



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, September 14, 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, September 14, 2021, at 5:50 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 5:50 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel, Legal, Real Estate)

The Board adjourned to executive session at 5:50 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 sixty minutes, with no action expected. Executive session ended at 6:28 P.M.

The Board returned to the regular meeting at 6:31 P.M.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Roll Call - All Here

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS

2.1 GOOD NEWS

Ty Beaver, Communication Director, shared student leaders at Hanford and Richland High Schools teamed with the Mental Health Action Team (MHAT) to provide “back to school” backpacks for all District freshman students filled with an assortment of school supplies. Support for this project was provided by a grant from the Benton Franklin Health District. In all, 2,400 backpacks were distributed.

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

Mr. Jansons reported this is the time for the Board to listen to comments on educational issues. The Board will not respond to comments or engage in dialogue unless clarifications are needed. Comments will be limited to two minutes.

Jennie shared the challenge of students who are quarantining with no distance learning option available. She would appreciate the option for students to zoom or call in to listen to classes.

SDO shared concern that “black lives matter” was written on his daughter’s vehicle and mentioned classes offered on the Heritage Institute mailing list including social justice classes. He would like the Board to state their stance on Critical Race Theory (CRT).

John Distifeno feels CRT should not be taught in our schools and questioned why teachers were required to participate in racial equity training. He also shared concern regarding the changing mask requirements, little information for parents, and locker locations at Libby Middle School.

Shelly Burt stated she understood the teachers’ contract was finished on August 31, 2021 and asked when that would be available to the public. Dr. Redinger reported that will happen as soon as the Board acts on the contract which will be soon. She also advocated for co-teaching classrooms to be implemented as soon as possible. She will be participating on the Inclusionary Practices group through the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

Phyllis Baxter thanked the District’s teachers for being able to navigate the start of school. She observed lots of kid wearing masks and not complaining. She also asked for students to have an option to zoom or listen to their classes while quarantining.

Elizabeth Porter reported she is pleased with the protocols in place at Orchard Elementary. She is angry that so many people are against CRT since it involves making sure all students are validated and respected in the classroom. She feels CRT is a way of analyzing research data and has nothing to do with curriculum. She is pleased teachers completed the culturally responsive training and encouraged all to do their research.

LeBlanc stated her child is in PCOA and loves it. She is against critical thinking, mask mandates, and vaccine mandates. She shared her view on Critical Race Theory and the way it is portraying white people. She reported many people are fighting these mandates and feels these decisions should be up to each person.

Mr. Jansons doesn’t believe there are any restrictions on teachers wanting to do more for kids that are out quarantining. Dr. Redinger advised individual teachers have that choice and shared she was on a call with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction today where this subject was also discussed.

3.0 BUSINESS

3.1 Start of School Update

Mike Hansen, Deputy Superintendent, reported this has been an interesting and challenging year but feels the start has gone extremely well. The hope is to keep students in school with as few students quarantining as possible. Mr. Hansen thanked food service, support services and maintenance and operations employees for their tremendous effort to prepare for the start of school as well as their work during the summer. He congratulated students and has not heard any issues from students regarding mask wearing. Mr. Hansen also thanked teachers and paraeducators who are working hard to create environments where students are safe.

Todd Baddley, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, stated all students are excited to be back and athletics and activities are in full swing. Staff members are focusing on building relationships with students. Some students are being connected with mentors and he announced

there are six co-teaching teams (general and special education teachers). He also mentioned Pacific Crest Online Academy (PCOA) has doubled in size from 200 to over 400 students in the last week, including some students from outside the District.

Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, advised the first two days of school started with parent connect conferences in grades K-5 which were very well received. Morning meetings in classrooms start each day to encourage relationship building and daily routine. Lunches have been challenging with the need to social distance. Mr. Moore appreciated teachers for their flexibility to keep students safe. Mr. Hansen advised the goal is to minimize the number of students needing to quarantine by honoring safety protocols. Mr. Hansen also stated if vaccinated, students who are symptom free do not need to quarantine.

Ms. Williams reported extending the parent connect conferences to 2nd-5th graders was a great way to start the year for students and families. She was excited for the student mentors and would like to see a creative solution for those students being quarantined to still be connected to their classes. Dr. Redinger stated other districts are having this same issue and she will be working with staff on a solution. She will also investigate the locker situation mentioned earlier.

Mr. Jansons thanked staff, parents, and Dr. Person, Benton Franklin Department of Health, for the great start to school and the ability to have students back in person.

3.2 Enrollment Update

Clinton Sherman, Executive Director of Finance, shared enrollment numbers and the impact on budget. The District's budgeted enrollment for 2021-2022 is 12,945 FTE plus 255 FTE Running Start = 13,200 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) students. Mr. Sherman explained, after a dramatic enrollment decline during the 2020-2021 school year, the District has seen a small increase. As of Tuesday, September 7, 2021 (before official count was populated), preliminary enrollment was 13,031 which is an increase of 30 FTE over the September count from 2020. Board members agree it was nice to be on the right side of the budget.

3.3 Salvation Army Property Purchase

Richard Krasner, Executive Director of Operations, asked for Board approval on the purchase of the Salvation Army Building located at 1219 Thayer Drive, Richland. The District has done its due diligence on the property and has found that there were no concerns with the building or surrounding property. The District offer for the property was below the appraised fair market value.

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

Mr. Krasner shared more details of purchase. The building is a two story, 15,984 square foot building with classrooms and open spaces. The District has been looking to expand Three River's HomeLink and the location is convenient to the current location.

Mr. Sherman added the District operates with five different fund sources. The funds for this purchase will come from the Capital projects fund. Mr. Jansons also clarified this purchase is not coming out of student funds.

The previous motion was continued. It was moved and seconded -

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE SALVATION ARMY BUILDING LOCATED AT 1219 THAYER DRIVE, RICHLAND, WA.

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

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

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

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

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

4.1 Personnel Actions

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Bare, Nadine, 1 FTE, Language Arts/Social Studies, Pacific Crest Online Academy

Grego, Ashley, .40 FTE, 2nd Grade, Orchard Elementary, non-continuing

James, KT (Mary), 1 FTE, BESST, Lewis & Clark Elementary

Leonov, Alla, 1 FTE, ELA/History, Leona Libby Middle School, non-continuing (from Para)

Moss, Tiffany, 1 FTE, Social Worker, Lewis & Clark Elementary

Olson, Jennifer, .40 FTE, Choir, Carmichael Middle School

Rumsey, Donald, 1 FTE, Science, Hanford High School, non-continuing

Scott Griffin, Jan, 1 FTE, Math, Carmichael Middle School

Solo, Debbie, 1 FTE, Resource Room, Carmichael Middle School

Weier, Laycee, 1 FTE, Social Worker, Chief Joseph Middle School

INCREASE IN FTE FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Steiner, Elizabeth, .60 FTE (Now 1 FTE), Innovation Space, Richland High School, non-continuing

Walter, Cheryl, .12 FTE (Now .82 FTE), Language Arts, Three Rivers HomeLink

REASSIGNMENTS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Cronin, Liz, 5th Grade to Classroom Support Teacher, Pacific Crest Online Academy

Osman, Sabrina, 5th Grade, Sacajawea Elementary, to 4th Grade, Tapteal Elementary

Wakeley, Corey, 4th Grade, Pacific Crest Online Academy, to 4th Grade, White Bluffs Elementary

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Bishop, Samantha, Paraeducator, Hanford High School, effective 8/30/2021

Boylan, Brenda, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 9/13/2021

Bribes, Cheryl, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 9/14/2021

Bricker, Talena, Paraeducator, Jason Lee Elementary, effective 9/2/2021

Burtis, Jade, Paraeducator, William Wiley Elementary, effective 9/2/2021

Castillo, Adrianna, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark Elementary, effective 9/13/2021

Clizer, Max, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 9/13/2021

Crook, Katie, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark Elementary, effective 9/21/2021

Cutler, Kelly, Paraeducator, Richland High School, effective 8/30/2021

Dawson, John, Paraeducator, Tapteal Elementary, effective 9/9/2021

Dotson, Abigail, Paraeducator-Replacement Employee, William Wiley, eff. 9/13/2021-12/6/2021
Elizondo, Courtney, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 9/8/2021
Ennis, Mary, Paraeducator, William Wiley Elementary School, effective 8/30/21
Firkins, Misty, Paraeducator, Richland High School, effective 9/13/2021
Frazier, Shaunessy, Paraeducator, Jason Lee Elementary, effective 9/15/2021
Frye, Jessie, Nutrition Services Worker 2, Hanford High School, effective 9/8/2021
Garcia, Jenny, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 9/13/2021
Garcia, Kristen, Paraeducator, Hanford High School, effective 9/20/2021
Gass Jr, Gary, Custodian, Hanford High/River's Edge High School, effective 9/13/2021
George, Barbara, ParaEd. (Rehire-Replacement Employee), Jason Lee, eff. 9/3/2021-6/14/2022
Geisler, Kristi, Paraeducator, Hanford High School, effective 9/8/2021
George, Barbara, Paraeducator (Rehire), Jason Lee Elementary, effective 9/3/2021
Glenn, Megan, Secretary-Replacement Employee, Jason Lee Elem. effective 8/30/2021
Grall, Deacon, Paraeducator, Hanford High School, effective 9/8/2021
Hardie, Ricki, Paraeducator, Leona Libby Middle School, effective 8/30/2021
Hodges, Carla, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 9/21/2021
Hinrichs, Jessica, Paraeducator, Temporary (Rehire), Marcus Whitman, eff.8/30/2021-6/14/2022
Jones, Tiffany, Nutrition Services Worker 2, White Bluffs Elementary, effective 9/9/2021
Kelley, Heather, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark Elementary, effective 9/1/2021
Kogan, Bree, Paraeducator, Jason Lee Elementary, effective 9/7/2021
Lewis, Roberta, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 9/16/2021
Lindhartsen, Danielle, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 9/17/2021
McGee, Paul, Paraeducator, Marcus Whitman Elementary, effective 9/9/2021
Medina, Mariann, Paraeducator, Orchard Elementary School, effective 8/30/2021
Melvin, Lindsey, Paraeducator, William Wiley Elementary, effective 9/16/2021
Moreno, Aremy, Paraeducator, Badger Mountain Elementary, effective 8/30/2021
Palazzo, Avery, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 9/10/2021
Rothfork, Olivia, Paraeducator-Replacement Employee, Jason Lee Elem., eff.9/7/2021 – 6/14/2022
San Nicolas-Gilbert, Richarda, Paraeducator, Hanford High School, effective, 9/8/2021
Unroe, Rashel, Paraeducator, Marcus Whitman Elementary, effective 8/30/2021
VanTine, Evan, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 9/20/2021
CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR
Bjerkestrand, KurInformation Technology Technician 1, Information Technology, (from temporary to permanent) effective 9/1/2021
March, Bethany, Custodian, from Richland High School to Enterprise MS, effective 9/13/2021
Wininger, Kodie, Information Technology Technician 1, Information Technology, (from temporary to permanent) effective 9/1/2021
LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR
Donley, Mirandy, Paraeducator, Special Programs, effective 9/20/2021
Kramer, Patrice, Paraeducator, Orchard Elementary, effective 9/14/2021
Salazar, Adriana, Paraeducator, Enterprise Middle School
Turner, Tracie, Paraeducator, Jason Lee Elementary, 9/3/2021- est. 12/3/2021
REASSIGNMENTS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR
Perry, Christina, Secretary, TLC to Computer Network Specialist, Admin., effect. 9/13/2021
RESIGNATIONS FOR THE END OF THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR
Evans, Vanessa, Custodian, Enterprise Middle School, effective 8/27/2021
Hammitt, Melisa, Secretary (from 2nd year LOA), effective 8/31/2021

Henneman, Jody, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 8/31/21 (moving to Substitute Driver)
Hipke, Shandy, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark Elementary

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Bressler, Kary, Secretary, Richland High School, effective 8/31/2021
Clifford, Melanie, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 8/31/2021
Flowers, Jennifer, Paraeducator, William Wiley Elementary, effective 10/1/2021
Hayden, Theresa, Paraeducator, Special Education, effective 9/17/2021
Mackey, Michael, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 9/10/2021
Maine, Alaina, Nutrition Services, HomeLink, effective 9/21/2021
McCarthy, Toni, Paraeducator, Jefferson Elementary, effective 9/16/2021
McCary, Cathleen, Secretary, Richland High School, effective 10/8/2021
Nef, Cassandra, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark Elementary, effective 9/22/2021
Simmons, Anne, Paraeducator, White Bluffs Elementary, effective 9/24/2021
Strycker, Laura, Paraeducator, Tapteal Elementary, effective 9/10/2021

DECEASED

Jamieson, Troy, Information Technology Analyst

TERMINATIONS

Castaneda, Leandro, Assistant Custodial Manager, Support Services, effective 8/26/2021

4.2 Approval of Minutes (August 24, 2021)

4.3 Resolution No. 934-Cancellation of Warrants

4.4 Payroll and Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant No. 54000340 for \$125.00

Nos. 40006791 through 40006796 for \$26,984.88
Nos. 54000341 through 54000343 for \$5,269.83
Nos. 74000116 through 74000117 for \$17,631.33
Nos. 40006797 through 40006799 for \$4,773.83
Nos. 54000344 for \$46,177.96

Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20001706 through 20001708 for \$14,586.05

No. 20001709 for \$3,092.50
No. 52000230 for \$17,750.00
Nos. 20001710 through 20001713 for \$2,474,284.75
Nos. 52000231 through 52000234 for \$151,235.03

General Fund Warrant Nos. 10078286 through 10078316 for \$281,505.26

Nos. 51001223 through 51001231 for \$163,709.20
Nos. 71002216 through 71002228 for \$47,233.24
Nos. 10078317 through 10078358 for \$232,915.39
Nos. 51001232 through 51001241 for \$39,675.49
Nos. 71002229 through 71002246 for \$104,033.99
Nos. 10078360 through 10078416 for \$134,016.09
Nos. 51001242 through 51001251 for \$295,279.56
Nos. 71002247 through 71002257 for \$13,362.44

Self-Insurance Fund Warrant No. 57000042 for \$2,354.97

Nos. 57000043 through 57000044 for \$13,689.76
No. 70000227 for \$1,369.34

Payroll Warrant Nos. 10078072 through 10078086 for \$38,967.24

Nos. 10078195 through 10078243 for \$119,486.37
Nos. 10078244 through 10078285 for \$4,791,486.20

Electronic Fund Transfer for \$9,090,238.67
Total August Payroll approved in the amount of \$14,040,17.48

5.0 BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Shelley Redinger reported a great start to the school year with students in school and sports and activities going well. The rules sometimes change every day with staff and students needing to pivot quickly. Kids have been the most resilient. Staff members will be working on ways to educate students during quarantine periods.

Jill Oldson stated it is exciting to have students back in school and thanked the community for their support.

Kari Williams attended the PTA Council meeting and asked parents to get involved with the PTA/PTO/PSTAs in their schools. She also shared an incident that took place in a crosswalk near Orchard Elementary and asked to create a policy for safe walking routes that is reviewed annually. Mr. Jansons asked that this topic be placed on a future agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS