



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, February 8, 2022
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 8, 2022, at 5:20 P.M. via Zoom and in person, 6972 Keene Road, West Richland, Washington. School Board President Jill Oldson presided. Board members present: Kari Williams, Semi Bird, and Rick Jansons. Administrators present: Superintendent Dr. Shelley Redinger, Deputy Superintendent Mike Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and Secondary Education Todd Baddley, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Tony Howard, Executive Director of Financial Services Clinton Sherman, Executive Director of Information Technology Mike Leseberg, Executive Director of Operations Richard Krasner, Executive Director of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Nicki Blake, Executive Director of Special Education Dr. Tracy Blankenship, Director of Communications Ty Beaver, and District Counsel Galt Pettett.

The Board meeting was called to order at 5:20 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel, Real Estate, Legal)

The Board adjourned to executive session at 5:20 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); 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), and acquisition of real estate, if public knowledge might increase the price 42.30.110 (1) (b). The executive session was projected to last sixty 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

Ms. Oldson asked all in the audience to put on masks or the meeting would be recessed and moved to a virtual format. With the state mask mandate in effect, if the meeting were to continue, all business would be considered null and void. After several more requests were made, all in attendance put on face coverings.

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Roll Call-Audra Byrd participated via Zoom.

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS

2.1 GOOD NEWS-National School Counseling Week

Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, introduced Nicole Anderson, River's Edge High School Principal, and Fletcher Pierce, Assistant Principal, Jason Lee Elementary, who shared their appreciation for all Counselors in the District.

Counselors Debbie Wheeler, Jason Lee Elementary, and Denise Reddinger, Richland High School, also shared information from the Governor's proclamation for National School Counseling Week.

2.2 Requests and Comments by Visitors (3 minutes per individual)

Comments via Zoom:

Jessica, S. Wentz, CCJ, and Jennifer Walker, shared their concern regarding the state mask mandate, lack of school business taking place, and asked that communication be translated.

In-Person Comments:

Keith Lehrschall, Kristen Christensen, Arian Wilcox, Rochelle Wilcox, Jodi Kleingartner, Kristin Kunbel, Melissa Duffin, Drew Killian, Chris Hildman, Shelly Burt, Melissa Burnside, Denae Jeppson, Janice Haney, Melanie Dye, Lindsay Clark, Phyllis Baxter, Gene Nemeth, Tina Gregory, and Rachel Samlorano shared comments regarding: Mental health of students, state mask mandate, vaccines, advocating for students, thanks for following the state mandate, and Special Education concerns. *Comments are available on the Board meeting recording.*

2.3 Board/Superintendent Reports

Ms. Byrd stated, based on community response and Chris Reykdal's (Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction recent recommendation, she would like to entertain a motion to stop enforcing the mask mandate in our District. There was no second the motion.

Mr. Bird is against masks and mandates. He has spoken with many parents and his thoughts are with students and families. He voted for student voice on the Board, for a parent/guardian group, and to begin work on a Strategic Plan. He will advocate for all students and all families.

Mr. Jansons is pleased with Chris Reykdal's support for removing the mask mandate. His position is to follow the law. After disruption Mr. Jansons would like to make a motion to move to zoom. Discussion followed.

Ms. Williams reported the PTA council is recognizing bus drivers for their work and asked parents to get involved in these groups. She asked all to be kind and disagree with respect.

Mr. Bird hosted a get together with parents of Special Education students. He also reported visiting Jason Lee and Tapteal Elementaries, and the Early Learning Center. Mr. Bird reported great things are happening in our schools.

Mr. Jansons is hoping guidance will come out soon to move the decision making to local Departments of Health. Mr. Jansons stated local leaders have received death threats and stated the unity of this community is most important. He will follow the law in making decisions.

Ms. Byrd reported meeting with parents on the Mental Health Assistance Team (MHAT). She feels funding will not be revoked if students are not required to wear masks.

Ms. Oldson stated the removal of the mask mandate is finally being entertained but until then, the District needs to obey the law. Ms. Oldson asked for a short recess at 9:19 P.M.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:36 P.M. Ms. Oldson asked to move to the Consent agenda, and place the remaining agenda topics on an upcoming agenda.

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

It was moved by Rick Jansons and seconded by Semi Bird –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (4.1) THROUGH (4.3) INCLUDING AN UPDATED PERSONNEL ACTION.

Vote: Bird, yes; Jansons, yes; Williams, yes; Byrd, yes: and Oldson, yes.
Motion was approved.

4.1 Personnel Actions

ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Klauss, Jennifer, Principal, Enterprise Middle School to Executive Director of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum, effective 7/1/2022

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Mineke, Wendy, 1 FTE, Speech Language Pathologist, Special Education, effective 3/1/2022

DECREASE IN FTE FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Barber, Susan, .20 FTE (Now .80 FTE), Speech Language Pathologist, Special Education

Casas, Kim, .20 FTE (Now .80 FTE), Speech Language Pathologist, Special Education

INCREASE IN FTE FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Frank, Laura, .20 FTE (Now .60 FTE), Math, Pacific Crest Online Academy, eff. 8/31/2021
(date & FTE correction)

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Barker, Jessica, Paraeducator, William Wiley Elementary School, effective 2/3/2022

Dotson, Abigail, Paraeducator (Rehire), William Wiley Elementary, effective 2/7/2022

Jackson, Tori, Paraeducator (Rehire), William Wiley Elementary, effective 2/7/2022

Mancinas, Omar, Custodian, Richland High School, effective 2/1/2022

Oehmen, Ann, Secretary (Rehire), Richland High School, effective 2/18/2022

Pace, Heidi, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 2/10/2022

Rowlette, Montana, Bus Attendant, Transportation, effective 2/1/2022

Zirker, Austin, Paraeducator, Richland High School, effective 2/10/2022

CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Armatis, Sam, Custodian, Jason Lee Elementary to Three Rivers HomeLink, effective 1/31/2022

Eskeli, Cynthia, Assistant Manager of Routing, Transportation to Student Information Systems Analyst I, Information Technology, effective 2/14/2022

Garcia-Bueno, Mario, Custodian, TLAC to Building Foreman II, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 2/1/2022

Nopphavong, Manivone, Custodian, Hanford High School to Marcus Whitman Elementary, effective 1/31/2022

Rodriguez, Anita, K12 Instruction Secretary, TLAC to Payroll Specialist, TLAC, effective
2/7/2022

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Frye, Jessie, Nutrition Services Worker, Hanford High School, effective 2/3/2022 (will sub)
Ghadamsi, Sabria, Nutrition Services Worker, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 2/3/2022
McConnell, Tyler, Custodian, Carmichael Middle School, effective 2/18/2022

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Bearchum, Jennifer, Paraeducator, Tapteal Elementary, leave extended through 8/31/2022
Leiby, Meg, Paraeducator, Enterprise Middle School, effective 2/7/2022-est. 5/27/2022

4.2 Approval of Minutes (January 21, 2022; January 25, 2022)

4.3 Payroll and Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40006909 for \$ 945.91
Nos. 54000389 through 54000390 for \$269.01
No. 74000133 for \$2,283.00
Nos. 40006910 through 40006915 for \$2,850.00
Nos. 54000391 through 54000395 for \$6,315.47
Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20001765 through 20001766 for \$45,335.77
No. 72000031 for \$2,388.12
Nos. 20001767 through 20001770 for \$2,199,814.00
No. 52000264 for \$2,261.21
No. 72000032 for \$330.00
General Fund Warrant Nos. 10080169 through 10080206 for \$470,558.24
Nos. 51001463 through 51001471 through \$72,054.99
Nos. 71002495 through 71002508 for \$23,977.18
Nos. 10080207 through 10080266 for \$177,637.37
Nos. 51001472 through 51001483 for \$61,658.08
Nos. 71002509 through 71002523 for \$19,468.32
Self-Insurance Fund Warrant Nos. 57000066 for \$4,616.26
Nos. 57000067 through 57000068 for \$28,828.47
Payroll Warrant Numbers 10079851 through 10079852 for \$6,170.25
10080032 through 10080124 for \$160,647.85
10080125 through 10080168 for \$4,605,097.06
Electronic Funds Transfer for \$9,606,878.20
Total January Payroll in the amount of \$14,378,793.36

3.4 Resolution

Mr. Bird stated the resolution should be created as a team so all Board members can unite around it. The District would like to engage Pasco and Kennewick School Districts as well. This should be in a workshop format so the public can hear the process, then share with the other local districts, then share with OSPI and the Governor.

Ms. Byrd mentioned two resolutions previously sent to other members, one for local control and one regarding vaccine requirements for students. Mr. Bird stated creating these as a team will make all feel good about signing the document. Ms. Byrd sked to schedule the workshop as soon as possible.

Dr. Redinger complimented staff for their work during the recent lockdown. She also mentioned working with the Pasco and Kennewick Superintendents to advocate for our region and to put pressure on the Governor to set a date for releasing the mask mandate.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:43 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS