATION TO BID FOR THE RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM PROJECT.

Vote: Cleary, yes; Donahoe, yes; Oldson, yes; Williams, yes; and Jansons, yes.  
Motion was approved.

#### **3.2 Boundary Committee-Revisions Fall 2021**

Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, explained Elementary #11 (Belmont Elementary) is scheduled to open in the fall of 2021-2022. This new facility will serve approximately 550 students in the West Richland area. Revising our current elementary boundaries is needed to determine which neighborhoods will attend the new Elementary #11 along with providing an opportunity to look district-wide at all elementary attendance areas and make any needed shifts. Mr. Moore shared the fall 2020 projections show our current South/West Richland schools operating over capacity, while the same projections show the current North/Central Richland schools operating under-capacity. The opening of Elementary #11 will help with overcrowding issues. The opening of the Dupontail Bridge will also require bus route changes.

Mr. Moore stated a boundary committee will be formed to examine boundary issues. Community meetings to gather input will begin this fall with the committee developing a recommendation to bring to the Board in December 2020. Board suggestions included:

- Bring multiple options to the board
- Attempt to keep neighborhoods together using major barriers as dividers
- Keep boundaries contiguous, logical
- Bus rides as short as possible-try for 20-25 minutes maximum
- Needs of students rather than bussing and adults
- Consider the future Badger Mountain South Elementary
- Feeder schools not a top priority
- Balance socio-economic and ethnic representation across schools if possible
- Communication ideas include:
  - staff/community survey, video presentation online

*Public Input-None*

### **3.3 Superintendent Search Update**

Hank Harris, HYA Search Consultant, reported beginning interviews will be held on March 6, 2020, with finalists interviews at the end of March. Mr. Harris asked Board members for input on the finalists' daylong interviews. Board input included meetings with:

- Cabinet/Senior leadership
- Central Office/TLC/Special Programs/IT staff
- REA/Teachers (schedule after school is dismissed)
- Classified staff meeting (schedule after school is dismissed)
- Public Forum-encourage participants to attend
- Current Superintendent
- Principals/Assistant Principals
- Dinner with Board members

Mr. Jansons reminded Board members that site visits to spend a day with candidate constituents will be scheduled for finalists. Possible attendees to include several Board members, an REA representative, a paraprofessional representative, a cabinet level person, and a principal, all to be decided at a later date. All agreed the process needs to be as transparent as possible. Board members will choose a maximum of three finalists. It was agreed that Board members would not attend the staff member group meetings with candidates. As much communication as possible (websites, PTA/PTO, Facebook, Twitter) needs to be publicized to staff, community members and the public to be as transparent as possible.

*Public Input:*

Nicki Sintay, 368 Temple Meadow Lane, stated she was glad Board members were not present at the focus group meetings. She felt there would be many people attending all three finalist meetings. She asked that meetings for staff input be after school hours.

Heather Hadler, 2797 Sawgrass Loop, stated very few staff attended the meetings. She would like a process as open and transparent as possible. She would not change what she said at a meeting if Board members were in attendance.

Deanie Sullivan, 1857 Kingston Road, felt the District needs to go overboard on communication to staff, parents, PTAs/PTOs, and the community. She also asked that staff input meetings need to be after school hours.

### **3.4 Levy**

Dr. Schulte explained the budget planning for 2020-2021 is being presented in smaller portions to help the Board better understand the process. Superintendent Schulte shared levy expenditure information including:

- District anticipates collecting an additional \$5M during the 2020-2021 school year over the previous school year (2019-2020)
- At least half of the additional funding will go toward paying bargained salary/wage increases for staff and state's new School Employee Benefit Board (SEBB) health care coverage
- District has identified more than \$3M worth of other program/staffing enhancements such as additional mental and behavior health needs, professional development for teachers, curriculum adoptions, etc.
- District is also considering using levy funds to cover the construction cost of a new Badger Mountain Elementary since enrollment growth did not meet the level to obtain state match funding

#### *Public Comment:*

Nicki Sintay, 368 Temple Meadow Lane, asked for clarity to the salary increase mentioned. Dr. Schulte stated salaries will increase per each negotiated group agreement.

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

It was moved by Rick Donahoe and seconded by Heather Cleary –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (4.1) THROUGH (4.5).

Vote: Cleary, yes; Donahoe, yes; Oldson, yes; Williams, yes; and Jansons, yes.  
Motion was approved.

### **4.1 Personnel Actions**

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL:

##### REASSIGNMENT

Blankenship, Tracy, Executive Director, Special Education, effective 3/1/2020

Carpenter, Zachery, Director, Special Education, effective 3/1/2020

#### CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL:

##### NEW HIRES: FOR 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR

Borms, Isaac, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark Elementary, effective 2/12/2020

Griffiths, Sarah, Paraeducator (Temporary-ends 6/9/2020), effective 2/25/2020

Jensen, Mark, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 3/2/2020

Kerstetter, Noah, Paraeducator, Badger Mtn Elementary, effective 2/25/2020

Stadelman, Dana, Paraeducator (Temporary-ends 6/9/2020), Badger Mtn Elem, effective 2/24/2020

West, Elizabeth, Paraeducator (Rehire-Temporary-ends 6/9/2020), Badger Mtn Elem, eff. 2/24/2020

**EXTENDING LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR REMAINDER OF 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR**

Andersen, Cynthia, Paraeducator, Enterprise Middle School

DePeel, Kelli, Secretary II, Hanford High School

**RETIREMENTS**

Aalgard, Joni, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark Elementary, effective 3/1/2020

**CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL:**

**RETIREMENTS FOR THE END OF SCHOOL YEAR 2019-2020**

Geluso, Teresa Lou, 1 FTE, Health Teacher, Carmichael MS

Stairer, Linda, 1 FTE, TOSA, Richland HS

Galliher, David, 1 FTE, Tech Teacher, Carmichael MS

Hilsen, Tim, 1 FTE, BESST Teacher, Enterprise MS

Smith, Maribeth, 1 FTE, Language Arts Teacher, Carmichael MS

Morrison, Darryl, 1 FTE, SPED Teacher, Twin Rivers Group Home

Bass, Margaret, 1 FTE, Instructional Specialist, Marcus Whitman

Edwards, Christina, 1 FTE, Resource Room Teacher, Richland HS

**RESIGNATIONS FOR THE END OF SCHOOL YEAR 2019-2020**

Richmond, Wendy, 1 FTE, Science Teacher, Chief Joseph MS

Cusick-Reberger, Sarah, Will not return from 2<sup>nd</sup> year leave, 5<sup>th</sup> grade White Bluffs

Bell, Beth, Will not return from 2<sup>nd</sup> year leave, Math, Hanford HS

Hyde, Sara, 1 FTE, Language Arts, Hanford HS

Krowiak, Sarah, Will not return from 2<sup>nd</sup> year leave, Three Rivers Home Link

Miller (Cook), Cassandra, Will not return from 1<sup>st</sup> year leave, Music, Richland HS

Smith, Susan, Will not return from 2<sup>nd</sup> year leave, 7<sup>th</sup> Math Libby MS

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR**

Morgan, Rachael, 2<sup>nd</sup> year leave from Hanford HS to be a Classroom Support Teacher at Chief Joseph MS

Gillespie, Megan, 2<sup>nd</sup> year leave from White Bluffs as 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR**

Swisher, Kevin, 1FTE, Music, Chief Jo MS, effective 8/27/2019

**4.2 Budget Monthly**

**4.3 Load Limits**

**4.4 Equipment Grant-MicroK12-Two zSpace 300 Systems**

**4.5 Warrant Approval**

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40006558 through 40006579 for \$31,792.94

Nos. 40006580 through 40006586 for \$3,420.60

Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20001398 through 20001403 for \$856,494.50

Nos. 20001404 through 20001409 for \$48,089.32

General Fund Warrant Nos. 10071695 through 10071779 for \$310,345.01

Nos. 51000801 through 51000807 for \$237,831.16

Nos. 71001462 through 71001475 for \$7,579.74

Nos. 10071780 through 10071811 for \$271,981.03

Nos. 51000808 through 51000810 for \$6,934.85

Nos. 71001476 through 71001488 for \$17,975.33

Self-Insurance Fund Nos. 70000144 through 70000147 for \$228,169.89

Nos. 70000148 through 7000149 for \$4,997.64

-----  
**5.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Tri City Community Health (TCCH) Public Forum-March 2, 2020 - Jefferson Elementary

**6.0 BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS**

Dr. Schulte, Jill Oldson and Rick Jansons will be traveling to Washington D.C. to advocate for Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funding for the District.

Jill Oldson visited Libby Middle School for a Summit presentation, Jason Lee Elementary, a Promise K classroom, and the Early Learning Center.

Rick Donahoe visited Libby Middle School, Tapteal Elementary, and is helping with the Hanford High School Drama production.

Kari Williams visited Libby Middle School and the Early Learning Center.

The meeting was recessed at 8:43 P.M. to allow the public to leave.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel, Real Estate)**

The Board was reconvened at 9:00 P.M. and immediately adjourned to executive session 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) and acquisition of real estate, if public knowledge might increase the price 42.30.110 (1) (b). The executive session was projected to last thirty minutes, with no action expected. Executive session ended at 9:30 P.M.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:30 P.M.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

---

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

---

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS