



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 11, 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, May 11, 2021, at 5:30 P.M. via Zoom and in person, 6972 Keene Road, 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 5:30 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel, Legal)

The Board adjourned to executive session at 5:30 P.M. to discuss complaints or charges against an employee or board member (the person complained against may open the meeting to the public) 42.30.110 (1) (f), and 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 sixty minutes, with no action expected. Executive session ended at 6:28 P.M.

The Board returned to the regular meeting at 6:35 P.M.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Roll Call-All Here

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS

2.1 Student Representative Report

Ryan White, Richland High School Student, reported on topics from the recent Student Advisory Committee including graduation ceremonies, vaccination clinics, length of quarantine periods, lunch periods at the high schools, and the mental health survey. She stated students were happy to be back to in-person classes. Dr. Redinger advocated to shorten the 14-day quarantine period. Mr. Jansons stated the period has just been shortened to seven days.

2.2 GOOD NEWS-Longevity Recognition

Tony Howard, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, reported last year a committee met to share ideas on how to recognize staff more frequently. The group decided on service pins with recognition starting after an employee completes five years with the District. Those employees having 25+ years of service with the District will receive their recognition (engraved glass apples) at buildings. Mr. Howard thanked all employees for their many years of service.

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

Shelly Burt stated she has been reviewing the Urban Collaborative Report. She feels many parents of Special Education students feel they have no way to have their voices heard. She feels there needs to be more transparency and asked the Board to increase the time for public input.

Stephen Holmes thanked the Board for their efforts to bring students back to in-person instruction and stated he is hoping busses are still being sanitized between routes. His son reported kids are happy and thanked staff that a larger summer school will be provided.

Kristen Chapin feels bringing down debt should be a top priority and stated the District needs to have a solid plan if they are asking for voter support in the future.

Jamie Heppler stated she moved her children to a private school when students were required to wear masks. She feels masks can create health issues for kids. She also questioned the Governor's mandated critical race theory.

Mr. Jansons shared some debt structure information. The future bond committee will review all debt and bond information when planning for the District's future.

3.0 BUSINESS

3.1 Career and Technical Education (CTE) Instructional Materials Adoption

Ryan Beard, Director of CTE, advised CTE programs are required by state and federal law to remain current to industry standards. After identifying a need for curriculum updates to better align with industry or post-secondary standards, curriculum options were recommended by industry partners. Teachers piloted the curriculums, went through the formal review process, and the curriculum materials were made available for public comment. The Instructional Materials Committee (IMC) was given an opportunity to review and make comments. All curriculum materials were recommended by the IMC.

Cheyenne La Violette, Hanford High School Computer Science Teacher, and Dawn Koch, Hanford High School Consumer Science Teacher, shared information and support for the curriculum being recommended.

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE).

- FOOD AND NUTRITION 1, ROUXBE, *ROUXBE*, ONLINE UPDATED ANNUALLY
- AP COMPUTER SCIENCE APPLICATIONS, CSAWESOME, *RUNEESTONE ACADMEY*, ONLINE-UPDTAED ANNUALLY.

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

Motion was approved.

3.2 English Language Learners (ELL) Update

Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, shared information regarding ELL students including:

- The District currently has 878 English Language Learners, with the highest populations at Richland High School, Hanford High School, and Tapteal Elementary.
- ELL students make up approximately 5% of our total student enrollment which is relatively low for the region.
- 81% of our ELL students in the District speak Spanish (a total of 45 languages are spoken throughout the District).
- English Language Learners are considered one of the most at-risk demographics (consistent with both the state of Washington and national statistics).

Mr. Moore reported the District has begun to implement multiple layers of services and supports for these students. In 2021-2022, the District will add certified staff at both high schools, while increasing support at middle schools and providing increased training at all elementary schools. He stated an ELL Leadership Team was formed to study best practices for future instruction. Learnings from the team include:

- The most effective way to deliver English Language Development (ELD) to ELL students is to provide a balanced model of services and supports. Each building should provide both integrated supports (provided by all teachers) and designated services (targeted language development).
- Culture (underlying teacher beliefs and mindsets) is critical in our work to support ELL students. Much of the work ahead deals with addressing staff culture.

Board discussion followed including challenges with translations, use of technology, dual language program/school, and/or an addition specialist class. Mr. Janson feels there is much interest from the community for a dual language program in the District and asked that this be reflected in the budget.

3.3 Academic and Student Well-Being Recovery Plan/Resolution No. 927

Mike Hansen, Deputy Superintendent, advised on April 19, 2021, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) released guidance for the development of an Academic and Student Well-Being Recovery Plan required of all districts in the state. The guidance is in response to two laws, one federal and one state, that connect planning for academic and student well-being recovery to eligibility to receive federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III funds. In order to access these funds the District must, within 30 days, make publicly available on its website a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. Before making the plan publicly available, the District must seek public comment on the plan.

Mr. Hansen explained the District returned to in-person instruction using the hybrid model starting with Special Education Programs in late September, added all the elementary schools in early October of 2020, then returned to in-person instruction for all levels in late January and early February 2021. All students were offered a daily in-person instruction option beginning on April 19, 2021. The Stage IV Road to Recovery Plan was developed and approved by the Board as part of the safe return to in-person learning. Mr. Hansen explained there are several components to the Stage IV Road to Recovery Plan that are applicable in the Academic and Student Well-Being Recovery Plan.

The law requires school districts to submit an Academic and Student Well-being Recovery Plan to OSPI by June 1, 2021 to address student needs resulting from school building closures and extended time in remote learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic. OSPI will review and either approve the submitted plan or request additional information from the school district. Approval of the plan is required before ESSER III funds will be released for school district use.

Mr. Hansen shared the required components for school district plans:

1. Completion of the OSPI survey designed for Phase 1 plan submittal
2. Use of an equity analysis tool for decision making
3. School board approval of the Phase 1 Plan following opportunities for public comment
4. Public posting of the approved plan on the district website

Phase 1, 5 elements:

1. Robust summer school programs
 - Elementary/Middle/High Schools
2. Additional supports for the most vulnerable students
3. Staff professional development
4. Comprehensive assessment plan
5. Careful data analysis and response plan

Mr. Hansen stated the District has a plan in place created last year created by many staff and other representatives. The District has addressed inclusive practices (equity) and has built this into the District's current Strategic Plan. The District will submit plans in three phases which will allow the District to engage in and plan for continuous improvement cycles, and time to design systems to support student needs and plan for long-term system changes. All three phases are part of one singular plan in which the District builds an initial plan, collects data, monitors progress, makes adjustments, and implements sustained improvements over time. This draft plan supports Phase 1.

Mr. Hansen shared the timeline for Board action:

- Review and approve Resolution No. 927
- Review and approve the Richland School District Equity Tool
- Review public comment form May 11-25, 2021.
 - Recommend adjustments
- Final approval of Plan May 25, 2021

Mr. Jansons stated the Board has a Workshop scheduled for next week (May 18, 2021-4:00 P.M.) and suggested using that meeting for more discussion and to give the public an opportunity to share input. The draft plan will be posted on the District website with public comment welcomed at the May 18, 2021 meeting or via the board feedback email on the website. The plan will be presented at the May 25, 2021 meeting for Board approval.

Ms. Oldson suggested using the term underrepresented populations in the equity tool. Board members agreed. Summer School enrollment and staffing was also discussed.

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 (4.5) INCLUDING A REVISED PERSONNEL ACTION.

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

4.1 Personnel Actions

ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Abercrombie III, Leslie, Director of Labor Relations, Human Resources, effective 5/10/2021

Ploghoft, Brian, Principal, White Bluffs Elementary, effective 7/1/2021

Spencer, Tiffany, Assistant Principal, Hanford High School, effective 7/1/2021

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Bjazevich, Megan, 1 FTE, SpEd Teacher Pool, Special Programs, effective 08/31/2021

Sandmann, Wendy, 1 FTE, Psychologist, Special Programs, effective 08/31/2021

OUT OF ENDORSEMENT FOR 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Baker, Rebekah, Middle School Math, Three Rivers HomeLink

Presnell, Kaci, History, Leona Libby Middle School

Sperline, Amy, World Geography, Leona Libby Middle School

Tiffany, Sasha, Geometry, Leona Libby Middle School

Torres, Rosalinda, Spanish, Leona Libby Middle School

RETIREMENTS FOR THE END OF THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Newbury, Russell, 1 FTE, Music, Hanford High School

Staley, Paul, 1 FTE, Science, Richland High School

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Moon, Krystal, Nutrition Services, White Bluffs Elementary, effective 4/22/2021

Watson, Carla, Secretary, Support Services, Maintenance & Operations, effective 5/24/2021

Workman, Travis, Electrician, Support Services, effective 5/24/21

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

REASSIGNMENT FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Joiner, Logan, Information Technology Technician to Computer Network Specialist, Information Technology, effective 6/1/2021

Melton, Clark, Information Technology Technician to Computer Network Specialist (temporary), Information Technology, effective 6/1/2021

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Bake, Brenda, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph MS, effective 8/31/2021

Barongan, Jessica, Paraeducator, Sacajawea Elementary, effective 4/28/2021

Barrows, Alethea, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 8/31/2021

Burt, Desirae, Paraeducator, Hanford High School, effective 8/31/2021

Cuceu, Stephanie, Paraeducator, Leona Libby Middle School, effective 8/31/2021

Hines, Shondra, Paraeducator, Jason Lee Elementary, effective 8/31/2021

Iedema, Felicia, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph MS, effective 5/7/2021 (will sub)

LaCour, Donna, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 5/12/2021

Martinez, Hilda, Secretary, Jefferson Elementary, effective 5/14/2021

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Gatherum, Angie, Paraeducator, William Wiley Elementary, effective 4/28/2021

RESCINDING LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Kohls-Hopper, Kathy, Paraeducator, Jason Lee Elementary, RTW effective 5/5/2021

Schouviller, Tricia, Rescinding LOA eff. 5/5/2021; moving from Paraeducator to Secretary position

Younes, Anne, Rescinding LOA eff. 5/10/2021; moving from Paraeducator to Secretary position

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Petersen, Julie, Paraeducator, Jefferson Elementary

RETIREMENTS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Seeley-Miller, Kathie, Paraeducator, Early Learning Center, effective 12/31/2021

4.2 Approval of Minutes (April 27, 2021: May 4, 2021)

4.3 Washington Interscholastic Athletics/Activities (WIAA) Agreement

4.4 Yearbook Contract Approval

4.5 Payroll and Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40006736 through 40006740 for \$1,590.24

No. 54000323 for \$1,255.10

Nos. 40006741 through 40006743 for \$945.00

Nos. 54000324 through 54000325 for \$36,517.42

Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20001634 through 20001637 for \$447,773.82

Nos. 20001638 through 20001644 for \$1,280,999.97

Nos. 52000217 for \$3,071.50

General Fund Warrant Nos. 10076614 through 10076683 for \$714,406.89

Nos. 51001144 for \$624.97

Nos. 10076687 through 10076756 for \$546,533.48

Nos. 51001145 through 51001146 for \$336,723.30

Self-Insurance Fund Warrant No. 70000209 for \$2,372.88

Payroll Warrant Nos. 10076264 through 10076265 for \$3,513.13

No. 10076400 for \$525.29

Nos. 10076485 through 10076573 for \$181,331.68

Nos. 10076574 through 10076613 for \$4,481,186.98

Electronic Fund Transfer for \$9,350,372.41

Total April Payroll approved in the amount of \$14,016,929.49

5.0 BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Shelley Redinger encouraged all to look at the ongoing capital projects in the District. All are on schedule and on budget. A General Contractor/Construction Management (GM/CM) will be selected at the May 25, 2021 meeting.

Jill Oldson attended the Special Education PTA where two Richland High School Teachers, Mr. Bare and Ms. Sadanaga, were recognized. She also attended the Rotary Scholarship Award meeting where five students were awarded scholarships. Ms. Oldson thanked Rotary for these awards and parents and teachers for raising these amazing students.

Heather Cleary reported attending the Auditor's Exit Conference along with Jill Oldson. The audit was clean with no findings.

Rick Jansons shared Educational Service District (ESD) 105 will be hosting a Balanced Calendar Workshop May 13, 2021 via zoom and encouraged all Board members to register. He also stated Riverview School District has asked the District to sign on to a resolution stating that student voice is important to the District. All Board members were agreeable.

Mr. Jansons reported input from the Board Operating Protocols Workshop on May 4, 2021 has been included and executive session language will be added to complete the document for an upcoming Workshop. He also advised advocating to several organizations and the Governor that graduation ceremonies will not change if the county returns to Phase 2. Dr. Redinger advised the Governor had just recently expressed that decision.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS