



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 10, 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, May 10, 2022, at 5:30 P.M. via Zoom and in person, 6972 Keene Road, West Richland, Washington. School Board Vice President Kari Williams presided. Board members present: Jill Oldson, Audra Byrd, Semi Bird, and Rick Jansons. Administrators present: Superintendent Dr. Shelley Redinger, Deputy Superintendent Mike Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education Brian Moore, Executive Director of Human Resources Tim Praino, 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, Director of Communications Ty Beaver, and District Counsel Galt Pettett.

The Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Legal)

The Board adjourned to executive session at 5:30 P.M. for 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 5:58 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 Student Representative Report

Gabby Laurenz, Richland High School Student, thanked the Board for this opportunity and shared future plans after graduation.

2.2 GOOD NEWS-Certificated Appreciation

Dr. Redinger recognized all Certificated Staff during Certificated Staff Appreciation week. The District has over 900 certificated staff including teachers, counselors, instructional specialists, and consultants. More than ten percent of certificated staff members are either National Board Certified or recognized through other national organizations.

2.3 Requests and Comments by Visitors (2 minutes per individual/30-minute limit)

Ms. Williams started with comments by students.

Kian Nye-Felt, West Richland, stated he is standing up against homophobia and feels more should be done for students who often go unheard.

Melia Diaz, West Richland, stated her opposition to negative language at Board meetings and at school. She asked for more resources for LGBTQ students and training for staff for a more inclusive environment.

Izaiah Evangelista, Richland, stated every student should feel safe at school and feels many are subject to harassment. He is grateful a student representative is being added to the Board and hopes people can be accepted for who they are without harassment and politics.

Sean Xu, Richland, shared a reference to an online conspiracy theory "*Birds Aren't Real*".

Ken Spencer, Richland, is pleased that a Strategic Plan is being created and encouraged the District to be clear about how levy dollars are used to help the community understand.

Joe Cotta, Pasco, stated masks don't work and shared concern regarding the superintendent contract.

Julie, Richland, voted for Mr. Bird and Ms. Byrd and feels the District should be liable for attorney fees.

Aaron Derrick, Kennewick, feels the Board is stifling public opinion and should hear from all voices, and feels Ms. Oldson and Dr. Redinger should resign.

Kat Espinda, Kennewick, feels no laws were broken by Ms. Williams, Mr. Bird or Ms. Byrd and shared her concern regarding the use of ESSER funds and student suicides.

Jerrod Sessler, Prosser, stated parents have the primary responsibility for students, feels children were not in danger without wearing masks, and feels the Superintendent should have been fired.

Rebecca Petersen, Richland, shared concern regarding equity vs equality and stated more resources are needed at Jefferson Elementary.

Heather Hadler, Richland, also stated the District does not do enough for students of poverty at Jefferson Elementary.

Kimberly Nelson, West Richland, shared concern regarding test scores, feels new Board members were elected to get the District back on track, and the District should pay for legal fees.

Sara Watson, Richland, shared suggestions, including having students create videos to share the needs of schools to help explain items in the upcoming bond. Students are great spokespeople for the District's needs.

Micah Valentine, Kennewick, stated his support for Ms. Byrd, Ms. Williams and Mr. Bird and feels Ms. Oldson and Mr. Jansons should be held accountable.

Shelly Burt, West Richland, shared concern regarding Mr. Jansons behavior, employees listening to court hearings, and Special Education students not receiving services.

Ms. Williams reminded all the portal to sign up to speak at Board meetings opens at 6:30 the Monday before each Regular Meeting.

3.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3.1 Bond Proposal Update

Caren Johnson, Director of Capital Projects, shared updates on the bond packages presented at the previous meeting. A ThoughtExchange survey was sent out and a focus group on high school choice is reconvening to discuss a facility needs assessment at Three River's HomeLink. Ms. Johnson shared the calculation for the third high school is based on an anticipated bid in 2024. A total of 929 participants have completed the survey. Information on the survey, the needs assessment, and tax rate scenarios will be presented at the May 24, 2022 meeting. Board discussion followed.

3.2 Performance Audit Updates

Dr. Redinger shared an update from the recent Nutrition Services audit. The District contracts with Sodexo for these services and the District will be requesting proposals (RFPs) again in the upcoming year. The Nutrition Services Department has faced many challenges over the past two years including serving sack breakfast/lunches during the pandemic while students were not attending in-person classes and summer feeding programs. Audits review administrative and procurement processes and procedures to assure state and federal guidelines are in place. The District also participates in the Community Eligible Provision (CEP) for free meals with several new schools eligible for next school year.

3.3 Policy Update

3.3.1 Student Representatives to the Board of Directors

Mr. Bird shared details of the policy he presented including the Board making the selection since the Board represents the community. Mr. Bird explained some of the responsibilities including trainings, participation on the Student Advisory Committee, Diversity and Equity Group, and networking opportunities. He suggested selecting two students for this position.

Ms. Oldson feels it is important for students to be involved in the selection process. The Student Advisory Committee was tasked with creating an application and the Board should review, make any changes, and then formalize the application for first reading.

Mr. Jansons stated the need to move quickly since the school year is ending.

It was moved by Rick Jansons to move ahead with the application created by the Student Advisory Committee for First Reading, allowing second reading at the May 24, 2022 meeting.

Discussion:

Mr. Bird asked to wait to approve the application and policy at the same time and likes the idea of having a member of the Parent Advisory Group involved.

Gabriella Laurenz, Student Representative, shared the urgency to get this application out before the school year ends. She stated the Student Advisory Committee suggested having both a senior and junior chosen, keeping the application open to all students, and having a student representative give recommendations on these choices.

Ms. Byrd asked for information on whether interviews for this position would be held in a public setting or in private. Dr. Redinger will check with other districts to get details on this process.

Application questions to include:

- 1) How did you find out about this position and what encouraged you to apply?
 - 2) Please list school activities and other organizations
 - 3) Please list any additional information about yourself, background, academic interests, goal, key issues, etc.
 - 4) What do believe are the major concerns of students today and why do you believe advocacy is important? What does advocacy look like? 250 words
- *Include a letter of recommendation for RSD staff members

It was moved by Kari Williams and seconded by Rick Jansons –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE APPLICATION AS DISCUSSED FOR FIRST READING.

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

Ms. Williams stated first reading for both policy and procedures will be held at the May 24, 2022 meeting. Board discussion followed regarding the interview process.

Mr. Jansons suggested Mr. Bird and Ms. Oldson review both policies/procedures and put this on the May 24, 2022 agenda for first reading.

Application process/interviews discussion included:

- two Board members involved
- possible parent advisory participant
- several student advisory members involved in interview-no voting power
- only Board members involved
- look into credit options for students

Gabriella Laurenz stated the need to listen to students and stated students coming to Board meetings have received inexcusable treatment by adults. She is excited to have student representatives on the Board going forward to help focus on student issues.

Mr. Bird and Ms. Oldson were asked to bring back a policy for the next meeting for first reading.

4.0 NEW BUSINESS

4.1 World Language Instructional Materials Adoption

Erika Doyle, Director of Teaching and Learning, introduced World Language Teachers Nathalie Mereu, Ryan Simmelink and Michelle Jolley, who presented information on Spanish, French, and German instructional materials proposed for adoption. The adoption process began in September of 2021. Selected materials were piloted in classrooms and student feedback was reviewed. The public was also given the opportunity to review materials and give input. The teachers each shared enthusiasm for the materials presented for adoption. Input from the Instructional Materials Committee (IMC) was also shared.

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE HIGH SCHOOL WORLD LANGUAGE MATERIALS AS PRESENTED:

FRENCH 3,4, AP - *DEFI FRANCOPHONE*, KLETT-2022
GERMAN 1-3 - *KLASSE!*, KLETT-2022
SPANISH 1-2 - *REPORTEROS*, KLETT-2022
FRENCH 1, 2, AP/SPANISH 1-4, AP – *VOCES*, VOCES TEACHER’S DISCOVERY-2022
FRENCH 1-4, AP - *FRENCH LEVERLED READERS*, CLE INTERNATIONAL
GERMAN 1-3 - *DEUTSCHE WELLE*, LEARN GERMAN
GERMAN 1-3 - *THE FABLE COTTAGE*, THE FABLE COTTAGE-2018-2022
SPANISH 1-4 - *LEVELED READERS*, BRYCE HEDSTROM.COM
SPANISH 4 - *DESTINOS*, ANNBERG LEARNING-2022
SPANISH HERITAGE - *CAJAS DE CARTON*-CLARION BOOKS-2000
SPANISH HERITAGE - *ESPERANZA RENANCE*, SCHOLASTIC BOOKS-2002

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

4.2 Highly Capable (Hi-Cap) Program-End of Year Review

Amy Kohn, Assistant Director of State and Federal Programs, shared the end of year report and annual plan. Ms. Kohn reported the District is servicing 1,346 students K-12. She stated the identification process can be started by a parent, community member, staff member or the student themselves, offering all access to the program. The process also allows students who are just learning English to go through the identification process due to a new cognitive assessment. Elementary students are served either through the Quest program at Lewis and Clark Elementary or school-based programs at their boundary schools. Middle and high school students are eligible for Hi-Cap services through accelerated or honors coursework.

Ms. Williams stated there is great accessibility for students but feels the needs of students choosing to stay in their neighborhood schools are not receiving proper support from this program. Dr. Redinger shared the need for more resources for school-based programs. Ms. Williams asked for an update on this program in six months. Mr. Bird asked Ms. Williams to take the lead with Dr. Redinger and include this in the Strategic Plan.

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

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE DISTRICT'S HIGHLY CAPABLE PROGRAM PLAN PER WAC 392-170-025 AND RICHLAND SCHOOL BOARD POLICY 2166.

4.3 Summer School Plans - 2022

Brian Moore, Assistance Superintendent of Elementary Education, Jennifer Klauss, incoming Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, and Dave Filipy, high school Summer Programs Coordinator, presented an update on K-12 summer offerings. Mr. Moore advised the goal is to have 1,000 students most in need or at risk of falling behind participate at ten sites. One of the measures of success is daily attendance. Ms. Klauss explained middle school programs will consist of camp-type settings (*Choose Your Learning Adventure*) focusing on a variety of STEM topics (science, technology, engineering, and math). Mr. Filipy shared high school students can earn credits through APEX online courses at no cost. A satisfaction survey will be sent after completion and Board members asked for follow-up on the success of the summer program.

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

Mr. Bird asked to pull Item 5.3-Superintendent Contract. Ms. Williams stated an executive session would follow for more discussion.

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (5.1; 5.2; 5.4; 5.5) 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 UPCOMING 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Cottrell, Keisha, 1.0 FTE, Structured, Leona Libby Middle School (from para)

Elliott, Laureli, 1.0 FTE, Lifeskills, Desert Sky Elementary

May, Gregory, 1.0 FTE, Language Arts, Carmichael Middle School (from sub)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Sullivan, Margaret (Maggie) 1.0 FTE, 2nd Year Leave of Absence

DECREASE IN FTE FOR THE UPCOMING 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Wadsworth, Heather, .20 FTE (now .80 FTE), Speech Language Pathologist, Hanford High School

REASSIGNMENTS FOR THE UPCOMING 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Barbour, Katherine, Art, Jason Lee Elementary, to Art, Desert Sky Elementary

Blaine, Jennifer, 3rd Grade, William Wiley Elementary, to 5th Grade, Desert Sky Elementary

Bryan, Kathleen (Katey), 3rd Grade, Jefferson Elementary, to 2nd Grade, Desert Sky Elementary

Burke, Mary, 1st Grade, Tapteal Elementary, to Kindergarten, Desert Sky Elementary

Bushman, Melanie, 1st Grade, Tapteal Elementary, to Resource Room, Desert Sky Elementary

Carr, Rachel, Psychologist, Special Education, to Psychologist, Desert Sky Elementary

Coleman, Lori, Physical Education, White Bluffs, to Physical Education, Desert Sky Elementary

Cleveland, Kaitlyn, 4th Grade, White Bluffs Elementary, to 5th Grade, Desert Sky Elementary

Cuello, Toni, Kindergarten, Tapteal Elementary, to Kindergarten, Desert Sky Elementary

Dahlgren, Ashley, Title 1/LAP, Jefferson Elementary, to Instr. Specialist, Desert Sky Elementary
Dame, Nikki, Speech Language Pathologist (SLP), Special Education, to SLP, Desert Sky Ele.
Deskins, Andrea, 1st Grade, Pacific Crest Online Academy, to 1st Grade, Desert Sky Elementary
Hall, Sarah, Kindergarten, Orchard Elementary, to Kindergarten, Desert Sky Elementary
Hays, Ken, Librarian, Jefferson Elementary, to Librarian, Desert Sky Elementary
Heinen, Kristen, 5th Grade, White Bluffs Elementary, to 3rd Grade, Desert Sky Elementary
Humphrey, Trinity, 5th Grade, White Bluffs Elementary, to 5th Grade, Desert Sky Elementary
Joyner, Tatia, 3rd Grade, Sacajawea Elementary, to 3rd Grade, Desert Sky Elementary
Lintelman, Jodi, 2nd Grade, Orchard Elementary, to 2nd Grade, Desert Sky Elementary
Osman, Sabrina, 4th Grade, Tapteal Elementary, to 1st Grade, Tapteal Elementary
Osavlyuk, Svitlana, 1st Grade, Jason Lee Elementary, to 1st Grade, William Wiley Elementary
Rogers, Kaitlin, 5th Grade, Tapteal Elementary, to 4th Grade, Tapteal Elementary
Shea, Tami, Math, Leona Libby Middle School, to 4th Grade, Desert Sky Elementary
Sites, Brian, TOSA, Rivers Edge High School, to Career Center Teacher, Hanford High School
Smith, Daleen, Resource Room, Jason Lee Elementary, to Resource Room, Desert Sky Elementary
Smith, Leah, 1st Grade, Tapteal Elementary, to 1st Grade, Desert Sky Elementary
Smith, Lindsey, 4th Grade, Tapteal Elementary, to 4th Grade, Desert Sky Elementary
Tunnell, Melissa, 1st Grade, Tapteal Elementary, to 1st Grade, Desert Sky Elementary
Wakeley, Courtney (Corey) 4th Grade, White Bluffs, to 3rd Grade, Desert Sky Elementary
Wertenberger, Staci, Kindergarten, Tapteal Elementary, to Kindergarten, Desert Sky Elementary
Wheeler, Deborah, Counselor, Chief Joseph Middle School, to Counselor, Desert Sky Elementary
White, Samantha, Business Education, Richland High School, to TOSA, TLAC
Whitish, Jennifer, 3rd Grade, Pacific Crest Online Academy, to 2nd Grade, Desert Sky Elementary

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE END OF THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Breard, Cindy, 1 FTE, 4th Grade, Badger Mountain Elementary

RETIREMENTS FOR THE END OF THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Diedrich, Laurie, 1 FTE, Case Manager, Early Learning Center

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Chavez, Laura, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 5/3/2022

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Anderson, Debra, Bus Driver, Transportation (from LOA effective 4/28/2022)

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE END OF THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Witwer, Alisha, Paraeducator, Leona Libby Middle School (will Cert Sub)

RETIREMENTS FOR THE END OF THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Lindberg, Donna, Paraeducator, White Bluffs Elementary School

5.2 Approval of Minutes (April 21, 2022; April 22, 2022; April 26, 2022; May 3, 2022)

5.3 Superintendent Contract

5.4 Resolution No. 941-Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA)

5.5 Payroll and Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40006995 through 40007004 for \$11,980.22

Nos. 54000428 through 54000429 for \$4,795.86

No. 74000139 for \$3,035.25

Nos. 40007005 through 40007012 for \$12,454.11

Nos. 54000430 through 54000431 for \$2,530.81

No. 74000140 for \$536.40

Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20001795 through 20001796 for \$98,902.25
No. 52000279 for \$171,953.15
Nos. 20001797 through 20001799 for \$99,060.54
Nos. 52000280 for \$256.37
General Fund Warrant Nos. 10081327 through 10081390 for 10081390 for \$911,774.92
Nos. 51001601 through 51001610 for \$265,203.19
No. 71002692 through 71002705 for \$62,699.11
Nos. 10081392 through 10081449 for \$194,174.17
Nos. 51001611 through 51001618 for \$77,015.82
Nos. 71002706 through 71002717 for \$16,292.80
Self-Insurance Fund Warrant Nos. 57000080 through 57000080 for \$6,956.60
Payroll Warrant No. 10081023 for \$1,555.00
Nos. 10081199 through 10081283 for \$159,597.45
Nos. 10081284 through 10081326 for \$4,602,075.84
Electronic Funds Transfer for \$9,703,544.18
Total April Payroll in the amount of \$14,466,767.47

6.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 Approval of May 24, 2022 Agenda

Ms. Williams requested all policies be directed to Nancy Mayer, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, no later than May 19th for inclusion on the upcoming agenda. Mr. Jansons wants to talk about policies before bringing them to Board meetings to allow for transparency to the community. Board discussion followed.

Ms. Williams explained that work is being done on the 1,000 series and any other policies members would like to bring forward should be discussed during the future agenda portion at a previous meeting. There was Board consensus.

Ms. Byrd asked to add a policy to the next meeting involving staff discipline. Discussion followed. There was consensus from Board members to work with Mr. Pettett and Dr. Redinger before bringing policies on personnel items, then bring a draft policy to present and put on a future agenda.

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

THE BOARD APPROVE ONLY 1,000 SERIES POLICIES AND THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE POLICY/PROCEDURE ON THE MAY 24, 2022 AGENDA.

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

7.0 BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Shelley Redinger introduced Steve Fisk, recently hired Richland High School Principal, and announced the Special Education Field Day event is scheduled for tomorrow.

Audra Byrd attended the Salmon Summit, a Hanford High School assembly, and the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Community Night.

Jill Oldson also attended the UDL Community Night, spent time in the Community Based Transition Class, and attended Washington State School Directors' (WSSDA) Legislative Committee meetings over the weekend.

Rick Jansons attended the WSSDA Regional meeting in Prescott where they discussed how to encourage more voice from smaller districts.

Semi Bird visited Jefferson Elementary and stated the PTA needs \$600 and asked all to donate. Mr. Bird asked 1) not cut staff at Jefferson Elementary and 2) encouraged more community involvement and mentorship programs.

Superintendent Redinger shared the staffing discussion is part of the budget process for the upcoming year. It is too early to be determined at this time and is not a policy decision. Mr. Sherman, Executive Director of Finance, shared work on the 2022/2023 budget process is continuing and a workshop is planned for before the Regular Meeting on May 24, 2022.

Ms. Williams adjourned the meeting to executive session at 9:40 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). Executive session was expected to last thirty minutes with action to follow. Ms. Williams extended executive session for five minutes at 10:10 P.M. Executive session ended at 10:15 P.M.

Ms. Williams reconvened the meeting at 10:15 P.M.

It was moved by Rick Jansons and seconded by Jill Oldson –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT WITH THE REMOVAL OF THE THIRD PARAGRAPH OF SECTION 16, WITH DR. REDINGER'S APPROVAL.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:16 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS