



Board of Directors, Special Meeting/Workshop-Regular Meeting Minutes,
Tuesday, May 23, 2023
RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400
BENTON COUNTY, RICHLAND, WASHINGTON

The Board of Directors of Richland School District No. 400 met for a Special Meeting/Regular meeting Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 5:30 P.M. via Zoom and in person, 6972 Keene Road, West Richland, Washington. School Board President Kari Williams presided. Board members participating: Jill Oldson, 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 Executive Director of Finance Clinton Sherman.

The Special Meeting/Workshop was called to order at 5:30 P.M.

1.0 Topic: 2023/2024 Budget Workshop

Clinton Sherman, Executive Director of Finance, stated at the June 27, 2023 meeting the District will have several public hearings regarding budget extensions for the debt service fund due to the Bond Refunding, capital projects fund, and the general fund. The District will also ask for the 2023-2024 budget approval at that meeting. The majority of District funding comes from the State (79.9%), with local levy taxes and federal dollars making up the rest.

Mr. Sherman shared the composition of how the General Fund Expenditures with 85% going toward staffing and 15% materials/supplies/other costs. Board discussion followed.

Special Meeting/Workshop was adjourned at 5:51 P.M.

The Board returned to the Regular Meeting at 6:33 P.M.

2.1 CALL TO ORDER

2.1 Pledge of Allegiance

2.2 Roll Call-All Here

3.0 COMMUNICATIONS

3.1 GOOD NEWS-Senior Student Representative Recognition-Moved to June 13, 2023.

3.2 Student Advisory Report

Cruz Hernandez Vasquez, River's Edge High School Student, reported on topics discussed at the recent Student Advisory meeting including a student survey, mental health, safety issues, and several new members for next fall were introduced.

3.3 Parent/Guardian Advisory Report

Brianna Watson shared topics discussed at the recent Parent/Guardian meeting including twenty-four credit options and mental health challenges. Dr. Redinger will be meeting with principals to discuss further, as well as a small group including parents to review options for the future.

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

Nino Kapitula, Parent, shared her support for parents of special education students. Ms. Kapitula feels the District needs to give those parents more time and understanding.

Tina Gregory, Non-Resident, feels students are being victimized, unions are corrupt, and parents should start removing students from public education.

Aaron Riggs, Parent, shared frustration with communication to parents regarding the Social Emotional Learning materials adoption process.

Ron Higgins, Resident, stated the District needs to promote the United States Constitution and he is not ready to give up on public schools.

Eugene Nemeth, Parent, thanked the Board for putting the Special Education Task Force on the agenda and feels there should be meetings throughout the summer. Mr. Nemeth questioned the iReady results and feels the District does not need a new high school with student outcomes not improving.

3.5 Board/Student Representatives/Superintendent Reports

Shelley Redinger attended the Special Education Field Day and thanked Scott Piippo, Richland High School Teacher, for his work to organize the event, and thanked Lamb Westin for their sponsorship.

Rick Janson attended the Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA) Board meeting over the weekend. Topics included member training and student impact.

Jill Oldson attended the Community Based Transition Classroom (CBTC) Partnership Event. Local businesses have students from this program work and mentor in their businesses to gain workplace experience. Ms. Oldson also attended Field Day, the Parent/Guardian Advisory meeting, and the WSSDA Legislative meeting.

Audra Byrd attended a middle school track meet, the Richland High School Choir Concert and Board Leadership.

Kari Williams attended the Parent/Guardian Advisory meeting, a drama production, and the Jason Lee Elementary Title 1 Comprehensive Needs Assessment meeting. Ms. Williams suggested an idea from the Pasco School District where the Superintendent and two Board members visit each school.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Capital Projects Levy Update

Richard Krasner, Executive Director of Operations, explained progress on Safety and Security updates at Jason Lee, William Wiley, and White Bluffs (Elementary Schools), and also at Carmichael, Chief Joseph, and Enterprise (Middle Schools). Plans for additional security measures are also underway for Three Rivers HomeLink, the Lynx Campus, Pacific Crest Online Academy, and River's Edge High School.

Mr. Krasner advised Hanford and Richland High Schools will require major changes to entrances to add secure vestibules and possible fencing in some areas to enhance classroom safety. The new third high school Educational Specifications (Ed. Specs.) process is underway with community forums to gather input at both Richland and Hanford High Schools. The Ed. Specs. process is also progressing for a new River's Edge Choice School as well as an expansion to Three Rivers HomeLink.

Programming is continuing for the Hanford High School Stadium with a concession stand, restrooms, and a ticket booth. A back up door will be added to the Scene Shop for unloading. Board discussion followed.

Ms. Byrd asked for further analysis for River's Edge High School and HomeLink at the next meeting and doesn't feel the current plan will meet the needs of HomeLink. Board discussion followed including:

- Gather input from principals, students, and families
- Needs analysis already taking place-trust the current process
- Large number of HomeLink students are from out of district

4.2 Mental Health Student Survey Results

Students not able to attend. This topic will be moved to the June 13, 2023 agenda.

4.3 Special Education Task Force Update

Tory Christensen, Executive Director of Behavioral Health Services, shared the Urban Collaborative Group conducted a program review in 2018 after several citizen complaints. In 2019 the Special Education Task Force was created including staff and community members who then developed the 2020-2025 Special Education Strategic Plan to help address four focus areas:

- instructional practices
- system and organizational improvements
- professional development
- data and accountability

The Task Force reconvened (2022-2023) creating goals and outcomes.

Goals:

- review progress on Special Education Strategic Plan
- identify any additional areas of needed improvement
- make adjustments and outline a plan moving forward

Outcomes:

1. create a new system for communicating progress of the plan
2. identify measurables used to identify growth and improvement needs
3. implement a system of on-going community engagement opportunities

4. identified three primary goals for 2023-2024

- accountability, academic success, and community engagement

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Pre-K-12 Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Adoption Approval

Jen Klauss, Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning and Derek O’Konek, Executive Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning, introduced members of the SEL Adoption Committee to share information on various portions of the adoption process. Mr. O’Konek reported the process began 18 months ago with 120 people (staff and community) involved. The choices were narrowed, and two programs were piloted.

The Mental Health Assessment Team (MHAT) played a vital role developing course goals relating to the Washington State K-12 Standards and Benchmarks. District priority standards include: Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Self-Efficacy, Social Awareness, Social Management, and Social Engagement. Family and Community Engagement were high priorities. John Norlin, Co-Founder of Character Strong, was introduced and commended staff on their thorough and intentional process. Board discussion followed.

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE ADOPTION OF *CHARACTER STRONG* FOR THE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING CURRICULUM.

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

5.2 Policy No. 1722-Evaluation of the Superintendent

Galt Pettett, General Counsel, advised, after reading Policy No. 1722 and Dr. Redinger’s contract, there are no changes necessary for the policy. Since Policy 1722 requires the Superintendent’s evaluation to be discussed in an executive session no later than March 1st of each year, this will be noted for Board action in February of each year. In addition, the Administration has been developing an annual policy calendar for all of the policies that require actions by the Board.

5.3 Procedure No. 6700-Nutrition and Health Services

Mr. Pettett stated, after a recent audit of the District’s Nutrition Services program, it was determined that the District needed to update its Procedure No. 6700. The document presented has the changes required to bring the procedure into compliance.

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE PROCEDURE NO. 6700-NUTRITION AND HEALTH SERVICES FOR FIRST READING.

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

5.4 Performance Audit Update

Dr. Redinger reported Richland is the only district in the region not receiving funding for all students to receive free meals. Nutrition Services created a Super Hero fund several years ago to allow individuals or organizations to donate towards this cause. Superintendent Redinger reported the *Descendants of the Republic Motorcycle Club* recently raised \$9,500 for this fund during their “Kidz Dig Rigz” event. Dr. Redinger thanked the club for this generous donation!

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

Ms. Byrd asked to pull Item 6.4 - Superintendent Contract.

It was moved by Rick Jansons and seconded by Audra Byrd –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (6.1 - 6.3) AND (6.5 - 6.8) INCLUDING AN UPDATED PERSONNEL ACTION.

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

Item 6.4-Superintendent Contract

Discussion:

Ms. Byrd asked to delay the additional year extension to the Superintendent contract to address several areas of improvement she feels are needed. Ms. Williams advised she would like to do complete the evaluation process in public for more transparency in the future. The WSSDA evaluation format was used along with the rubric which was very clear. Quarterly check ins with Dr. Redinger were completed as requested. Each Board member’s evaluation sheet was tabulated with a cumulative 2.92 rating (with 2 being basic and 3 being proficient). Ms. Williams also suggested a two percent performance-based clause to the Superintendent contract directly connected to the yearly goals for an additional layer of accountability.

Mr. Jansons reported Superintendent Redinger’s goals were met and supports the contract as presented. Ms. Oldson supports the contract and stated the incentive would only be added if goals were met. Mr. Bird feels the next contract negotiation period would be the right time to add additional years to the contract. Mr. Bird is also not prepared to add the performance incentive.

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 6.4-SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT.

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

6.1 Personnel Actions

ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Martinez, Eduardo, Assistant Principal, Leona Libby Middle School

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE UPCOMING 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Fisk, Stephen, Principal, Richland High School

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Beattie, DeAnne, Speech Language Pathologist, Special Programs

White, Jennifer, Resource Room, Carmichael Middle School

DECREASE IN FTE FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Shupe, Paulette, 0.2 FTE (now 0.8 FTE), Speech Language Pathologist, Special Programs

REASSIGNMENTS FOR THE UPCOMING 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Hancock, Windy, Technology, Chief Joseph Middle School to Marketing, Richland High School

McComb, Alisa, 4th Grade, Jason Lee Elementary School to Language Arts, Leona Libby MS

Munn, McKenzie, 5th Grade, Marcus Whitman Elementary to 4th Grade, William Wiley Elementary

Rapoza, Leah, 1st Grade, William Wiley Elementary to Resource Room, Sacajawea Elementary

Ryder, Mike, Language Arts, Carmichael Middle School to 5th Grade, Sacajawea Elementary

OUT OF ENDORSEMENT FOR THE 2022-223 SCHOOL YEAR

Phelps, Michelle, Elementary Curriculum, Orchard Elementary School (Limited Certificate)

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE UPCOMING 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Holt, Kayzin, Resource Room, Hanford High School

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Leinback, Kelly, 4th Grade, White Bluffs Elementary School (2nd Year Leave)

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Davis, Lavina, Nutrition Services Team Member, Richland High School, effective 5/15/2023

Gailey, Brad, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 5/12/2023

Jones, Jennifer, Nutrition Services Team Member, Sacajawea Elementary, effective 5/15/2023

Sams, Alicia, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 5/16/2023

Smith, Andrew, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 5/15/2023

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Garcia, Jenny, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 5/31/2023

Gibbs, Shelly, Paraeducator, White Bluffs Elementary, effective 8/31/2023 (will sub)

Haynie, Savannah, Paraeducator, Carmichael Middle School, effective 5/11/2023

Hough, Jordan, Warehouse, Support Services, effective 5/31/2023

Marin, Carlos, Custodian, Desert Sky Elementary, effective 5/31/2023

Mata, Monyca, Paraeducator, White Bluffs Elementary, effective 8/31/2023 (will Cert Sub)

McCauley, Ronald, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 5/9/2023

Mesina, Crystal, Paraeducator, White Bluffs Elementary, effective 8/31/2023 (will Cert Sub)

Messenger, Lydia, Paraeducator, Badger Mountain Elementary, effective 8/31/2023

Weddle, Janis, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark Elementary, effective 8/31/2023

Whittier, Adam, Paraeducator, White Bluffs Elementary, effective 8/31/2023

TERMINATIONS FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Metzker, Brettany, Paraeducator, William Wiley Elementary, effective 5/22/2023

Sproles, Shannon, Paraeducator, Orchard Elementary, effective 5/17/2023

EXTRACURRICULAR PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Gonzalez, Gustavo, Head Coach Girls Soccer, Hanford High School

Suggs, Nate, Head Coach Girls Basketball, Hanford High School

6.2 Approval of Minutes (May 9, 2023)

6.3 Alternative Learning Experience (ALE) Report

6.4 Superintendent Contract

6.5 Policy/RR No. 3205 (Students)/5011 (Staff)-Sexual Harassment (Replace 8700)

6.6 Enrollment Monthly

6.7 Budget Monthly

6.8 Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40007354 through 40007365 for \$10,548.69
Nos. 54000568 through 54000572 for \$8,258.29
Nos.40007366 through 40007377 for \$6,671.26
Nos. 54000573 through 54000577 for \$13,758.16
Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20001963 through 20001968 for \$53,300.90
Nos. 52000332 through 52000333 for \$1,497,617.64
Nos. 20001969 through 20001970 for \$68,159.70
Nos. 52000334 for \$5,500.00
General Fund Warrant Nos. 10086178 through 10086251 for \$252,239.75
Nos. 51002228 through 51000256 for \$366,471.85
Nos. 10086252 through 10086312 for \$805,705.20
Nos. 51002257 through 51002307 for \$183,766.56
Transportation Vehicle Fund Warrant No. 90000128 for \$543,083.22

7.0 AGENDAS

7.1 Future Agenda Items- Planning/Prioritize

- iReady Data - June 27, 2023 agenda.
- “State of the Schools” annual meetings - 3-6 months
- 24 credit-pending parent guardian recommendation
- Mental Health Survey results - June 13, 2023
- Senior Representative Recognition

7.2 Approval of June 13, 2023 Agenda

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS THE JUNE 13, 2023 BOARD MEETING AGENDA WITH THE ADDITION OF MENTAL HEALTH SURVEY RESULTS AND SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE RECOGNITIONS.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS