



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, December 13, 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, December 13, 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 participating: Kari Williams, Semi Bird, Audra Byrd, and Rick Jansons. Administrators present: Superintendent Dr. Shelley Redinger, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education Brian Moore, Executive Director of Information Technology Mike Leseberg, Executive Director of Operations Richard Krasner, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning Jennifer Klauss, Executive Director of Special Education 6-12 Robert Sorensen, Executive Director of Special Education Pre-K-5 Zach Carpenter, Executive Director of Behavioral Health Services Tory Christensen, and Director of Communications Ty Beaver.

The Board meeting was called to order at 7:42 P.M. after some technical difficulties.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Roll Call-Mr. Jansons will be arriving after a school/family event.

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS

2.1 GOOD NEWS-Benton Franklin Transit/Community Based Transition Classroom (CBTC) Award

Sophie, Brannick and Samantha, CBTC students, presented an award to several of the Benton Franklin Transit drivers in attendance. Laurie Price, CBTC Teacher, advised students would not be able to get to and from their job sites without this service.

2.2 Requests and Comments by Visitors (2 minutes per individual)

Sara Flores-Anderson, Teacher, advised staff members want parents to participate on curriculum committees, but sometimes it is not possible to include the one third amount requested in the policy presented due to the number of specialists, staff members, and the number of parents/community members willing to volunteer.

Cheyenne Laviolette, Teacher, shared a positive relationship with a teacher that shaped her life. Ms. Laviolette feels pride flags should be allowed in classrooms since some students find these to be safe spaces.

Krista Calvin, REA President, thanked the Student Representatives for offering the flag survey to students and hopes their viewpoint won't be ignored. Ms. Calvin also thanked Ms. Oldson for her service as President and stated concerns regarding other issues on the agenda.

Tina Gregory, non-district resident, stated hate speech is up to the individual and asked to allow all religions back in schools.

Virginia Tomlinson, Pasco, spoke in support of the LGBTQ+ community and wants to make school a safe place for all students.

Dusty Howard, Richland, shared concern with Policy 2331-Controversial Issues, and stated the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) offered assistance and feels Board members should take this advice.

3.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3.1 Flag Survey Report

Karrin Wierzchowski, Student Representative, shared the results of a survey sent to students at all Richland High Schools. Ms. Wierzchowski stated more than 1,400 students responded. She also thanked fellow Student Representative, Leif Carman, for his help with this project. Questions included:

Do flags depicting political signs make you uncomfortable?

- 17.8% flags made them feel uncomfortable
- 82.2% flags did not make them feel uncomfortable

Do you feel safe or unsafe in a classroom displaying flags?

- 58% felt safe
- 35.8 impartial
- 5.5% felt unsafe

Have you ever felt un-welcome or intimidated because of certain flags in a classroom?

- 17.9% Yes
- 82.1% No

Board discussion followed.

4.0 NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Performance Audit Update

Superintendent Redinger advised the District's Custodial Team is beginning a series of trainings through the Cleaning Management Institute. This training will assure that buildings are being cleaned to national standards. Seventeen Building Foremen will participate in this training by the end of summer.

Mr. Jansons arrived.

4.2 Policy/RR No. 6700-Nutrition, Health, and Physical Education-First Reading

Galt Pettett, General Counsel, stated the state passed House Bill (HB) 1878-School Meals. Mr. Pettett stated this legislation is an "essential" policy and requires public school districts to group their schools in a manner that maximizes the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) in the National School Lunch Program. A major change is the requirement of a District Wellness Committee including staff, local officials, food authority members, and community members.

Ms. Byrd requested to add that students not be held back from recess or to complete classwork as discipline. Discussion followed.

It was moved by Semi Bird and seconded by Audra Byrd –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY/RR NO. 6700-NUTRITION, HEALTH, AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR FIRST READING.

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

4.3 Board of Directors Election of Officers

Ms. Oldson shared the procedure regarding Board Election of Officers and asked Board members if they would stand for the Office of President.

- Bird: no; Jansons, no; Williams, yes; Byrd, no; Oldson, no.

Ms. Oldson announced Ms. Williams will serve as President.

Ms. Oldson asked if Board members would stand for the Office of Vice President:

- Bird, no; Janson, no; Oldson, yes; Byrd, yes; Williams, no.

Ms. Oldson voted for herself; Ms. Byrd voted for herself; Ms. Williams for Ms. Byrd; Mr. Jansons voted for Ms. Oldson; and Mr. Bird voted for Ms. Byrd.

Ms. Oldson announced Ms. Byrd will serve as Vice President.

Mr. Bird will continue as the District's Legislative Representative since this was a two-year posting. Ms. Williams took the gavel as the new President of the Board of Directors.

4.4 Curriculum Committee Procedures-First Reading

Ms. Byrd shared an update to the Curriculum Committee Procedure after a recent meeting with Jen Klauss and Derek Okonek, Executive Directors of Teaching and Learning. Ms. Williams requested the Superintendent be part of the selection process when more applicants from the community apply for curriculum committees, along with two Board members. Board discussion followed.

It was moved by Jill Oldson and seconded by Semi Bird –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE PROCEDURES POLICY WITH THE ADDITION OF “*THE SUPERINTENDENT*” AND TWO BOARD MEMBERS FOR FIRST READING.

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

4.5 Student Discipline Workshop Planning Discussion

Ms. Byrd shared a list of expectations/topics for the upcoming Board Workshop regarding discipline/student behavior including: current process, a model policy/procedure, and data in regard to current behaviors reported. Others added: legal aspects, contracts, interpretations. There was agreement the first workshop would review current policy/procedures. Several workshops will be needed to research this topic. Dr. Redinger advised this will take some time since principals need to share feedback. Policies from other districts should also be researched. The first workshop will be held on January 4, 2023 at 4:30 P.M.

4.6 Student Representative Advisory Vote

Ms. Oldson asked to bring this topic to the Board after researching other districts that allow Student Representatives to cast an advisory vote on topics during Board meetings. The votes do not change the outcome of votes by Board members, but rather helps to share student voice on agenda items.

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

Discussion:

Mr. Bird feels this is already happening since students are asked to share their opinions. Mr. Jansons is in favor of the idea and feels this will enlarge their experience when speaking in front of an audience. Ms. Byrd and Ms. Williams shared concern for students and asked the community to be kind.

Student Representatives, Karrin Wierzchowski and Leif Carman, were both in favor of having an advisory vote stating student opinions do matter.

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ALLOW THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AN ADVISORY VOTE ON AGENDA TOPICS.

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

Motion was approved.

4.7 Policy No. 2331-Controversial Issues-First Reading

Ms. Byrd shared a draft update to Policy No. 2331-Controversial Issues, with the Board and agreed with the change to add free from prejudice “*and political bias*” in the first paragraph and the addition of:

Regarding this policy, controversial issues can be defined as:

- 1. Not included in the district approved curricula.*
- 2. Covered in the local newspaper within the last three years.*

Ms. Williams also shared a draft update including the addition of “*and political bias*” in the first paragraph and the addition of:

Regarding this policy, controversial issues can be defined as topics that are not included in the district curricula and/or topics that deal with questions of values, beliefs, lifestyles, and can divide opinion between individuals, communities, and wider society.

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE CURRENT POLICY NO. 2311-CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES WITH THE ADDITION OF “*AND POLITICAL BIAS*” IN THE FIRST PARAGRAPH.

Discussion:

Mr. Jansons feels the District has a process in place to deal with controversial issues for resolution by contacting the teacher, then to the principal if needed.

Mr. Bird likes being objective, engaging parents, and feels the guidance from the ACLU should be taken seriously.

Ms. Oldson prefers not having the definition defined since it is different for everyone. Checks and balances are already included, and she feels teachers and principals exercise professional judgement.

Ms. Byrd feels a definition is needed to assist teachers and principals. Staff can easily see if topics are in the District curricula or in the local newspaper. Ms. Byrd feels this will provide an objective measurement. More discussion followed.

Leif Carman, Student Representative, feels teachers have done a good job using professional judgement, and is against defining controversial issues as it will cause confusion.

Vote: Students - Leif, yes; Karrin, yes

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

Motion failed.

It was moved by Audra Byrd and seconded by Semi Bird -

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY No. 2331 WITH THE ADDITIONS PROVIDED BY MS. BYRD ABOVE FOR FIRST READING.

Vote: Bird, yes; Jansons, no-sharing an example. Mr. Bird asked for Point of Order.

Discussion was opened again. There was none.

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

Leif, no; Karrin, no.

Motion failed.

It was moved by Semi Bird and seconded by Kari Williams –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY No. 2331 WITH THE ADDITIONS PROVIDED BY MS. WILLIAMS ABOVE FOR FIRST READING.

Discussion-Ms. Byrd amended the motion to remove the word “or”. The motion was seconded by Semi Bird.

Discussion on the amendment to the motion: None

Leif, no, Karrin, yes

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

Motion was approved.

It was moved by Semi Bird and seconded by Kari Williams –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY No. 2331 WITH THE ADDITIONS PROVIDED BY MS. WILLIAMS ABOVE WITH EXCEPTION OF THE WORD “OR” FOR FIRST READING.

Vote: Bird, yes; Jansons, no; Williams, yes; Byrd, yes: and Oldson, no.
Leif, no, Karrin, no
Motion was approved.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

RETIREMENTS FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Hansen, Micheal, Deputy Superintendent, TLAC, effective 1/31/2023

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Mykael, Mannucci, 1.0 FTE, Resource Room, Carmichael MS, effective 12/01/2022 (non-cont.)

Sword, Sarah Tiffany 1.0 FTE, 4th Grade, White Bluffs, effective 12/13/2022 (non-continuing)

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Bartrand, Miranda, 1.0 FTE, Resource Room, Carmichael Middle School, effective 12/31/2022

INCREASE IN FTE FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Perlot, Kathy, .20 FTE (Now .80 FTE), History, Enterprise MS, effective 8/30/2022 (non-cont.)

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Beloved, Tessa, 1.0 FTE, Speech Language Pathologist, Special Education, effective 12/05/2022

Cartagena, Jasmyne, 1.0 FTE, Supplemental Support Teacher, William Wiley Elementary, effective 12/01/2022 (coming from sub)

TERMINATIONS FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Bittinger, John, Science Teacher, Richland High School, effective 11/21/2022 (Final Termination)

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Stephens, Sabrina, Lead Secretary to Student Information Systems Analyst 1, Information Technology, effective 1/9/2023

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Buchel, Nicole, Paraeducator, Leona Libby Middle School, effective 12/13/2022

Davis, Amanda, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 12/12/2022

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Dawson, John, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 12/9/2022

DePeel, Michael, Plumber, Support Services, effective 11/29/2022

Greenough, Kelsey, Records Specialist (temporary position), TLAC, effective 12/1/2022

Hecht, Sandra, Paraeducator, White Bluffs Elementary, effective 12/13/2022

Inglis, Benjamin, Grounds Applicator, Support Services, effective 12/1/2022
Johnson, Laura, Paraeducator (Temporary), William Wiley Elementary, eff. 12/9/2022-6/14/2023
Johnson, Mercedes, Paraeducator (Temporary), William Wiley, eff. 12/9/2022-6/14/2023
Maddox, Graci, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 11/18/2022
Mendoza, Joanna, Paraeducator (Rehire), Taptal Elementary, effective 12/7/2022
Nwoke, Gretchen, Paraeducator, Orchard Elementary, effective 12/12/2022
Osborne, Jay, Paraeducator, Orchard Elementary, effective 12/9/2022
Roohr, Amanda, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark Elementary, effective 12/14/2022
Skadorwa, Delayna, Paraeducator, Richland High School, effective 12/13/2022
Staven, Sara, Paraeducator, Leona Libby Middle School, effective 12/9/2022
Thomas, Jerrie Lyn, Nutrition Services Team Member, Carmichael MS, effective 12/6/2022

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Castillo, Adrianna, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark, effective 11/16/22-expected 2/28/2022
Dimmick, Rosemary, Paraeducator, Richland HS, effective 1/3/2023 – expected 3/31/2023
Humphrey, Brandon, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph MS, effective 1/3/2023 – expected 4/12/2023
Nelson, Victoria, Paraeducator, Taptal Elementary, effective 1/3/2023 – expected 3/31/2023
Quintanilla, Sara, Paraeducator, William Wiley Elementary, effective 1/3/2023 – expected 5/5/2023
Tolbert, Michelle, Paraeducator, Enterprise Middle School, effective 1/9/2023 – 4/30/2023

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Angelo, Christena, Paraeducator, White Bluffs Elementary School (from LOA)
Grace, Christopher, Grounds Applicator, Support Services, effective 12/22/2022
Greenup, Nina, Paraeducator, Jefferson Elementary, effective 11/30/2022 (will Cert Sub)
Korten, Karli, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark Elementary, effective 1/6/23 (will Cert Sub)
Phelps, Michelle, Paraeducator, Enterprise Middle School, effective 12/3/2022 (will Cert Sub)
Smith, Elliot, Paraeducator, Richland High School, effective 12/16/2022
Valdovinos, Diana, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 12/16/2022

5.2 Approval of Minutes (November 22, 2022)

5.3 Cash Grant-GESA Community Foundation-Local Hero Award-Jazz Residency Program

5.4 Payroll and Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40007166 through 40007173 for \$49,495.112
Nos. 54000506 through 54000507 for \$4,274
Nos. 40007174 through 40007183 for \$16,224.30
Nos. 54000508 through 54000511 for \$8,040.94
No. 74000161 for \$1,2000.00
Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20001909 through 20001913 for \$105,572.92
Nos. 20001914 through 20001917 for \$102,423.31
No. 52000312 for \$1,364.60
General Fund Warrant Nos. 10083932 through 10084010 for \$534,140.66
Nos. 51001950 through 51001964 for \$86,897.26
Nos. 71003115 through 71003130 for \$81,772.51
Nos. 10084013 through 10084112 for \$727,898.28
Nos. 51001965 through 51001976 for \$126,422.82
Nos. 71003131 through 71003149 for \$25,447.67
Payroll Warrant Nos. 10083564 through 10083566 for \$1,367.00
No. 10083646 for \$5,522.70
No. 10083742 for \$4,706.50
Nos. 10083809 through 10083886 for \$151,747.30

Nos. 10083887 through 10083931 for \$5,211,189.54
Electronic Fund Transfer for \$10,940,580.94
Total November Payroll approved in the amount of \$16,315,113.98

6.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 Future Agenda Items

- Meeting with Kennewick/Pasco-to discuss modified calendar
- Diversity Workshop-breakout session at WSSDA-consensus from the Board to have Dr. Redinger reach out to schedule training for the Board and Cabinet.
- Learning Recovery/Comprehensive tutoring program-before May
- Middle School financial literacy class-January 24, 2023 meeting.
- WSSDA recap from Board members-January 10, 2023 (two-four minutes each)

6.2 Approval of January 10, 2023 Agenda

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE JANUARY 10, 2023 AGENDA AS AMMENDED WITH THE ADDITION OF “WSSDA BOARD RECAP”.

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

7.0 BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Shelley Redinger reported on winter weather with drivers checking winter conditions very early in the morning. Decisions are made after consulting both Pasco and Kennewick School Districts. She advised some changes may be made to next day sporting event traveling if travel is scheduled later in the day. Dr. Redinger, as part of a raffle at the beginning of the year, was a substitute teacher for a first-grade classroom at Tapteal Elementary and worked at Badger Elementary. She also announced work is continuing on a technology single sign-on system.

Audra Byrd is working on policies, helped with a Forte Show, and attended a HomeLink music performance.

Jill Oldson attended the Social Emotional Learning (SEL) trainings. She also participated in the WSSDA Legislative Committee meetings.

Rick Jansons attended a Richland High School band concert as well as several basketball games.

Semi Bird thanked Dr. Redinger for good leadership and taking ownership of the wrestling travel situation. He also thanked the operations staff for their work during the winter weather.

Kari Williams attended the Libby Middle School drama talent show. She also thanked Ms. Oldson for her leadership over the last year as President and is looking forward to working with Ms. Byrd in the upcoming year.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS