



Board of Directors, Special Meeting/Workshop/Executive Session
March 25, 2022
RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400
BENTON COUNTY, RICHLAND, WASHINGTON

The Board of Directors of Richland School District No. 400 met for a Special Meeting Friday, March 25, 2022, at 9:00 A.M. via zoom and in person at 6972 Keene, Richland, Washington, Benton County. School Board President Jill Oldson presided. Board members participating: Semi Bird, Kari Williams Rick Jansons, and Audra Byrd.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Olson called the special meeting to order at 9:05 A.M.

1. WORKSHOP TOPIC

Mental Health Assistance Team (MHAT) Update

Todd Baddley, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, introduced Angie Withers, School Psychologist, and Michelle Sorensen, Social Worker, who shared information about the work of the team.

Ms. Withers shared a vision of what mental health work might look like in the future including:

- Wrap around services for all
- Early intervention
- Quick access to care-community crisis
- Partnering with agencies
- Common understanding of well being
- Parent engagement and parentship
- Strong pre-K
- Parent education and support
- Able to identify barriers
- Using data to identify our needs

Board members were asked for suggestions and discussion followed including:

- Parent engagement/partnerships-education for parents to recognize warning signs
- Stigma around mental health-remove barriers-marginalized populations
- Inspirational speakers-help change climate/culture
- Strategic Plan-home for this work-complete ThoughtExchange
- Academics and mental health co-exist-prioritize reading
- Internal support system for students waiting for community services
- Possible national certification for mental health trainings, then train the trainer-peer trainings
- Staff support-mental health

Ms. Sorensen reported several parent partnership opportunities are being planned to educate parents providing resources and support on suicide and other mental health topics.

Ms. Oldson congratulated the MHAT Team for their great work and thanked them for their presentation. Ms. Oldson stated the Board will move to executive session at 10:29 A.M. The executive session was expected to last for thirty minutes with no action to follow.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Legal)

The Board adjourned to executive session at 10:30 A.M. to 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 to follow. Ms. Oldson extended the executive session for thirty minutes at 11:01. Executive session ended at 11:28 A.M.

The Board returned to the regular meeting at 11:28 A.M.

3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:28 A.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS