



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, November 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, November 9, 2021, at 6:00 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 6:00 P.M.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel, Legal)**

The Board adjourned to executive session at 6:00 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 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 6:30 P.M.

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

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Jansons reported speaking with legal counsel from both the Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA) and the District to verify the mask requirement for public meetings. He respectfully asked all in attendance to comply with the State mandate and stated without compliance the meeting cannot continue.

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

That the Board resume the Board meeting remotely tomorrow.

Ms. Williams stated it was her understanding the Board could still carry on with District business. Galt Pettett, District Counsel, stated the District has an obligation to keep our employees safe and meeting without following State requirements would violate District insurance coverage and Workers' Compensation laws.

Mr. Jansons read Proclamation 20-28 which prohibits public meetings unless all requirements are met and to continue remotely if needed. To continue in person would violate the law. Ms. Williams felt the meeting should continue. Ms. Oldson stated nothing voted on could be maintained if requirements were not met. It was suggested the meeting could be recessed until tomorrow and be done virtually. Mr. Janson again asked all to wear a mask so the meeting could

continue. Several people in the audience asked as well. All attendees did put masks. Mr. Jansons stated he appreciated the compliance.

### **1.1 Pledge of Allegiance**

**1.2 Roll Call-**Ms. Oldson participated via zoom.

Mr. Jansons shared that Mary Guay, longtime Richland School District Board member, had passed away at age 93. Ms. Guay was well known as an advocate for kids. She had many connections at the State level and continued to advocate for students even after her years as a Board member. She will be missed.

## **2.0 COMMUNICATIONS**

### **2.1 GOOD NEWS**

#### **2.1.1 State Psychologist of the Year-Angie Withers**

Angie Withers, School Psychologist, was recently honored as the Washington State School Psychologist of the Year for her work in the District. Mr. Jansons complimented Ms. Withers and the Mental Health Assistance Team (MHAT) who recently did a presentation for the WSSDA group.

#### **2.1.2 Possibilities in Action Partnership Award**

Richland School Nurses and My Friends Place were both recognized for being outstanding partners to the District. School Nurses have worked tirelessly this fall to keep students and staff safe. My Friends Place has been an asset to the community to provide shelter and assistance for homeless students.

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

Will Kirkham shared concern regarding the Healthy Youth Survey and the fact that one of his students still took the survey after requesting to opt out. Dr. Redinger shared a mistake was made and Mr. Jansons apologized for the oversight. Mr. Kirkham feels the District needs to do a better job addressing mental health issues in schools.

Andrew Holmes, Student, asked if the District was planning on offering COVID vaccines to students in schools. Dr. Redinger shared the District is working on dates for clinics for students with parental permission and will help facilitate those families. Andrew also asked if students will be required to be vaccinated to attend school. Dr. Redinger stated she did not anticipate that happening.

Shelley Burt shared she was glad the meeting was in-person, but disappointed people had to wait outside. She also shared concern regarding the Healthy Youth Survey questions and stated other districts had apologized immediately. She feels the person responsible should be fired.

Ted Robbins shared his concern about students wearing masks. He feels students all look the same and that is hard on students. He also feels the District should have more parents involved with mental health issues.

Kari thanked the Board members for listening to the same people complaining every week. She thanked them for trying to focus on education instead of arguing about wearing masks.

Grace Morrell and Evann Schwantes, high school students, shared their concern regarding the administration's response to student suicides and bullying. Form letters read by some teachers seemed less than adequate. Students asked that staff take suicide and bullying more seriously, and the recent response made them feel like no one cared. Dr. Redinger asked Ms. Withers and Mr. Baddley to meet with the students outside the Board room.

Cody Freeze feels the District is adding more requirements than necessary. He feels wearing masks is harmful and the District has the power to override this mandate.

Taliga Abney, Student, shared concern regarding the response to suicides and an incident at Richland High School he feels is unacceptable. Dr. Redinger asked to follow up with the student.

### **3.0 BUSINESS**

#### **3.1 Elementary Boundaries**

Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, Elementary #11 (Belmont Site) is scheduled to open in the fall of 2022-23. The new facility will allow us to serve approximately 550 students in the West Richland area. Elementary #11 will be a geographic neighbor to White Bluffs Elementary, Wiley Elementary, and Tapteal Elementary. Mr. Moore advised current enrollment at Tapteal Elementary is 645; White Bluffs is 707, and Orchard is 662. To compound this overcrowding issue, West Richland is expected to add up to 700 new homes within the next 5 years (Horn Rapids area and Ruppert road region). South Richland is expecting up to 800 new homes within the next five years (including the South Mountain area, Westcliffe area, and over the ridge on Bermuda road toward Reata Road). Mr. Moore mentioned the downtown schools have shown little growth.

Mr. Moore shared Board goals were to keep boundaries logical and limit bus rides. The boundary committee has been meeting for over a year and gathering input from the community. The committee is suggesting three boundary revision options for consideration. These options would help alleviate current overcrowding in West Richland and South Richland, better prepare the District to accommodate future growth over the next five years and define a new boundary for Elementary #11. Mr. Moore shared details of all options including:

#### Option A

- Add a new boundary for Elementary #11
- Alleviate overcrowding at Tapteal, White Bluffs, and William Wiley Elementaries
- Create capacity at Tapteal Elementary for future growth

#### Option B

- Add new boundary for Elementary #11 and shift Meadow Springs/Willow Brook East of Leslie Road back to the new Badger Mountain Elementary
- Alleviate overcrowding at Tapteal, White Bluffs, William Wiley, and Orchard Elementaries
- Create capacity for future growth in both South and West Richland

#### Option C

- Add a new boundary for Elementary #11
- Shift Meadow Springs/Willow Brook East of Leslie Road back to the new Badger Mountain Elementary
- Add an innovative type magnet program to the downtown area (Jefferson Elementary)-(i.e., dual language, Montessori model, STEM and/or Arts emphasis)

Board discussion followed including:

- minimize disruptions
- timeline for construction-the construction team feels confident the new Badger will be completed on time
- amount of funds re-allocated from Elementary #12 funding
- option C-could combine with other options
- transportation concerns
- consider feeder schools to middle schools-least impact on students
- further outreach for community input
- provide maximum lead time for families
- timeline for decision and naming of Elementary #11
- opportunity for new Board members to share input

Mr. Moore advised the online survey will remain live on the District website to continue to gather input. He would like to start communication to parents in January, as well as preparing for principal, staffing, and the naming of Elementary #11.

### **3.2 Fran Rish Stadium-Design Development-First Reading**

Caren Johnson, Director of Capital Projects, reported architects and engineers have been working on the Design Document drawings for the improvement project at Fran Rish Stadium. Ms. Johnson shared the site layout and architectural floorplans for the renovated and new buildings. Also included are the estimates from both the Project Estimator and General Contracting/Construction Manager (GC/CM). The project is an Alternative Public Works method of GC/CM. The first phase of early site demolition of the locker room building was bid in October and awarded to Chervenell. The early phase of demolition was necessary to begin investigations of the underside of grandstand to better understand the structure conditions so details can be incorporated in the final construction documents. Ms. Johnson shared the team is also looking at a possible early procurement bid package of certain materials due to long lead times which could impact the completion date of the project. No action is required at this time.

Board discussion followed including specifics of the ticketing building, restrooms, parking, and locker rooms. The Fran Rish Stadium Project will be on the next agenda for approval.

### **3.3 Teaching Learning and Administrative Center (TLAC)**

Ms. Johnson shared information on both Resolution No. 935-Acceptance as Finally Complete and Resolution No. 936-Building Commissioning Report. Both resolutions are required by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

### **Resolution No. 935-Acceptance as Finally Complete/Resolution No. 936-Building Commissioning Report**

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 935-ACCEPTANCE AS FINALLY COMPLETE AND RESOLUTION NO. 936-BUILDING COMMISSIONING REPORT.

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

### **3.4 Resolution No. 937-Educational Programs and Operations Levy**

Clinton Sherman, Executive Director of Finance, advised the draft four-year Levy proposal, with a tax rate of \$2.50/\$1000 of assessed valuation is maintaining the same Levy term and collection rate as the community has previously supported. Our desire is to provide predictability and stability for our students, families, and staff. Mr. Sherman stated a school district levy provides resources for extracurricular activities, additional course offerings, early learning programs, additional professional development, staffing ratios beyond the prototypical levels, etc.

### **3.5 Resolution No. 938-Technology Levy**

Mr. Sherman stated the Technology Levy has been leveraged to enhance effective use of instructional technology. The levy will be used to continue to purchase hardware, software, infrastructure, and staff training for the benefit of staff and students. Key features of this levy include the average collection of about \$6 million per year over four years with a replacement levy rate of about 50 cents per year.

Ms. Williams suggested creating an informational video to share with schools and on the District website. Mr. Sherman stated a Levy education campaign will be planned to share specific details of what is included in the Levies with cost details. These Resolutions will be on the next Board agenda for approval. The election will be held in February 2022. Pasco and Kennewick School Districts plan to run their Levies at the same time.

### **3.6 Policies -10,000 Series**

Galt Pettett, General Counsel, stated as part of the District's Policy update, the administration is recommending deleting the entire 10,000 series. Policy and Procedure 10,010 – Emergency Treatment of Students and Policy and Procedure 10015 - School Bomb Threats correlate with Washington State School Directors Association's (WSSDA) Policy and Procedure 3432 – Emergencies. The remaining polices in the 10,000 are unique to the Richland School District and do not correlate to the Washington State School Directors Association's (WSSDA) numbering system. Mr. Jansons explained the 10,000 series was added years ago by a Board member who felt these policies should be placed together. Dr. Redinger also shared many of these polices are out of date and the policy updating process is a lengthy one.

After discussion, Mr. Pettett will prepare information sharing where these policies are provided in the 1,000-9,000 series for clarification.

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

**THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE DELETING THE POLICIES IN THE 10,000 SERIES FOR FIRST READING.**

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

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

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It was moved by Kari Williams and seconded by Heather –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (4.1) THROUGH (4.4) INCLUDING AN UPDATED 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 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Elliot, Laureli, 1 FTE, Resource Room, Location TBD, non-continuing, effective 11/8/2021

###### INCREASE IN FTE FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Allen, Shelly, .50 FTE (now .90 FTE), Physical Ed., Pacific Crest Online Academy, effective 11/8/2021

Wietsma, Meg, .20 FTE (now .80 FTE), Geometry, Richland High, non-continuing, effective 8/31/2021

###### RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Hart, Nicole, .50 FTE(now .50 FTE), Nurse, Teaching & Learning, effective 11/15/2021

Root, Courtney, .40 FTE(now .60 FTE), Physical Education, Hanford High School, eff. 10/8/2021

##### CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

###### NEW HIRES FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Bryant, Nicole, Secretary, Leona Libby Middle School, effective 11/15/2021

Denman, Heather, Nutrition Services, Badger Mountain Elementary, effective 11/1/2021

De Victoria, Rebekah, Paraeducator, William Wiley Elementary, effective 11/8/2021

DiFani, Garrett, Custodian, Richland High School, effective 11/1/2021

Elliott, Mark, Paraeducator (Replacement Employee-Rehire), Orchard Elem.,eff. 10/21/2021

Foster, Madasyn, Paraeducator (Replacement Employee), Sacajawea Elementary, eff. 11/12/2021

Izaguirre,Elsa, Secretary, Teaching & Learning, effective 12/1/2021

Kim, Kyungyoun, Paraeducator, Richland High School, effective 11/2/2021

Remington, Trenton, Information Technology Tech 1, Information Technology, effective 11/2/2021

Rochek, Zachary, Custodian, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 11/15/2021

Scott, Alan, Paraeducator, Enterprise Middle School, effective 11/1/2021 (updated date)

Toroni, Jacqueline, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 11/8/2021

###### LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Mathews, Katrina, Paraeducator, Taptal Elementary, effective dates 10/25/2021-2/11/2022

###### RETIREMENTS FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Hoyt, Alison, Paraeducator, Early Learning Center (2020-21 LOA) corrected from 'Resignation' on 7/27/2021 Pers Action

###### RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Cole, Dale, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 11/2/2021

Jashari, Bajram, Custodian, Hanford High School, effective 11/12/2021

Knight, Alison, Secretary (from LOA), effective 11/9/2021

Murphy, Caitlin, Paraeducator, Early Learning Center, effective 11/19/2021

Schneider, Kimberley, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 10/31/2021

#### **4.2 Approval of Minutes (October 26, 2021)**

#### **4.3 Perkins Grant – Career and Technical Education (CTE)**

#### 4.4 Payroll and Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40006837 through 40006842 for \$13,916.92  
Nos. 54000360 through 54000363 for \$1,965.83  
Nos. 74000124 through 74000124 for \$977.40  
Nos. 40006843 through 40006852 for \$14,880.58  
Nos. 54000364 through 54000367 for \$82,735.39  
Nos. 74000125 through 74000126 for \$1,385.00  
Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20001734 through 20001736 for \$21,289.15  
No. 52000243 for \$10,910.30  
Nos. 20001737 through 20001741 for \$185,961.86  
Nos. 52000244 through 52000250 for \$265,936.33  
General Fund Warrant Nos. 10079031 through 10079084 for \$304,561.10  
Nos. 51001329 through 51001341 for \$23,388.50  
Nos. 71002342 through 71002353 for \$157,065.22  
Nos. 10079089 through 10079144 for \$247,838.11  
Nos. 51001342 through 51001354 for \$448,287.64  
Nos. 71002354 through 71002366 for \$22,324.71  
Self-Insurance Fund Warrant Nos. 57000052 through 57000053 for \$6,471.41  
No. 70000233 for \$3,129.00  
No. 57000054 for \$1,069.91  
Payroll Warrant Nos. 10078695 through 10078696 for \$3,540.00  
Nos. 10078697 through 10078700 for \$3,372.82  
Nos. 10078897 through 10078990 for \$178,703.34  
Nos. 10078991 through 10079030 for \$4,427,535.10  
Electronic Fund Transfer for \$9,752,823.93  
Total October Payroll approved in the amount of \$14,365,975.19

#### 5.0 BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Shelley Redinger is excited to have lots of activities and sports happening outside of the school day. She shared Veterans' Day is Thursday, November 11, 2021 and there will be no school. There is school on Friday. Seattle schools have announced they will close because of a lack of staff and she thanked District staff for their commitment to keep schools open.

Rick Jansons reported going to his first band concert in the new Richland High School Auditorium. He shared the acoustics are a great improvement.

Jill Oldson thanked for the audience for masking to let us continue with the meeting.

Kari Williams reported on happenings at the WSSDA General Assembly as the District voting delegate. She was surprised regarding the weighted votes for larger school districts. Mr. Jansons stated the rationale is controversial and he is not in favor of weighted voting. Ms. Williams also visited schools with Brian Moore and would like to schedule more of these visits.

Mr. Jansons announce a Reading Workshop will take place tomorrow from 4:00-5:00 P.M.

Mr. Janson asked for an executive session expected to last fifteen minutes with no action taken. The meeting recessed at 8:38 P.M.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION (Real Estate)**

Mr. Jansons reconvened the meeting at 8:50 P.M. and moved immediately into executive session to discuss acquisition of real estate, if public knowledge might increase the price 42.30.110 (1) (b); and minimum selling price for real estate, if public knowledge might depress the price (final action selling or leasing real estate must be taken in public meeting) 42.30.110 (1) (c). Executive session was extended at 9:08 for fifteen minutes. Executive session ended at 9:35 P.M. with no action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

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RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

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SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS