



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, February 9, 2021
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 9, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. via Zoom, West Richland, Washington. School Board President Rick Jansons presided. Board members present: Heather Cleary, Kari Williams, Jill Oldson and Ken Gosney.

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel, Legal)

The Board adjourned to executive session at 6:00 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 discussion with legal counsel, of enforcement actions, litigation or potential litigation, if public discussion might result in an adverse legal or financial consequence. (Does not permit an executive session solely because attorney is present.) 42.30.110 (1) (i). The executive session was projected to last thirty minutes, with no action expected. Executive session ended at 6:26 P.M.

The Board returned to the regular meeting at 6:30 P.M.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Roll Call-All Here

1.3 Approval of Minutes (January 26, 2021)

It was moved by Kari Williams and seconded by Ken Gosney that –

THE BOARD APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM JANUARY 26, 2021.

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

Motion was approved.

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS

2.1 Good News

2.1.1 Maintenance/Operations/Transportation (MOT) Staff

Richard Krasner, Executive Director of Operations, reported most Support Services staff members have been onsite every day since March of last year. These employees have been busy preparing meals for students in the community, transporting meals and supplies to students, as well as delivering Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) to all sites. Grounds crews have kept campuses and sports fields in excellent condition. HVAC systems have been improved for maximum ventilation and enhanced cleaning protocols are in place. Mr. Krasner stated over 8,000 work orders have been completed. He praised these employees for their dedication going above and beyond their usual responsibilities. Mr. Jansons echoed his thanks on behalf of the Board.

2.1.2 National School Counseling Week

Nicole Mejia, Sacajawea Elementary Counselor, introduced Diana Patitucci, Counselor-Libby Middle School, and Denise Reddinger, Counselor-Richland High School. They are part of the forty-member team of counselors in the District. Ms. Patitucci thanked the Board for supporting a counselor at every elementary school and the recent creation of the Mental Health Assistance Team. They are working collaboratively to identify the needs of students and to deliver with a systematic, pro-active approach. Ms. Reddinger spoke on several House Bills currently being reviewed in the legislature. She praised the addition of outreach information on the back of staff and student identification cards. She also thanked the Board for their support of the National Board Certification program. Board members thanked all counselors for their dedication to students.

2.2 Requests and Comments by Visitors (20-minute time limit)

Melissa Calloway stated it appears that comments from union representatives do not represent the majority of the group. She feels the District seems to have gone beyond the minimum safety requirements including a third-party review, PPE, cleaning protocols, and offering virtual school options for those who don't feel comfortable returning to school. Ms. Calloway feels staff members should set aside negativity and advocate for reopening school-based sports.

Ted Robbins stated it was great to see some collaboration between school and parents, but feels the District needs to do more to involve parents. He is pleased for the increased promotion of mental health assistance but wants more parents involved.

Kristen Chapin is concerned that her fifth-grade student is only attending classes for 2¼ hours and each day. Ms. Chapin feels students need to be in school full time. She also saw the publication from the Richland Education Association (REA) and feels the system is lacking adults who put the children's needs first.

Shelly Burt shared students need to be in school full time and is concerned they are not receiving electives. She shared her concern that sensory rooms are needed at all schools.

Charlene Sandland shared her concern that her senior has missed a year of education. She feels zoom classes do not address the variety of student learning styles or the skills needed for life after high school. She is also concerned for at-risk students.

Mr. Jansons advised the goal of the Board is to get all kids back in school. District staff members have worked hard to prepare including a third-party safety review, PPE, ventilation updates, and additional cleaning protocols.

3.0 BUSINESS

3.1 Capital Projects/Construction Update

Dr. Redinger stated the District was very pleased with the bids received for the Hanford High School Athletic Field Project. She introduced Richard Krasner, Executive Director of Operations. Award of Bid Resolution No. 919 showed the lowest bidder was Chervenell Construction, with a total bid including all alternates of \$5,525,000 (without taxes). Mr. Krasner asked the Board for action on the three project resolutions.

3.1.1 Hanford High School Field-Resolution No. 919-Award of Bid

It was moved by Heather Cleary and seconded by Ken Gosney that –

THE BOARD APPROVE HANFORD HIGH SCHOOL FIELD PROJECT-RESOLUTION NO. 919-AWARD OF BID, TO CHERVENELL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY.

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

3.1.2 Hanford High School Field-Resolution No. 920-Acceptance of Constructability Review

It was moved by Ken Gosney and seconded by Jill Oldson that –

THE BOARD APPROVE HANFORD HIGH SCHOOL FIELD PROJECT-RESOLUTION NO. 920-ACCEPTANCE OF CONSTRUCTABILITY REVIEW REPORT AND IMPLEMENTATION.

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

3.1.3 Hanford High School Field-Resolution No. 921-Intent to Construct

It was moved by Ken Gosney and seconded by Kari Williams that –

THE BOARD APPROVE HANFORD HIGH SCHOOL FIELD PROJECT-RESOLUTION NO. 921-INTENT TO CONSTRUCT.

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

Mr. Krasner thanked the Board and will give Chervenell Construction notice to begin as soon as contracts are signed. Dr. Redinger advised updates will continue throughout the construction process. Mr. Jansons also thanked Mr. Pettett, District Counsel, and Dr. Schulte, Retired Superintendent, for their work securing the land from WSU Tri Cities so the field can be located on District owned property. Bid openings will take place tomorrow for the Badger Mountain Elementary School Project and resolutions will be brought to the next Board meeting.

3.2 Elementary Boundary Planning

Dr. Redinger shared the conversation on elementary boundary changes is just beginning. The District will be working on ways to get better input from our stakeholders. This input is invaluable, especially when working on boundary changes.

Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, stated he presented the same information one year ago before the Badger Mountain Project was delayed. The opening of Elementary No. 11 (Belmont site-West Richland) will take place beginning with the 2022/2023 school year and will mainly impact Tapteal, William Wiley and White Bluffs Elementaries. There will be a new boundary committee formed that will examine this issue. In the fall of 2021, the team will gather community input and share options with the Board in November 2021 for their decision to follow later this year. Mr. Moore shared, after the Board has approved new boundary revisions,

the committee will work with the impacted schools to communicate with families and assist with the transition of students.

Board priorities included:

- Bring multiple options to the board
- Attempt to keep neighborhoods together using major barriers as dividers-keep boundaries contiguous, logical
- Keep bus rides as short as possible
- Consider the future expansion in Badger Mountain South Area (Elementary #12)
- Balance socio-economic and ethnic representation across schools if possible

Ms. Cleary requested the committee try to minimize disruption and bring at least three options to the Board for review. Dr. Redinger reported a planning principal will be hired (stipend position) in the future to assist with the naming, planning, and procedures when starting a new school. Ms. Williams stated she would like to have several parents involved on the committee. She would also like to hear the plan for communicating this process. Mr. Moore stated Ty Beaver, Communications Director, will use all forms of communications available, plus communication directly from the three schools involved. There will also be a community information night at Elementary #11 as well as community forums this fall at the three impacted schools.

3.3 Budget-Forecast Revenues

Dr. Redinger advised the District will be focusing on a budget with many unknowns including CARES Act funds and a drop of enrollment of 450 students. Several different budget plans may be presented as the budget process progresses. Clinton Sherman, Executive Director of Finance, reported the House Appropriations Committee met on stabilization today which would offer additional state dollars to help with the deficit. Mr. Sherman is using 13,200 as enrollment (flat enrollment) for budgeting purposes. Approximately 80% of the District dollars comes through basic education apportionment, 13% comes from local taxes, and 4.5% comes from Federal dollars to total \$185,000,000. Mr. Sherman will bring spread sheets to review line by line later this spring and create several budget options since changes will be needed after the close of the Legislative Session.

Mr. Jansons stated this year will be challenging and encouraged Board members to ask questions to further understand the budget process. Monthly enrollment reports were also requested to continue.

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

It was moved by Ken Gosney and seconded by Heather Cleary –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (4.1) THROUGH (4.4) WITH AMENDED PERSONNEL ACTION.

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

Motion was approved.

4.1 Personnel Actions

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Dickerson, Kendra, .80FTE, Math/Science, Chief Joseph MS, eff. 2/5/2021, Non-Continuing
Sanders, Hannah, Counselor, Hanford High School, effective 2/9/2021

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR 2020-21 YEAR

Appel, Jennifer, Classroom Support Teacher, Enterprise Middle School, effective 1/26/2021
Hoke, Mark, Science, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 1/26/2021
Morelock, Constance, Resource Room, Carmichael Middle School, effective 10/14/2020
Osborn, Cheryl, Language Arts, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 1/26/2021

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Teslow, Kayla, Paraeducator, Hanford High School, effective 2/8/2021

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Phelps, Michelle, Paraeducator, Enterprise MS, effective 2/5/2021
Stewart, Cheri, Paraeducator, Leona Libby MS, effective 2/8/2021

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Conklin, Brian, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 2/5/2021
Sams, Denise, Paraeducator, Jefferson Elementary, effective 2/4/2021
Yorgesen, Amy, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark Elementary, effective 2/12/2021

TERMINATION

Barboza-Armendariz, Cindy Paraeducator, Marcus Whitman Elementary, eff. 1/28/2021

4.2 Policy/RR No. 6220 – Bid or Request for Proposal Requirements (RFP)

4.3 Cash Grant – STCU - Technology

4.4 Payroll and Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40006689 through 40006690 for \$2,002.00
 No. 40006691 for \$1,500.00
 Nos. 54000313 through 54000316 for \$14,831.46
Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20001580 through 20001582 for \$21,813.76
 Nos. 52000208 through 52000209 for \$140,220.80
 Nos. 20001583 through 20001587 for \$137,121.38
 Nos. 52000210 through 52000211 for \$4,630.52
Debt Services Fund Warrant No. 30000131 for \$550.00
General Fund Warrant Nos. 10075349 through 10075383 for \$172,201.02 for \$
 Nos. 51001116 through 51001126 for \$823,124.19
 Nos. 71002146 through 71002156 for \$15,449.53
 Nos. 10075385 through 10075431 for \$188,102.41
 Nos. 51001127 through 51001134 for \$211,480.59
 Nos. 71002157 through 71002163 for \$8,622.78
Self-Insurance Fund Warrant Nos. 57000034 through 57000035 for \$20,460.38
 Nos. 70000184 through 70000185 for \$1,569.09
 No. 57000036 for \$5,246.75
 No. 70000186 for \$230,066.86
Payroll Warrant Nos. 10075050 for 589.20
 Nos. 10075233 to 10075307 for \$125,178.53
 Nos. 10075308 to 10075348 for \$4,406,382.17
Electronic Fund Transfer for \$8,889,920.53
Total January Payroll approved in the amount of \$13,422,070.43

5.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Board agenda calendar
- Semester grades

6.0 BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Shelley Redinger advised she has scheduled meetings with middle school staff members and is excited to welcome high school students back

Rick Jansons reported he testified in both the Senate and House to advocate for several Bills dealing with additional funding.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS