



Board of Directors, Special Meeting/Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, June 13, 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, June 13, 2023, at 5:00 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 Elementary Teaching and Learning Derek O’Konek, Executive Director of Special Education 6-12 Robert Sorensen, Executive Director of Special Education Pre-K-5 Zach Carpenter, and Executive Director of Behavioral Health Services Tory Christensen.

The Board Special Meeting/Workshop was called to order at 5:03 P.M.

**1. Special Meeting/Workshop Topic: Bond Workshop**

Richard Krasner, Executive Director of Operations, shared information on Bond Package-Option B, which was the preferred package in the fall of 2022. The package included:

- New Comprehensive High School
- Hanford HS-add Theatre Scene Shop and Athletic Stadium Completion
- Richland High School-Sod Playfield at Former Transportation/Warehouse Site
- New River’s Edge High School
- HomeLink-Expanded Educational Spaces
- Maintenance, Operations, Transportation, IT Facility Consolidation
- Safety and Security – District Wide Updates
- District Wide Initiatives (Land Acquisition, Pre-Design)

The Board decided to run a Safety and Security Capital Projects Levy in February of 2023 and postpone the Bond until February of 2024. Mr. Krasner reviewed the timeline with the second reading of Bond projects to take place on November 28, 2023. The Levy included \$15M for Safety and Security Districtwide Updates (fully funded in 6 years) and \$8M for Pre-Design of Potential Projects from Package B. Brandon Wilm, Design West Architects, and Melissa McFadgen, NAC Architects, shared details of each project and a variety of meetings with community members, staff, and students where input was gathered and timelines were discussed. Board discussion followed.

Ms. Williams asked to schedule another Workshop in July. The Workshop/Special Meeting recessed at 6:26 P.M.

The Board returned to the regular meeting at 6:41 P.M.

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**2.0 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**

Karrin Wierzchowski, Student Representative (Junior), introduced Leif Carman (Senior) and recognized him as the first Senior Student Representative to the Board of Directors. Board members thanked Leif for his service.

**3.2 Requests and Comments by Visitors (2 minutes per individual)**

Shelley Burt, Parent, had concerns regarding the Special Education Task Force, lack of budget information on the website, and the public record request process.

Dusty Howard, Parent, thanked all those who attended graduation ceremonies. Ms. Howard thanked those involved in Special Education for their help to get student through the challenges of graduating.

Sarah Griffiths, Parent/Para, shared concern regarding Para Educator schedules and asked for a higher wage.

Annie Carlson, President of Para Group, shared these positions are teaching related, work with behavior management, and do not get paid a livable wage.

William Eaton, Resident, stated Paras are required to maintain certification, should be valued, and deserve a living wage.

Jacob Johannesen, Resident, stated he appreciates all that Board members, understands budget limitations, but feels paras need higher wages.

Ron Higgins, Resident, feels students should be taught more history and that society has failed the students of today.

**3.3 Board/Student Representatives/Superintendent Reports**

Leif Carman graduated from Richland High School last week.

Karrin Wierzchowski attended both Richland and Hanford High School graduation ceremonies and is eager to get started on Student Representative plans for this fall.

Shelley Redinger enjoyed all graduation ceremonies and announced tomorrow is the last day of school. Summer school will be starting shortly and thanked all staff for a great year!

Jill Oldson attended the Leona Libby Middle School Field Day and all graduations. She thanked all parents for their dedication and was excited to hear about their future plans.

Audra Byrd stated graduations were awesome. Ms. Byrd had questions regarding Hazel Health. Mr. Christensen reported he will provide a Friday packet with further information. She asked

about the Special Education Task Force. Special Education staff members will be checking on those dates. Ms. Byrd also asked for budget information to be put on the website. Mr. Sherman stated he will provide that in the Friday packet. Changes to the Public Records process were discussed. She had questions regarding Para Educators. Mr. Praino, Executive Director of Human Resources, reported the District has 380 Paras employed and has 40 open positions.

Rick Jansons enjoyed all graduations and stated both Richland and Hanford High Schools graduations were very crowded. Mr. Jansons also drove truck for the Marimba Steel Drum Band's performance at the Park and suggested adding Student Representative names to the plaques outside the Board Room.

Semi Bird had nothing to add.

Kari Williams stated graduations were great and thanked staff members who provide food in between events.

#### **4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **4.1 Mental Health Student Survey Results**

Karrin Wierzchowski, along with Leif Carman, both Student Representatives to the Board, thanked Angie Withers, District Wellness Coordinator, for assistance during this process. The survey was live for one week with 551 responses from students attending various District high schools. Ms. Wierzchowski stated the intent was to find accurate results on how students feel throughout the year including challenges, what the District is doing well, and what could be improved. Students reported their biggest struggles were school related stress, mental health challenges, relationships, and social issues. Results will help staff members to understand the extent of the issues, identify factors that contribute to challenges, and develop strategies to address problem areas. Board discussion followed.

##### **4.2 2023-2024 Budget Planning**

Clinton Sherman, Executive Director of Finance, stated a 2023-2024 Budget Workshop took place before tonight's meeting. All presentations have been added to the District website. Mr. Sherman shared information for the 2023-2024 budget including:

- General Fund Revenue Sources (driven by enrollment)-\$219,278,337
- General Fund Expenditures:
  - Certificated Salaries-51%; Benefits-20%; Classified Salaries-15%; MSOCS (materials/supplies/operations costs)-14%

Mr. Sherman stated the fund balance will be lower this year but underspending by \$4M in the upcoming budget year will return the fund balance to near normal.

#### **5.0 NEW BUSINESS**

##### **5.1 2023-2024 District Goals Discussion**

Ms. Williams explained typically this discussion has taken place in executive session but for more transparency, this will be done during a public meeting. Ms. Williams asked members to share their lists of high-level goals. There was confusion from Board members as to how this process should work. Opinions were shared including:

- Strategic Plan should drive these goals - (Board members approved the Strategic Goals as high level expectations-growth profiles)
- Staff members should bring goals/objectives to the Board, then Board can make changes
- Board has duty to bring goals to Superintendent, Superintendent will discuss with Cabinet to develop Smart Goals, then return to Board for approval
- Superintendent goals are different from District objectives
- Superintendent evaluation-Board uses Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA)/Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA) approved forms and rubric
- Goals for Superintendent should be clear
- District Objectives-first meeting (discussion only)-then allow time for community input before approval

### **5.2 Policy No. 4128-Language Access**

Galt Pettett, General Counsel, advised the State Legislature recently passed E2SHB 1153, which addresses language access for families and communities. The bill requires school districts to adopt language access policies and procedures. Mr. Pettett stated the District's English Language Learner (ELL) population has grown from 145 students in 2005-2006, to currently serving 948 active ELL students who speak more than 45 different languages. Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, is also the District's Language Access Coordinator. The District is continually collecting data surrounding families' spoken language preferences. Work is underway to improve language access services for students and families.

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

Discussion:

Mr. Jansons advised this is an area needing improvement. Mr. Moore stated this policy is specific to communication to the public and ParentSquare (new communication tool) will be a great improvement to serve this population. Board discussion followed.

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY NO. 4128-LANGUAGE ACCESS FOR FIRST READING.

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

Student Representatives: Carman, yes, Wierzchowski, Yes

Motion was approved.

### **5.3 Performance Audit Update**

Superintendent Redinger stated the Summer Food Service Program will be audited this year including locations and services. Dr. Redinger reminded all that Richland School District is the only district in the area not receiving funding for students to receive free meals.

### **6.0 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 (6.1) THROUGH (6.5) INCLUDING AN UPDATED PERSONNEL ACTION.

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

## **6.1 Personnel Actions**

### ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

#### REASSIGNMENTS FOR THE UPCOMING 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Spencer, Tiffany, Assistant Principal, Hanford High School to River's Edge High School

### CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

#### NEW HIRES FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Bright, Stacey, CTE American Sign Language, Richland High School

Ellinghaus, MaKenna, CTE Agriculture Science, Richland High School

Senter, Jeweliana, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, Marcus Whitman (Going from Non-Continuing to Continuing)

Smith, Kalyn, Math and Social Studies, Carmichael Middle School (Non-Continuing)

#### DECREASE IN FTE FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Valdez, Paul, 0.4 FTE, Science, Pacific Crest Online Academy

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Munoz, Angelica, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Leave of Absence

#### INCREASE IN FTE FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Christianson, Seth, 0.4 FTE (Now 1.0 FTE), Language Arts to Science, Enterprise Middle School

Duberstein, Michele, 0.2 FTE (Now 1.0 FTE), Music, Enterprise Middle School

Perlot, Kathy, 0.4 FTE (Now 1.0 FTE), Physical Education, Enterprise Middle School

Valdez, Paul, 0.4 FTE (Now 1.0 FTE), Science, Enterprise Middle School

#### REASSIGNMENTS FOR THE UPCOMING 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Cortinas, Mary, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, Marcus Whitman Elementary to 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, William Wiley Elementary

DeBuhr, Jamie, Librarian, Badger Mountain Elementary to Librarian, White Bluffs Elementary

Gilbert, Michelle, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, Jefferson Elementary School to 2nd Grade, Orchard Elementary

Goche, Tonya, Special Education Preschool Teacher, Early Learning Center to Librarian, William Wiley Elementary

Johnson, Karen, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, Jefferson Elementary School to 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, Marcus Whitman Elementary

Pambrun, Shayla, School Counselor, Chief Joseph MS to School Counselor, Early Learning Center

Wheeler, Monica, 4th Grade, William Wiley Elementary to Classroom Support Teacher, Teaching, Learning and Administration Center

#### RESIGNATIONS FOR THE UPCOMING 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Baker, Nicholas, Math, Hanford High School

Grant, Sydnee, Science, Chief Joseph Middle School

Stone, Kylie, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Leave of Absence

### CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

#### NEW HIRES FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Bennett, Tyson, Bus Attendant, Transportation, effective 6/7/2023

Bussey, Makenna, Secretary, Transportation, effective 6/12/2023

Dodge, Crystal, Bus Attendant, Transportation, effective 6/5/2023

Klehr, Michael, Custodian, Carmichael Middle School, effective 6/1/2023

#### RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Campeau, Sean, Grounds Applicator, Support Services, effective 6/2/2023

Dallas, Danica, Paraeducator, Tapteal Elementary, effective 8/31/2023

Hinman, Colleen, Paraeducator, Tapteal Elementary, effective 5/19/2023

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Martin, Nick, Paraeducator, Hanford High School, effective 8/31/2023  
Romero, Regina, Paraeducator, Jefferson Elementary, effective 8/31/2023  
Wolf, Hannah, Paraeducator, Early Learning Center, effective 6/5/2023  
TERMINATIONS FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR  
Miller, Donald, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 6/1/2023

EXTRACURRICULAR PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Harvey, Ryan, Head Coach Football (Interim), Hanford High School  
RESIGNATIONS FOR THE UPCOMING 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR  
Baker, Nicholas, Head Coach Football, Hanford High School

**6.2 Approval of Minutes (May 23, 2023)**

**6.3 Career and Technical Education (CTE) Four Year Plan**

**6.4 Procedure No. 6700-Nutrition and Health Services**

**6.5 Payroll and Warrants Approval**

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40007378 through 40007384 for \$20,864.56  
Nos. 54000578 through 54000580 for \$18,884.07  
Nos. 40007385 through 40007391 for \$9,374.00  
Nos. 54000581 through 54000585 for \$12,570.85  
Nos. 40007392 through 40007401 for \$35,535.87  
Nos. 54000586 through 54000588 for \$97,066.55  
Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20001971 through 20001977 for \$230,152.57  
Nos. 52000335 through 52000335 for \$5,223.14  
Nos. 20001981 through 20001983 for \$133,041.10  
Nos. 52000336 for 19,557.57  
Debt Services Fund Warrant No. 30000138 for \$550.00  
General Fund Warrant Nos. 10086429 through 10086471 for \$570,718.07  
Nos. 51002310 through 51002320 for \$32,186.32  
Nos. 10086474 through 10086524 for \$1,238,824.52  
Nos. 51002321 through 51002339 for \$167,184.46  
Nos. 10086527 through 10086599 for \$302,057.37  
Nos. 51002340 through 51002378 for \$702,406.78  
Payroll Warrant Nos. 10086106 through 10086107 for \$3,325.79  
Nos. 10086313 through 10086386 for \$159,852.29  
Nos. 10086387 through 10086428 for \$5,215,729.22  
Electronic Fund Transfer for \$10,858,655.41  
Total May Payroll approved in the amount of \$16,237,562.71

**7.0 AGENDAS**

**7.1 Future Agenda Items- Planning/Prioritize**

- Hazel Health-Friday packet
- District objectives draft-Friday packet
- SPED Task Force-Board leadership will discuss dates
- Dual Language update-Future agenda topic-parent notification
- Modified calendar meeting-last meeting today-continue meetings in September
- Bond Workshop-July
- District objectives-Future agenda-August 8, 2023
- Superintendent goal discussion-future agenda-August 8, 2023

- Update on negotiations-Closed Session-will schedule in future
- Policy No. 4311-Visitors-July 11, 2023
- Educational Specifications-Safety and Security and Hanford High School Scene Shop/Stadium-June 27, 2023

**7.2 Approval of June 27, 2023 Agenda**

Public Hearing for the 2023-2024 Budget-June 27, 2023 meeting. Budget approval will take place at the July 11, 2023 meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 P.M.

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RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

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SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS