



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, November 28, 2023
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, November 28, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. via Zoom and in person, 6972 Keene Road, West Richland, Washington. School Board President Rick Jansons presided. Board members participating: Jill Oldson, Bonnie Mitchell, (Lindsay Lightner, Brianna Watson-outgoing), (Chelsie Beck, Katrina Waters-newly elected). Administrators present: Superintendent Dr. Shelley Redinger, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education Tory Christensen, Executive Director of Finance Clinton Sherman, Executive Director of Information Technology Mike Leseberg, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning Jennifer Klaus, and General Counsel Galt Pettett.

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:31 P.M.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Roll Call-All Here- Ms. Oldson participated via Zoom.

Dr. Redinger and Mr. Jansons thanked Brianna Watson and Lindsay Lightner for their service as interim Board members.

1.3 Oath of Office

Superintendent Redinger administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Board Members Dr. Chelsie Beck and Dr. Katrina Waters and welcomed them to the Board of Directors. She also thanked Brianna Watson and Lindsay Lightner for their service.

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS

2.1 GOOD NEWS

Ryan Beard, Director of Career and Technical Education (CTE) introduced Samantha White, CTE Instructional Specialist, and Courtney Ruane, Richland High School Teacher Academy Teacher. Each shared information regarding the Teaching Pathway with careers in education offered to juniors and Teaching Academy targeted for seniors with interest in becoming a teacher, partnering with Washington State University Tri Cities (WSUTC) through a Teaching Bridge Program.

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

Ron Higgins, Richland, shared information regarding Article 6 of the US Constitution and the Oath of Office. He also shared concern regarding sex education in schools.

2.5 Board/Student Representatives/Superintendent Reports

Shelley Redinger reported elementary conferences were completed recently and thanked the community for supporting safety measures to keep students and staff safe after recent events.

Jill Oldson attended the Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA) Conference. Ms. Oldson shared information from several breakout sessions including student-based outcomes and Special Education practices.

Chelsie Beck attended the WSSDA Conference and was interested in the Healthy Choice Survey, closing the achievement gap, and completing a board self-assessment.

Katrina Waters attended the WSSDA Conference and attended Open Government Training and sessions regarding levies and bonds, trust and transparency, and the new performance-based guidelines for graduations.

Bonnie Mitchell attended online training provided by WSSDA, is volunteering with the girls' Lacrosse team, and stated ParentSquare is a great new communication tool this year.

Rick Jansons stated a board assessment has been done in the past and is a great tool. Mr. Jansons would like to schedule the assessment in the near future, as well as training on policy governance. He suggested all read "*Great on Their Behalf*" for a book study in the future.

3.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3.1 Bond Package Discussion

Caren Johnson, Director of Capital Projects, shared a recap from previous meetings for the new Board members regarding bonds and levies. The Capital Projects Levy passed in February 2023 provided \$23 million in funding for safety and security projects and pre-design work on certain projects presented in 2021/2022 by the Facilities Planning Committee. Ms. Johnson advised the safety and security projects are in progress and on-schedule to be completed before the start of next school year. Current bond planning goals include identifying and planning for future bonds and establishing a timeline for future bond proposals at regular intervals with a long-range plan of potential projects. Enrollment growth forecasts will help establish when and how far into the future additional schools will be needed and in which areas of the District. Board discussion followed including:

- escalation costs
- demographer report
- Education and Operations Center/student training (facilities/grounds/CTE/IT)
- maximizing state matching funds
- additional Early Learning Center
- school capacity vs. building capacity

Board members asked to schedule a workshop in January and requested further information on these and other topics:

- ✓ high school capacity (design, practical, etc.)
- ✓ portable needs/cost estimates for projected high school needs
- ✓ provide updated list of all projects generated to date/cost estimates
- ✓ bond package B (strawman for discussion)
- ✓ long range plan considering demographer report with priorities
- ✓ tax rates
- ✓ increase land acquisition costs
- ✓ swimming pool-amount of interest

- ✓ Out of district enrollment numbers

Several Board Workshops were requested beginning in January.

4.0 NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Legislative Priorities

Melissa Gombosky, Legislative Consultant, shared information regarding District priorities for this legislative session beginning on January 8, 2023. She reported the state budget seems in good shape. District priorities are listed below:

- Special Education *Specifically, ask for a removal of the 15% cap for student enrollment and the full funding of the per student cost multiplier.
- Support Capital Facilities *The Richland School District requests consideration of funding for skills centers, HVAC, and green building updates as well as flexible pathways for compliance with any new state requirements for any capital construction.
- Update Materials Supplies and Operating Cost (MSOC) Allocation
- Paraeducator and Classified Staff Compensation

Discussion followed including:

*State funds 30 paras-District employs 400 (200 funded by Special Education)

*State funds 14 nurses and only one psychologist

*State change to funding average teacher salary-harmful to districts with more educated staff members (additional funding covered by levy dollars)

*Board members asked for a summary of State vs. District funding shortfalls

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

Mr. Jansons asked to pull Item 5.2-Approval of Minutes

Ms. Waters asked to pull Item 5.4-Resolution 968-180 Day Waiver/Conferences. Item 5.3-Policy/RR No. 2022-Electronic Resources and Internet Safety was also pulled. Both will be placed on the December 12, 2023 meeting agenda.

It was moved by Katrina Waters and seconded by Chelsie Beck –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 5.1, 5.5, 5.6, AND 5.7 INCLUDING AN UPDATED PERSONNEL ACTION.

Vote: Beck, yes; Mitchell, yes; Waters, yes; Oldson, yes; Jansons, yes

Motion was approved.

It was moved by Bonnie Mitchell and seconded by Jill Oldson –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 5.2

Vote: Beck, abstained; Mitchell, yes; Waters, abstained; Oldson, yes; Jansons, yes

Motion was approved.

5.1 Personnel Actions

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Fish, Amanda, Special Education Behavior Analyst, Teaching, Learning and Administration, to Supplemental Support Teacher, Orchard Elementary, effective 11/27/2023

Noren, Megan , Mental Health Teacher, Teaching, Learning and Administration, to Developmental Preschool Teacher, The Early Learning Center, effective 11/27/2023

Smith, Daleen, Resource Room, Desert Sky, to Resource Room, Jefferson, effective 11/27/2023

Sullivan, Alisa, Instructional Specialist, Teaching, Learning and Administration, to 2nd Grade Orchard Elementary, effective 11/27/2023

Yecha, Renae, Teacher on Special Assignment, Teaching Learning and Administration, to Resource Room, Desert Sky Elementary School, effective 11/27/2023

DECREASE IN FTE FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

McDowell, Jodi, .12 FTE (Now 0.6 FTE), Language Arts, Three Rivers HomeLink, effective 11/27/2023

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Lim, Hwayoung, Paraeducator (from Nutrition Services), Marcus Whitman, eff. 11/27/2023

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Bricker, Avey, Paraeducator, Marcus Whitman Elementary, effective 11/27/2023

Greenough, Hannah, Paraeducator (Temporary), Lewis & Clark, eff. 11/17/2023-6/12/2024

Jackson, Janine, Paraeducator (Rehire), Special Education, effective 11/28/2023

Knight, Rayla, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 11/17/2023

Morales, Juan, Paraeducator, Sacajawea Elementary, effective 11/28/2023

Rasmussen, Taylor, Information Technology Technician 1, Information Technology, effective 12/1/2023

Vandervert, Bailey, Paraeducator, Sacajawea Elementary, effective 11/17/2023

Wildish, Jessica, Paraeducator, Enterprise Middle School, effective 11/22/2023

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Asmus, Heidi, Secretary, Hanford High School, effective 12/4/2023 (change date)

Camaioni, Alexa, Nutrition Services Team Member, Jason Lee, eff. 11/17/2023 (return to NS sub)

Fowler, Kaeleigh, Paraeducator, Tapteal Elementary, effective 11/30/2023

McCain, Shelly, Paraeducator, Marcus Whitman Elementary, effective 11/30/2023 (will Cert Sub)

Pavlicek, Mercedes, Paraeducator, Marcus Whitman Elementary, effective 12/8/2023

Rask, Deseree, Paraeducator, Jefferson Elementary, effective 11/26/2023

Sandifer, Kelly, Paraeducator, Jefferson Elementary, effective 12/8/2023 (will Cert Sub)

Thomas, Jerrie, Nutrition Services Team Member, Carmichael, effective 11/17/2023 (from LOA)

EXTRACURRICULAR PERSONNEL

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE UPCOMING 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Neidhold, Michael, Head Coach Football, Richland High School

5.2 Approval of Minutes (November 14, 2023)

5.3 Policy/RR No. 2022-Electronic Resources and Internet Safety

5.4 Resolution No. 968-180 Day Waiver/Conferences

5.5 Enrollment Monthly

5.6 Budget Monthly

5.7 Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos.40007547 through 40007564 for \$26,783.42

Nos. 54000634 through 54000636 for \$1,925.16
Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20002081 through 20002085 for \$638,803.05
Nos. 52000362 through 52000365 for \$25,991.96
General Fund Warrant Nos. 10087966 through 10087968 for \$1,827.87
Nos. 51002863 through 51002888 for \$26,222.83

6.0 AGENDAS

6.1 Future Agenda Items

- Update on structured literacy
- Math curriculum being piloted

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS