



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, June 8, 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, June 8, 2021, at 5:45 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 5:45 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel, Legal, Real Estate)

The Board adjourned to executive session at 5:45 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), acquisition of real estate, if public knowledge might increase the price 42.30.110 (1) (b), 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 forty-five minutes, with no action expected. Executive session recessed at 6:31 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

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

Mary Ellen Johnson shared her concern regarding students wearing masks. Ms. Johnson feels that masks are doing more harm than good and asked that the mask requirement be released for next year.

Shelley Burt echoed Ms. Johnson's comments. Ms. Burt asked the District to allow parents to sign an exception form to remove the masking requirement. Ms. Burt also feels masks are not safe for students on buses this summer.

John Distifeno feels wearing masks has been very isolating for students and some don't want to go to school. He urged the Board to do what is best for kids.

Annie Carlson, Life Skills Para and President of the Para group, urged the Board for their support during negotiations. Ms. Carlson stated paras have given their all to remain flexible during the past

year changing roles to fill the needs of the District including schedule changes, assistance with food distribution to students, and transportation needs. She is proud to represent this group.

Matt O'Hara stated none of the Social Emotional Learnings are being followed by the District or the Benton Franklin Department of Health. She sees breakdowns on the playground and children that don't want to go back to school. She stated science says kids are not at risk with 99.9% survivability.

Nate Izquierdo shared his concern regarding the school culture at Hanford High School, particularly issues with the basketball program.

3.0 BUSINESS

3.1 Mental Health Assistance Team (MHAT) Update

Michelle Sorensen, School Social Worker, and Angie Withers, School Psychologist, are Co-Leads of the Mental Health Assistance Team. The team is defined as a multidisciplinary team focused on the integration of mental health within the District's multi-tiered systems of support to provide strong mental health to all students.

Kathryn Tocco, Jason Lee Elementary Counselor, described the Resource Mapping process identifying mental health agencies and services offered in the area (including a District-wide needs assessment). Recommendations are made for further training, supports, and evidence-based practices.

Angie Withers, School Psychologist, reported out of 3,710 students (from nine secondary schools) who completed the BIMAS-2 Wellness Screening, 300 students said they wanted to talk to someone one-to-one, some just with concerns about their friends. Over 990 interventions were provided with 22 staff members assisting in building level interventions. Ms. Withers advised the data collected from these screenings will be an important baseline in the future.

Tory Christensen, Hanford High School Principal, stated the staff members involved in the BIMAS-2 screening went into buildings and really pulled the District together. Teachers were surveyed to assess professional development opportunities needed to focus on Social Emotional Learning.

Nicole Mejia, Sacajawea Elementary Counselor, reported on Interconnected Systems Framework (ISF). This is a structure and process to integrate Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) and School Mental Health within one, single school-based system. The goal is to blend resources, training, systems, data, and practices in order to improve outcomes for all children.

Marc' Nelson, Lewis and Clark Elementary Principal, stated this fall the District will be providing professional development for all K-12 certificated staff members focusing on Social Emotional Learning and mental health promotion.

Danielle Harvey, School Nurse, spoke regarding community connections and preventative trainings, rather than only crisis training. The team will also be presenting to the Washington State School Psychologists, as well as offering recommendations to the State Legislature for changes. Student leaders from both Richland and Hanford High Schools have offered suicide prevention events to peers and community members.

Chandra Markel, River's Edge High School (REHS) Counselor, advised the Benton Franklin Health District has been supportive and will provide 2,300 backpacks to all eighth, ninth, and REHS students containing items such as journals, QR code information to access mental health help, free massages, etc. The team feels that with a collaborative approach, student lives can be saved.

Mr. Jansons congratulated all for their great presentation and work on this very important topic. Other Board members echoed Mr. Jansons comments. Board discussion followed including:

- High risk students
- Training for peers (students)
- Communities in Schools staff-essential partners
- Budget requests-ESSER funds can be used for Academic Well-Being support
- Opt out percentages-more communication to parents will lower this number in the future
- Partnership with parents/get questions to parents in advance

3.2 2021-2022 Budget Preparation Update

Mr. Jansons advised this is just a recap from the most recent budget workshop on June 1, 2021. Clinton Sherman, Executive Director of Finance, explained budgeting for a conservative enrollment number of approximately 13,000 students. Revenue sources (\$195.8M) include State, Local Levy Taxes, and Federal funds. Expenditures (\$203.2M) include certificated salaries, employee benefits and payroll taxes, classified salaries, supplies and materials, contractual services and enrollment capacity, equipment and travel. Mr. Sherman shared the fund balance by month with a goal of 5%, but planning conservatively, it is 2.5%. He also shared the Capital Projects budget of \$45M (Richland High School Auditorium, Hanford High School field, Fran Rish Field and Badger Mountain Elementary), as well as the Transportation Vehicle Fund-\$675k (purchase of three buses). A hearing for the 2021-2022 budget will be during the June 22, 2021 Board meeting, with the budget resolution for Board approval to follow.

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

It was moved by Kari Williams and seconded by Heather Cleary –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (4.1) THROUGH (4.3).

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

Motion was approved.

4.1 Personnel Actions

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Gussenhoven, Erik, Custodian, Orchard Elementary, effective 6/1/2021

Thomas, Patricia, Director of Transportation, effective 6/21/2021

REASSIGNMENTS FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Garrett, James, Building Foreman 2, Enterprise MS to Building Foreman 3, Richland HS, effective 5/17/2021

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE END OF THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Coyne, Gina, Nutrition Services, Enterprise Middle School

Flinn, Ginger, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph Middle School

Hadford, Alexandria, Paraeducator, Jefferson Elementary

Lopez, Kylie, Paraeducator, William Wiley Elementary

Veronte, Tracy, Paraeducator, Hanford High School

Wood, Quinn, Paraeducator, Special Programs

RETIREMENTS FOR THE END OF THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Evers, Georgianne, Paraeducator, William Wiley Elementary

Ingram, Robyn, Paraeducator, Early Learning Center

Roy, Cari, Paraeducator, Sacajawea Elementary

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Bowen, Sidney, Paraeducator, Richland High School, expected dates 8/30/2021 – 1/10/2022

Porter, Janae, Paraeducator, Badger Mountain Elem., expected dates 8/30/2021 – 11/24/2021

Stewart, Cheri, Paraeducator, Leona Libby Middle, expected dates 8/30/2021 – 1/24/2022

Sweeney, Melissa, Paraeducator, William Wiley Elem., expected dates 8/30/2021 – 12/6/2021

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE END OF THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Guymon, Natalie, .40 FTE (Now .60 FTE), CTE Teacher On Special Assignment, Hanford HS

Jay, Brett, 1 FTE, Language Arts, Hanford High School

Stowe, Rebecca, 1 FTE, Kindergarten, William Wiley Elementary

RETIREMENTS FOR THE END OF THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Bell, Debbie, 1 FTE, Counselor, Hanford High School

Radkins, Marilyn, 1 FTE, Language Arts, Carmichael Middle School (changed from resignation)

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

White, Jennifer, 1 FTE, Resource Room, Chief Joseph Middle School, Non-Continuing

Wise, Mary, 1 FTE, SpEd Pool, Location To Be Determined, Retire/Rehire, Non-Continuing

INCREASE IN FTE FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Marcum, Nicole, .40 FTE (Now 1 FTE), Speech Language Pathologist, Special Programs

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Graves, Marcia, .60 FTE, Social Studies, Enterprise Middle School (1st Year)

Klein, Ashley, .50 FTE Partial (Now .50FTE), Psychologist, Special Programs (1st Year)

Nicacio, Alma, 1 FTE, 2nd Grade, Badger Mountain Elementary (1st Year)

Sande, Laine, 1 FTE, Occupational Therapist, Special Programs (2nd Year)

REASSIGNMENTS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Atkinson, Megan, 1 FTE, Supplemental Support to Life Skills, Jefferson Elementary

Ballo, Erin, 1 FTE, 3rd Grade to 5th Grade, Lewis & Clark Elementary

Brown, Megan, 1 FTE, Resource Room, Tapteal/Jason Lee, to Ex. Resource Room, William Wiley

Chambers, Julie, 1 FTE, Resource Room to Extended Resource Room, Chief Joseph Middle School

Cleveland, Kaitlyn, 1 FTE, 5th Grade to 4th Grade, White Bluffs Elementary
Drexler, Leah, 1 FTE, Lang. Arts, Hanford High School, to Language Arts, Richland High School
Dyer, Shannon, 1 FTE, Home/Family, Enterprise MS, to CTE Family/Consumer Science, Richland HS
Gately, Jolynn, 1 FTE, 4th Grade, White Bluffs Elementary, to Kindergarten, Orchard Elementary
Gates, Lisa, 1 FTE, Resource Room, Lewis & Clark, to ECEAP Preschool, Early Learning Center
Gieszler, Sarah, 1 FTE, Kindergarten, Pacific Crest Online Academy, to Kinder, William Wiley
Gude, Carlee, 1 FTE, Preschool, Early Learning Center, to 1st Grade, Jason Lee Elementary
Guereca, Lesley, 1 FTE, Math, Hanford High School, to Resource Room, Chief Joseph MS
Hampton, Brittany, 1 FTE, 5th Grade, Tapteal Elementary, to Science, Chief Joseph Middle School
Hoff, Camille, 1 FTE, Kindergarten to 2nd Grade, Sacajawea Elementary
Hoff, Ryan, 1 FTE, History to Physical Education, Chief Joseph Middle School
Horn, Sabrina, 1 FTE, Resource Room, Carmichael MS, to Resource Room, Hanford HS
Jones, Kari, 1 FTE, 4th Grade to Instructional Specialist, Badger Mountain Elementary
Jones, Kayla, 1 FTE, 2nd Grade to 1st Grade, Badger Mountain Elementary
Kopf, Chad, 1 FTE, Resource Room to History, Richland High School
Lawrence, Kimberly, 1 FTE, Resource Room, Chief Joseph MS, to Extended Resource Room, Carmichael MS
Lipp, Karen, 1 FTE, Kindergarten to 1st Grade, Orchard Elementary
McKenzie, Ariana, 1 FTE, BESST, Lewis & Clark Elementary, to Structured, Leona Libby MS
Meyer, Tait, 1 FTE, Social Studies, Hanford High School, to CTE Computer Science/TV Production, Richland High School
Ollero, Mikaela, 1 FTE, 3rd Grade to 2nd Grade, Jason Lee Elementary
Osavlyuk, Svitlana, 1 FTE, Kindergarten, White Bluffs, to 1st Grade, Jason Lee
Paulakis, Adrian, 1 FTE, 2nd Year Leave of Absence, to Language Arts, Delta High School
Rader, Marcie, 1 FTE, Math, Hanford High School, to Math, Richland High School
Rapoza, Leah, 1 FTE, Self-contained, Tapteal Elementary, to 1st Grade, William Wiley Elementary
Reich, Alyson, 1 FTE, Math, Hanford High School, to Math, Richland High School
Richardson, Grant, 1 FTE, Math, Three Rivers HomeLink, to Math, Richland High School
Roach, Nikole, 1 FTE, Extended Resource Room to 2nd Grade, William Wiley Elementary
Smedsrud, Carol, 1 FTE, 1st Grade to Kindergarten, Jason Lee Elementary
Spears, Tamber, 1 FTE, Life Skills, Chief Jo Middle School, to Life Skills, Enterprise MS
Villarreal, Esmeralda, 1 FTE, Language Arts to Special Education, Pacific Crest Online Academy
Ward, Kim, 1 FTE, 1st Grade to Instructional Specialist, William Wiley Elementary
Werner, Lisa, 1 FTE, 5th Grade to 4th Grade, Marcus Whitman Elementary
West, Elizabeth, 1 FTE, Resource Room to 2nd Grade, William Wiley Elementary

4.2 Approval of Minutes (May 25, 2021; June 1, 2021)

4.3 Payroll and Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40006751 through 40006757 for \$4,082.56
Nos. 40006758 through 40006760 for \$3,811.28
Nos. 54000326 through 54000327 for \$863.47
Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20001653 through 2000165 for \$14,999.50
Nos. 20001656 through 20001658 for \$26,272.56
Debt Services Fund Warrant No. 30000132 for \$550.00
General Fund Warrant Nos. 10077065 through 10077127 for \$370,017.94
Nos. 10077128 through 10077195 for \$624,102.76

Nos. 51001148 through 51001149 for \$19,390.35
Self-Insurance Fund Warrant Nos. 70000213 through 70000214 for \$12,626.19
No. 70000215 for \$180.00
Transportation Vehicle Fund Warrant No. 90000125 for \$304,698.84
Payroll Warrant Nos. 10076684 through 10076686 for \$8,222.19
10076919 through 10077023 for \$227,125.82
10077024 through 10077064 for \$4,571,409.72
Electronic Fund Transfer for \$9,551,843.52
Total May Payroll approved in the amount of \$14,358,601.25

5.0 BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Shelley Redinger reported masks discussions continue with hope for new direction for the fall with an announcement on June 30, 2021. She reported requirements have loosened for elementary students, and local health experts are ok with masks breaks on buses. Dr. Person, Benton Franklin Department of Health, has stated there are no health issues with wearing masks. Also, elementary students who maintain distancing can remove masks at recess. The District will use the honor system at graduation ceremonies later this week. Dr. Redinger also shared Pacific Crest Online Academy (PCOA) has been fully approved for K-12 instruction for Washington State.

Kari Williams advised the virtual Libby Middle School Drama production will be this weekend with tickets available online.

Board members decided to wear gowns to graduation ceremonies when seated onstage. Further direction will be emailed tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS