

Richland Schools

Office of the Superintendent

Memorandum

Date: 2/16/24
To: School Board
From: Shelley Redinger
Subject: Friday Packet

Enclosed please find the following documents:

- Board Dates to Remember
- Community Events/Activities
- Leona Libby Middle School Art Show Flyer
- Student Advisory Notes
- Media



TO: Board of Directors
RE: Event Dates
DATE: 2/16/24

February:

- 2/27/24...Board Meeting-Board Room -- 6:30 PM
 - Ex. Session-5:30 (only if needed)

March:

- 3/12/24...Board Meeting-Board Room -- 6:30 PM
 - Ex. Session-(only if needed)
- 3/26/24...Board Meeting-Board Room -- 6:30 PM
 - Ex. Session-(only if needed)

April:

- April 1-5...SPRING BREAK
- 4/9/24...Board Meeting-Board Room -- 6:30 PM
 - Ex. Session-(only if needed)
- 4/23/24...Board Meeting-Board Room -- 6:30 PM
 - Ex. Session-(only if needed)

Upcoming Events/Activities

This list is suggestions of RSD and community events to attend as a Board Member. By no means is it a comprehensive list of all activities in the District. Future events will be added weekly.

February

Friday 9th:

Monday 19th:

- NO SCHOOL – President's Day

Tuesday 20th:

- Science Night
5 PM
Chief Jo Middle School

Friday 23rd:

- Daddy Daughter Dance 2024
6 – 8 PM
White Bluffs Elementary
<https://wbe-rugare-marimba.square.site/>

Monday 26th:

- K-12 Music Concert -
(HomeLink) 5:30 – 6:30 PM
Richland High Auditorium

Thursday 29th:

- Family Game Night
6:30 – 8:30 PM
Enterprise Cafeteria

March

Friday 1st:

- NO SCHOOL – Spring Professional Day

Saturday 2nd:

- Drama Dessert Theatre
7 PM
Hanford High School Auditorium

Tuesday 5th:

- Choir Festival Concert
6:30 – 7:30 PM
Hanford High School

Wednesday 6th:

- Early Release (K-5) 12:30 PM
Thursday + Friday 7th - 8th

Thursday 7th:

- Orchestra Concert
6:30 PM
Hanford High School Auditorium

Saturday 9th:

- Oedipus Performance (by Drama III)
7 – 8 PM
Hanford High School Auditorium

**Hanford + Richland High School
Athletics Calendars**

<https://hanfordathletics.com/events>

<https://bomberathletics.com/events>

Leona Libby Middle School Art Show

at the

Richland Public Library



The show runs from:

Saturday, February 3rd to February 22nd

A reception will be held:

February 7th, 6pm to 7pm

In the Doris Roberts Gallery, inside the library

LMS Art Club Cake bake off

The show's reception will also feature this year's LMS Art Club Cake bake off! Art Club members will display the cake they have created using their creativity and artistic skills for everyone to vote on.

Schedule:

5:40 cake check in. (Late cakes cannot be voted on)

Voting starts at 6:05

Vote Count at 6:15

Announce winners at 6:20ish

Contact Mike Boynton

Mike.Boynton@rsd.edu

Art by Delilah Nguyen 8th grade LMS

Student/Superintendent Advisory Committee

2/9/24

11:30am-12:30PM

1. School Calendar

Dr. Redinger explained a committee met several times last year to discuss options for a balanced calendar which includes several breaks during the school year and a shorter summer. Dr. Redinger emphasized any changes would not be made for the 2024/2025 school year. Much more input is needed from the community and students before any change would be made. A survey was sent out with over 4,000 participants. There are studies showing a balanced calendar reduces learning loss during the summer break. Student comments included:

- possible effect on AP classes
- Running Start students on different schedule
- Tri-Tech/Delta different schedules
- summer work for students
 - businesses dependent on student workers
- would need to include all three area districts to succeed
- scheduled family vacations might cause absences
- “if it’s not broken, don’t fix it” attitude

Overall, changes to the school calendar would require buy-in from the community and much communication. Dr. Redinger stated again that any changes would not take place for the upcoming school year.

2. School Start Times

Students shared their ideas on school start times. Many students felt start times were ok while others felt changes were needed. Some comments included:

- delaying start times would allow students to get more sleep
- possible one day a week late start
- could create problems for parents’ schedules
- possible schedule switch with elementary students (elementary earlier/secondary later)
 - transportation issues-elementary takes longer
- elementary students walking in the dark if moved earlier
- athletic practices (lights on football field? / golf-practice in the dark?)
- hold some practices before school
- PE held last period, then continue into athletic practices
 - might work for PE teachers that are coaches, but not other staff
- later start might be better for snow days

During COVID parents complained about kids staying up later. Recent studies show that a consistent schedule of best sleep is more important than the actual amount of sleep.

Dr. Redinger shared projects to be included in a future bond would be discussed at next week's board meeting. Board members will need to narrow the number of projects included. A 25-year plan is needed to help with future project planning. Graduation ceremonies and memorials will be discussed at the February 27th meeting. The board will be working on a consistent policy for future use.

Discuss/Reflect

Students were asked to discuss programs in our school system that are working well and others not working as well. Topics included:

- Special Education classes-there were differing opinions-one student had a positive experience, while another had a negative view
- Energy drinks/alternatives available-need more healthy snack/drink vending machines

School Board Meeting Student Report

- February 13, 2024 - Board Meeting-6:30pm
 - Danielle/Hanford High School

✓ Next Meeting

- March 15, 2024 - 11:30am - TLAC

Kennewick School District looking for new leader

Superintendent Pierce to retire in 2025 after 30-year career



TRI-CITY HERALD FILE

The Kennewick School District headquarters building is seen on West Fourth Avenue.

BY ERIC ROSANE
EROSANE@TRICITYHERALD.COM

The Kennewick School District began [accepting applications this week](#) to replace their chief educator.

Superintendent [Traci Pierce plans to retire June 30, 2025](#), capping a 30-year career in public education, the last five were spent in Kennewick.

Her replacement will oversee a district with over 2,000 employees and the education of about 19,500 students in 33 schools. The district operates with a \$320 million annual budget.

The Kennewick School Board is looking to hire a deputy-successor superintendent to work alongside Pierce in her final year, as well as oversee the human resources and business services and operations departments.

Deadline to apply is March 8.



Traci Pierce

Kennewick's next superintendent will earn a base salary of \$187,000 to \$210,000, depending on experience, and must have an active teaching certificate. That range is at least \$9,000 more than Pierce's base salary for

the 2022-23 school year.

On Feb. 28, the board expects to meet for an hour to prep for interviews with the applicants. On March 13, the board plans a closed-door executive session with consultants to narrow the list for preliminary interviews.

The interviews are scheduled for March 20-21 in a public meeting, where the board will ask about their professional history and qualifications. The board then meets in a closed-door session to determine finalists.

The finalists will interview with community members, staff and the school board on April 8, 9 and 11.

The board then plans to vote to hire an applicant April 12, and after contract negotiations the deputy-successor superintendent will begin work July 1. Exactly a year later, the deputy superintendent would step into the role.

Six measures for school, fire districts passing in early results



BOB BRAWDY • BBRAWDY@TRICITYHERALD.COM

Nearly 2,700 ballots in Benton and Franklin counties were tallied in first counts released on election night. At least 300 still need to be counted.

BY ERIC ROSANE
EROSANE@TRICITYHERALD.COM

Six special election measures for school and fire districts in rural areas near the Tri-Cities were passing after Tuesday's initial ballot count.

Early results from the Feb. 13 special election show a majority of voters were supporting the measures in Prosser, Connell, Kahlotus and Paterson.

The \$27 million in local funds will help pay for teachers, sports activities for students, school safety improvements and a new fire station.

Nearly 2,700 ballots in Benton and Franklin counties were tallied in first counts released on election night. At least 300 still need to be counted.

- The **Prosser School District** had two levies on the ballot. One will replace the district's expiring operations and educational programs levy, and the other is a new tax to fund security and safety improvements at one of the district's oldest buildings, Housel Middle School.

The four-year, \$18 million replacement levy was passing with 55%, or 985 voters, in support. About 45%, or 819 voters, were against.

The four-year, \$3 million capital levy passed with 54%, or 976 voters, in support. Roughly 46%, or 847, were against it.

About 1,800 total voters weighed in on both measures.

"On behalf of the Prosser School District and Prosser School Board, I want to thank all of the community for the strong voter turnout and the passing of both levies," Superintendent Kim Casey told the Tri-City Herald. "The passing of these levies secures our programs both educational, supplemental and support for students, staff and our community for the next four years. This support is the first step in putting Prosser educational programs back on top."

- Voters in the **North Franklin School District** overwhelmingly passed a two-year, \$5 million replacement levy to continue supporting educational programs and operation expenses.

About 65%, or 502 voters, were in support of the measure while 35%, or 271 voters, were against it.

Kahlotus's school and fire measures were passing with landslide margins.

- Voters there approved a two-year, \$280,000 replacement operations levy for the **Kahlotus School District**, which serves less than 100 K-12 students. About 69%, or 53 voters, supported the measure while 31%, or 24 voters, were against it.

- **Franklin County Fire District 2** asked voters to fund a 15-year, \$525,000 bond to replace its Kahlotus fire station with a pre-fabricated metal building at 115 N. Violet Ave.

The measure passed with 85%, or 47 voters, in support. Just eight votes, about 15%, voted no.

Bond measures require a 60% super majority and election turnout of at least 40% of the last general election to pass.

"I would just like to thank the voters for their support. It means a lot to the fire district," said Travis Matthews, board chair for Franklin County Fire District 2.

Fire District 2 serves 275 square miles on the west bank of the lower Snake River. The force is entirely volunteer. Operations and gas are paid for with a small voter-approved tax.

The new fire station will house six fire engines and meet the district's growing response needs.

- Voters in the **Paterson School District** approved a seven-year, \$525,000 bond measure to pay for its share of constructing the new Prosser High School.

The new high school — located outside district boundaries at 1500 Paterson Road in Prosser — opened two years ago and serves both Paterson and Prosser high school students.

Roughly 74%, or 40 voters, approved the measure, while 26%, or 14 voters, were opposed.

County auditors expected to publish new ballot counts at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14.

Final election results will be certified Feb. 23.

**Kennewick's
man, woman
of the year
are united
in serving
kids facing
adversity**



BOB BRAWDY • TRI-CITY HERALD FILE

The 2023 Kennewick Man and Woman of the Year were named Monday evening.

**BY WENDY CULVERWELL
WCULVERWELL@TRICITYHERALD.COM**

Brian Ace and Theresa Roosendaal lead different and distinct organizations, but the 2023 Kennewick Man and Woman of the Year have a shared calling to serve children and families facing adversity.

Ace, executive director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Benton and Franklin Counties, and Roosendaal, founder and executive director of B5, formerly the Family Learning Center, were honored [Feb. 12 at the annual Kennewick Man and Woman of the Year banquet](#), at the Three Rivers Convention Center.



Theresa Roosendaal of B5 Family Learning Center and Brian Ace, CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Benton & Franklin Counties, have been selected at the Kennewick Woman & Man of the Year recipients in 2024.

The award is given by Kennewick Past Men of the Year Club and Kennewick Women of the Year to individuals who make Kennewick a better place in the preceding year.

The honorees are so intertwined that Ace endorsed Roosendaal's nomination after he helped B5 raise money to [build its new home](#). In a complimentary move, a B5 executive endorsed Ace's nomination for his support of the project.

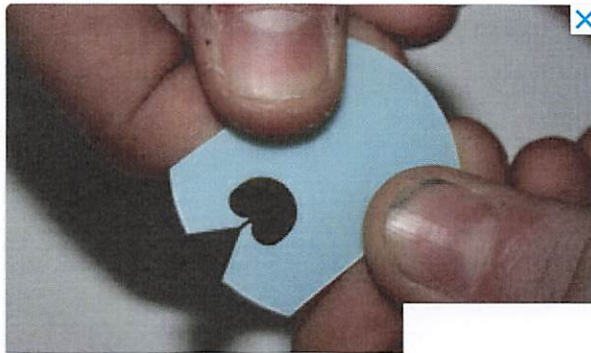
"She was the pebble that created the ripples to inspire a community to not look past the refugee and sojourner, but to instead be in a relationship with them," Ace wrote of Roosendaal. "It has been a beautiful thing to watch."

John McCoy, chairman of B5 fund-raising committee, said its new building wouldn't have been built without Ace's support.

“Without Brian’s collaboration and guidance on our capital campaign, we could not have been successful. That is no hyperbole,” McCoy wrote.

Woman of the Year

Roosendaal was nominated by Art King, who was 2013 Man of the Year for his work with Kiwanis Club, the Tri-Cities Food Bank and other organizations.



**Always Keep a Bread CI
Wallet When Traveling,**

Ad LifeHack Guru



Theresa Roosendall of the B5 Family Learning Center.

Roosendaal, he wrote, established the Family Learning Center, now called B5, in 2009 after recognizing that refugees resettled from high-conflict corners of the globe had no one to help them navigate the Tri-Cities. He'd see the problem first hand when newcomers came to the food bank or their children landed in the juvenile justice system.

Children in particular were being set up to fail in environments so unfamiliar that they couldn't spot their own names written in English, he said.

“I remember a juvenile justice employee telling me the challenge of trying to teach a teenage refugee, with no concept of math, just simple addition,” he wrote.

Roosendaal, who supported refugees as a World Relief volunteer, created the family learning center to provide tutoring, translation and other support for the newly arrived refugees. In 2009, she received a grant to lease an apartment — unit B5 — in an complex serving refugees.

“B5 is a testament to Theresa living her values and love of all people,” King wrote, noting that her work was uncompensated until the board recently voted to award a small salary to ensure the organization remains sustainable.

Traci Pierce, superintendent of the Kennewick School District, said B5’s efforts have been “transformational.”

“Her work is meaningful and inspiring, and it makes a tangible difference for students and families in our school district and throughout the Tri-Cities,” she wrote.

Man of the Year

Ace has spent much of his career with the Boys & Girls Club, with detours to serve with the Children’s Reading Foundation, Chaplaincy Health Care and to found the Columbia Basin Nonprofit Association.



Brian Ace, CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Benton & Franklin Counties.

He was nominated by Mark Brault, volunteer CEO for Grace Clinic who was the [2022 Tri-Citizen of the Year](#).

Ace returned to the local Boys & Girls Club as CEO in 2012. In the years that followed, he steered it through an expansion that saw it grow from 12 program locations to 28.

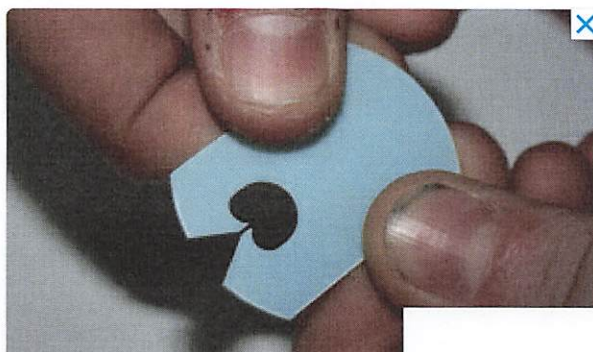
Notably, it established the Kennewick Clubhouse near Park Middle School, providing a “pillar of hope, light and safety” to youth in a community known for crime and gang activity.

“You can always count on Brian to share and give what he can when it comes to the support of youth and our community,” Brault wrote.

Ace used the fund raising expertise gained during the Kennewick Clubhouse project to help B5 raise money for its Jean Street quarters via the Bridges to New Beginnings Capital Campaign. McCoy, the campaign chair, called him an “amazing” partner.

Ken Hohenberg, 2005 Kennewick Man of the Year and retired Kennewick police chief, praised Ace for his investment in kids beyond the Boys & Girls Club. Ace, he wrote, has always been an advocate for community safety.

Ace and his wife, Beth, became foster parents in 2016 and recently adopted several children. They are active in the Foster Care Support program at Bethel Church.



**Always Keep A Bread C
Wallet When Traveling,**

Ad LifeHack Guru

The Kennewick Man and Woman of the Year honors have been given continuously since they were established in 1946 (Lawrence Scott) for men and in 1948 (Blanche Pratt) for women.

Go to kcmoy.com.

Tri-Citian of the Year coming up

The Kennewick Man and Woman of the Year honors are similar to, but distinct from Tri-Citian of the Year. Tri-Citian of the Year is given annually to a local resident who demonstrates exceptional leadership and service to the Mid-Columbia.

The 2024 Tri-Citian of the Year will be announced at a banquet on April 25 by the [2023 honoree, Lura Powell](#).

Go to tricitianoftheyear.com for tickets and other information.