



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, March 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, March 8, 2022, at **6:30 P.M.** via Zoom and in person, 6972 Keene Road, West Richland, Washington. School Board President Jill Oldson presided. Board members present: Kari Williams, Audra Byrd, 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 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 Student Representative Report

Ms. Oldson introduced Gabby Laurenz, Richland High School student, who shared topics from the recent Student Advisory Committee including: Boys/Girls Club Teen Center possibilities, mental health grant updates, the addition of a student representative to the Board of Directors and shared ideas on a third high school in the District.

2.2 GOOD NEWS

2.2.1 Classified Staff Appreciation Week

Dr. Redinger stated next week is Educational Support Professionals' week and introduced the Presidents of each of the Classified Employee Groups. Dr. Redinger shared the District could not run without the support of these staff members. The District provided cookies for all classified staff members to thank them for their service to students.

2.2.2 Classified Employee of the Year-Stephanie O'Brien-Green

Dr. Redinger introduced Stephanie O'Brien Green, Administrative Assistant-William Wiley Elementary, who was honored as Classified Employee of the Year in the Richland School District. Ms. O'Brien-Green is known for her commitment to students.

2.3 Comments by Students and Staff (3 minutes per individual)

Deannie Sullivan shared information on structured literacy and asked to allocate and prioritize resources.

Liz Cronin shared praises of alternative learning programs in the District to give parents options for their students including River's Edge High School (REHS), Three Rivers HomeLink, and Pacific Crest Online Academy (PCOA). She encouraged members to come and talk with PCOA teachers.

Jenn shared gratitude for Dr. Redinger and the administrative team for their strong leadership and stated when her team asked for support and materials, they received it.

Beth Hammond appreciates Dr. Redinger and thanked the Board for focusing more on instruction.

2.4 Board/Superintendent Reports

Shelley Redinger shared this is Social Worker Week and thanked staff for their work connecting with families to improve student success. She stated when masks are optional starting March 12, 2022, they will still be required for health rooms and isolation rooms. The District will also support those who wish to continue wearing masks after the mandate is lifted. There will be no required testing for events such as sports or music/drama performances.

Audra Byrd asked Mr. Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, to share information on substitute teachers. Ms. Byrd also met with Mr. Moore and several principals to discuss dual language and will be attending the Jefferson Elementary PTA meeting later this month.

Audra Byrd moved the Board approve the following Vision and Mission statements:

VISION STATEMENT:

“To become the regional center of academic excellence, where the unique characteristics and needs of all students are met and exceeded, to ensure their success.”

MISSION STATEMENT:

“To provide effective governance of the Richland School District through leadership, accountability, and transparency, while valuing the importance of student and family advocacy and engagement.”

The motion was seconded by Semi Bird.

Ms. Oldson stated she felt the motion is out of order, the topic is not on tonight's agenda, and she asked for discussion.

Ms. Williams would like to request a forum with the community and staff to gather input before making this decision.

Mr. Janson stated Board Reports is not the time for motions. He would be in favor of more input from the community before a vote and putting this on a future agenda.

Mr. Bird stated typically the Board would set the Vision, but he will support the Board.

Ms. Oldson feels the Board needs to work as a team and would appreciate no surprise motions. Discussion followed. There was no vote taken and this topic will be added to the March 22, 2022 meeting agenda.

Kari Williams reported the facilitator of the recent Board Workshop works with the District each year to help with Board self-assessments. Ms. Williams reported attending the Hanford High School Dessert Theatre and shared information on middle school drama performances.

Rick Jansons reported meeting with Brian Ace, Boys and Girls Club President, who shared information regarding a possible Teen Center in Richland.

Semi Bird reported meeting with Ms. Oldson and Dr. Redinger to discuss the next steps to add Student Representatives to the Board of Directors. Members of the current Student Advisory committee will take part for the rest of this year while helping develop the process to choose a student or several students to participate next year. The Parent Advisory Group will meet later this month including representatives from all schools. Mr. Bird joined the Jefferson PTA and is meeting with alternative school staff.

Jill Oldson advised being on the WSSDA State Legislative Counsel and shared work on several bills now on the Governor's desk for approval.

3.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3.1 Update to Oral Resolution (per Governor Inslee's update)

It was moved by Rick Jansons and second by Semi Bird that-

THE BOARD APPROVE MODIFYING THE DATE OF ORAL RESOLUTION #940-LOCAL CONTROL, PASSED ON FEBRUARY 15, 2022, THEN MODIFIED ON FEBRUARY 17, 2022, FOR MASK CHOICE FROM MARCH 21, 2022 TO MARCH 11, 2022 AT MIDNIGHT.

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

3.2 Recording of Board Workshops and Meetings

It was moved by Kari Williams and seconded by Audra Byrd that -

THE BOARD APPROVE THE RECORDING OF ALL PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS.

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

4.0 NEW BUSINESS

4.1 All Kids Every Day-Universal Design for Learning Overview-Community Night

Dr. Tracy Blankenship, Executive Director of Special Education, introduced Instructional Coaches Michelle Fickle and Rene Yucca who shared information on the development and coaching of staff in utilizing Universal Design for Learning (UDL) as a framework to meet the needs of all learners.

UDL is a collection of research-based instructional guidelines to help teachers anticipate barriers in students reaching the standards and then provide voice and choice to allow all students to reach their learning goals. Standards drive instruction but how students reach standards is individualized. They invited Board members to the next community night on April 28, 2022. Board discussion followed.

4.2 Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program Update

Ryan Beard, Director of CTE, provided an update on student enrollment, new courses, and the Career and Technical Education graduation pathway. Mr. Beard stated the program is highly tied to industry demand. Students complete High School and Beyond Plans (HSBP) and classes are added with student priorities in mind. Because of strong support from administration, school counselors, and engaging instruction from staff, more students are accessing these classes and the CTE Graduation Pathway. The District has also increased CTE teachers to accommodate the increased demand. The program functions under distinct rules, funding, and standards as established by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and the United States Department of Education. The District offers 11 courses to middle school students. High schools offer 81 courses across all program areas. Many courses offer equivalency credits or college credits. Board discussion followed.

4.3 Curriculum Adoption Update

Nicki Blake, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, introduced Erika Doyle, Assistant Director of Teaching and Learning, who shared an overview of the world language adoption process. The committee is comprised of 12 world language teachers, 1 assistant principal, and 2 community members. The committee began work in September of 2021, and plan to complete the adoption process by the spring of 2022, having new material in the classrooms for the 2022-23 school year. Two curriculums are currently being piloted. Feedback from the piloted curriculum will be gathered through student surveys, classroom discussions, and alignment to the best practices document. The material selected will then be available for public review. The Instructional Material Committee (IMC) will review committee recommendations and bring to the Board for approval. Information on changes to the AP Human Geography curriculum will be included in a Friday packet. Information on possible changes in the adoption cycle were requested.

4.4 Balanced Calendar/Year-Round School

Mike Hansen, Deputy Superintendent, advised this topic has been discussed for years and would be a significant change for the District. A balanced calendar/year-round school would shorten summer break to six weeks, lengthen winter and spring breaks to three weeks, and create a fall three-week break. There are pros and cons to this calendar. Mr. Hansen reported 18 school districts in Washington have obtained grant funding to explore balanced schedules. A survey to gather input from the community would be needed to determine the level of interest before moving forward.

Board discussion followed including:

- need to hear from community
- discuss with local districts (staff/students work in one district, live in other)
- five-year timeline
- incorporate in Strategic Plan

4.5 Performance Audit Updates-Plan and Cycles

Dr. Redinger advised the District has many performance reviews that are completed regularly. She shared plans to discuss several of these reviews at each Board meeting in the future. Finance Department, Nutrition Services, and Consolidated Programs reviews are just several of the areas reviewed regularly. A curriculum audit was performed several years ago and many initiatives were implemented, but no follow-up support was provided. Superintendent Redinger suggested completing a new curriculum audit as a baseline with support provided following the audit. Board discussion included:

- good to review findings at public meetings for transparency
- like the idea of an audit to establish a new curriculum baseline
- continuous improvement is the goal
- results available on District website in one location

5.0 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 (5.1) THROUGH (5.4) INCLUDING AN UPDATED PERSONNEL ACTION.

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

5.1 Personnel Actions

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Hudson, Joshua, 1 FTE, Occupational Therapist, Special Education, effective 3/14/2022

OUT OF ENDORSEMENT FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Allen, Stuart, Social Studies, Richland High School

Atkinson, Megan, Elementary Education, Jefferson Elementary

Baker, Rebekah, Language Arts, Three Rivers HomeLink

Barragan, Terry, Health, Carmichael Middle School

Beierle, Beverly, Recreational Sports, Three Rivers HomeLink

Brightman, Lynette, English/Language Arts, Hanford High School

Buczek, Theresa, Sociology, Richland High School

Burt, Andrew, World Geography, Chief Joseph Middle School

Canfield, Nataliya, English/Language Arts, Richland High School

Chapin, Kristen, English/Language Arts, Richland High School

Collins, Katherine, Elementary Education, Jason Lee Elementary

Cothorn, Kimberly, Elementary Education, White Bluffs Elementary

Cridler, Liz, World Geography, Chief Joseph Middle School

Dickey, Erin, Theater, Hanford High School

Doctor, Jay, World Geography, Chief Joseph Middle School

Duffy, Sean, World Geography, Carmichael Middle School

Freeman, Chantelle, World Geography, Enterprise Middle School

Greenwood, Michele, English/Language Arts, Richland High School

Griffin, Steven, Health, Carmichael Middle School

Harding, Lisa, English/Language Arts, Hanford High School

Hobbick, Kimberly, World Geography, Enterprise Middle School
Holt, Kayzin, English/Language Arts, Hanford High School
Horn, Sabrina, Mathematics, Hanford High School
Hue, Edward, Earth Science, Hanford High School
Ingram, Dale, AP Chemistry, Richland High School
Jacobs, Christine, World Geography, Leona Libby MS
Johnson, Skylar, Algebra, Richland High School
Kenney, Veronica, Zoology, Three Rivers HomeLink
Laws, Kevin, Health, Enterprise Middle School
Lokken, Cassie, Physical Education, Integrated Science, Enterprises MS
Macduff, Trevor, Fitness, River's Edge High School
McKinnis, Forrest, Integrated Math and Science, River's Edge High School
Medrano, Javier, Exploratory, Chief Joseph Middle School
Meredith, Amy, Integrated Science, PE, Algebra, Language Arts, Social Studies, Spanish,
Three Rivers HomeLink
Morgan, Darren, English/Language Arts, Integrated Math and Science, Geography, US issues,
Psychology, Fitness, River's Edge High School
Morton, Laura, World Geography, Chief Joseph Middle School
Neidhold, Michael, English/Language Arts, Richland High School
Nelson, Pamela, World Geography, Chief Joseph Middle School
Nichols, Hope, World Geography, Enterprise Middle School
Padilla, Erik, Mathematics, Richland High School
Peters, Diane, World Geography, Enterprise Middle School
Pryor, Juliana, English/Language Arts, Richland High School
Robinson, Jeremiah, Elementary Education, Enterprise Middle School
Ruiz, Natilee, English/Language Arts, Richland High School
Rosenblum, Denise, English/Language Arts, River's Edge High School
Ryder, Michael, World Geography, Carmichael Middle School
Simmelink, Ryan, German, Richland High School
Sites, Brian, English/Language Arts, River's Edge High School
Smith, Tara, English/Language Arts, Social Studies, Hanford High School
Sparks, Rebecca, Language Arts, Hanford HS
Sperline, Amy, World Geography, Leona Libby Middle School
Torres, Rosalinda, Spanish, Leona Libby Middle School
Valdez, Paul, Integrated Science, PCOA
White, Jennifer, Physical Education, Enterprise MS
RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR
Diehl, Victoria, .80 FTE, Speech Language Pathologist, Special Education, Non-Cont.
effective 2/28/2022
RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR
Miller, Dillon, 1 FTE, Music, Enterprise Middle School
Rose, Jason, 1 FTE, Music, Richland High School
CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL
NEW HIRES FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR
Conant, Sharma, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark (Temp.) eff. 2/28-6/14/2022 (corrected start date)
Enlow, Sarah, Print Shop Assistant, Print Shop/Warehouse, effective 3/1/2022
Higgins, Jennifer, Paraeducator, Richland High School, effective 3/7/2022 (corrected start date)

Landsman, Kyrstynn, Custodian, Hanford High School, effective 3/7/2022
Palencia, Mikaela, Paraeducator, Jason Lee Elementary, effective 3/21/2022
Quinton, Cody, Custodian, TLAC & River's Edge High School, effective 3/7/2022
Reid, Linda, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 3/2/2022
Simmons, Beth, Nutrition Services, William Wiley Elem. effective 3/8/2022 (corrected start date)
Smith, Elliot, Paraeducator, Richland High School, effective 3/7/2022
CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR
Hernandez, Holly, Secretary, Libby MS, (from Nutr.Serv.) eff. 2/28/2022 (corrected start date)
LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR
Brown, Michelle, Paraeducator, Leona Libby Middle School, effective 1/31/2022-8/31/2022
RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR
Mendoza, Tara, Paraeducator, White Bluffs Elementary, effective 2/24/2022
Schlierman, Jason, Paraeducator (from LOA), Hanford High School, effective 2/25/2021
RETIREMENTS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR
Otto, Laurie, Secretary, Richland High School, effective 8/31/2022
DECEASED
Burruss, Tina, Administrative Assistant, Chief Joseph Middle School

5.2 2022/2023 School Calendar

5.3 Approval of Minutes (February 15, 2022; February 16, 2022; February 17, 2022; February 22, 2022; February 24, 2022)

5.4 Payroll and Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40006939 through 40006941 for \$6,359.05
Nos. 54000403 through 54000405 for \$3,918.03
Nos. 400006942 through 40006949 for \$2,398.00
No. 54000406 for \$415.73
Capital Projects Fund Warrant No. 72000033 for \$174.00
Nos. 20001777 through 20001782 for \$1,880,028.36
No. 52000268 for \$6,151.50
General Fund Warrant Nos. 10080509 through 10080578 for \$267,705.60
Nos. 51001502 through 51001509 for \$173,683.61
Nos. 71002548 through 71002562 for \$20,266.94
Nos. 10080579 through 10080635 for \$131,521.14
Nos. 51001510 through 51001519 for \$81,794.00
Nos. 71002563 through 71002579 for \$18,939.45
Self-Insurance Fund Warrant Nos. 57000071 through 57000072 for \$12,475.84
Payroll Warrant No. 10080267 for \$220.00
Nos. 10080356 through 10080466 for \$189,434.58
Nos. 10080467 through 10080508 for \$4,625,631.54
Electronic Fund Transfer \$9,718,273.75
Total February Payroll in the amount of \$14,533,559.87

6.0 Comments by Visitors (3 minutes per individual)

Cassidy Gaul likes the idea of year-round school and thanked the Mental Health Assistance Team (MHAT) for their trainings.

Sarah Watson stated her frustration with the recent actions of the Board and reminded all that they are accountable to parents.

Tina Gregory asked for a policy to oppose forced vaccinations, hold teachers accountable for pushing agendas, and to teach the Constitution.

Philip Gordon shared verses from the Bible and feels problems started when the Ten Commandments were removed from schools.

Shelly Burt stated students/staff comments should not be first before parents on the agenda, thinks UDL training should be required for all and feels levy voting was not about masks.

Shayla is a counselor and feels that mental health services are lacking in the community, especially for LGBTQ students and feels this is fed by unmonitored social media on many topics concerning students.

Ted Robbins supports the new mental health program “Asking is Caring” by the District MHAT Team where parents and staff are being trained on suicide prevention.

7.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

7.1 Approval of March 22, 2022 Agenda

Mr. Jansons asked to move Board/Superintendent reports to the end of the meeting, add mission/vision discussion (Strategic Planning) to the agenda, and limit public comments to thirty minutes at the beginning of the meeting.

Mr. Bird moved the Board create a continuous improvement task force, working with the Superintendent, that would include parents and staff, so all stakeholders have a place working together to improve our School District.

Ms. Byrd seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Mr. Jansons thinks a task force might be a good idea, but we have a list of tasks right now that the Board doesn't have time for. Mr. Jansons stated he will vote no but would be fine with adding this topic to a future agenda. He does not favor a motion without time for staff and community feedback.

Ms. Williams questioned if this could possibly be a job (scope/sequence) for our parent advisory group.

Mr. Bird offered to make time for this project and work with the Superintendent to reach out to student and staff groups.

Ms. Byrd feels that approving the motion tonight means the Board wants to do this, not necessarily at this time. She would prefer the group be separate from the parent group.

Ms. Oldson likes the aspect of a continuous improvement task force but feels this is the Board's role.

Board discussion continued. Ms. Oldson called for a vote.

Vote: Bird, yes; Jansons, no; Oldson, no; Williams, no: and Byrd, yes.
Motion failed.

Mr. Jansons moved to approve the Board meeting agenda with requested changes for March 22, 2022.

Ms. Oldson seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Ms. Byrd suggested a policy on when motions should be allowed. Board members were instructed to send agenda items to Ms. Williams for Board Leadership discussion.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:17 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS