



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, March 26, 2024
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, March 26, 2024, 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, Chelsie Beck, and Katrina Waters. Administrators present: Superintendent Dr. Shelley Redinger, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education Brian Moore, Executive Director of Finance Clinton Sherman, Executive Director of Information Technology Mike Leseberg, Executive Director of Operations Richard Krasner, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning Jennifer Klaus, Executive Director of Special Education 6-12 and Behavioral Health Robert Sorensen, and Executive Director of Special Education Pre-K-5 Zach Carpenter.

The Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel)

The Board adjourned to executive session at 5:30 P.M. to discuss qualifications of an applicant for employment or review of performance of an employee (final actions must be taken in public and discussions affecting employees generally must be held in public) 42.30.110 (1) (g). The executive session was projected to last sixty minutes, with no action expected. Executive session ended at 6:24 P.M.

The Board returned to the regular meeting at 6:32 P.M.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Roll Call-Ms. Oldson participated via Zoom.

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS

2.1 GOOD NEWS

2.1.1 Intelligent Mavericks Robotics Team

Nick Kramer, Robotics Coach, introduced students on the Intelligent Mavericks Robotics Team. Students produced an interactive art exhibit and shared a short video. The Team is working with the *Friends of Badger* to help make improvements to the trail. The Team will be competing at Nationals in Houston next month.

2.1.2 Benton/Franklin Retirees' Association

Victoria Russell, Benton/Franklin Retirees Association Past President, introduced nine association members, all Richland School District Retired Teachers. She shared the organization works to offer scholarships to students and also classroom scholarships to teachers for supplies and projects. The Retirees' organization also offers webinars to those nearing retirement and continued support after retirement.

2.2 Student Advisory Report

Marisa Dunfee, Hanford High School Student, shared information from the recent Student Advisory meeting including: cell phone usage guidelines at both middle school and high school levels, chrome book information, increasing hotspot purchases to help with poor connectivity areas, and Library access. Students also met in small groups with health team specialists to share ideas on a memorial/remembrance policy.

2.3 Parent Guardian Advisory Report-(Moved to April 9, 2024)

2.4 Requests and Comments by Visitors (2 minutes per individual-30 minute limit)

Ron Higgins, Richland, shared concerns regarding students using pronouns and feels some American schools have begun pushing gender ideas.

Debbie Savino, Teacher, shared concern regarding the possible change proposed for the future, instead of holding to the decision by the Board last year to add a financial literacy class to seventh grade. Ms. Savino urged the Board to move forward with the original plan.

2.5 Board/Student Representatives/Superintendent Reports

Shelley Redinger shared Denise Reddinger has accepted a position in the Goldendale School District for the upcoming school year. Superintendent Redinger reported visiting schools for half days and was impressed with the level of student engagement.

Karrin Wierzchowski and Shelia Dehkordi are working on a presentation for the next meeting regarding Social Emotional Learning (SEL) survey results. Both reported tests are this week and are excited for Spring Break.

Jill Oldson toured Chief Joseph Middle School and the Early Learning Center (ELC).

Chelsie Beck attended the Adams Family drama production and the orchestra concert at Libby Middle School.

Katrina Waters toured Chief Joseph Middle School and was excited to hear information on School Wide Information System (SWIS) data. Ms. Waters attended the Parent Advisory Meeting regarding inclusion and invited more parents to attend.

Bonnie Mitchell reported attending many Richland High School athletic events.

Rick Jansons was involved in the Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA) Legislative Committee and advised Melissa Gombosky will be speaking at the next Board meeting.

3.0 BUSINESS

3.1 Policy No. 2405-Student Memorials/Remembrances-2nd Reading

Robert Sorensen, Executive Director of Secondary Special Education and Behavioral Health, shared Policy No. 2405 with updates from the March 12, 2024 meeting. Board discussion followed with no additional changes requested.

It was moved by Bonnie Chelsie and seconded by Chelsie Beck –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY NO. 2405-STUDENT MEMORIALS/REMEMBRANCES FOR SECOND READING AS PRESENTED.

Vote: Waters, yes; Mitchell, yes; Beck, yes; Oldson, yes; Jansons, yes
Student Representatives: Wierzchowski, yes; Dehkordi, yes
Motion was approved.

3.2 Policy No. 4321-Contests

Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, shared this policy is classified as essential and overdue for updates to be in alignment with the Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA). The first update is to change the numbering of “Policy 4321” to “Policy 4237”. Other updates to the policy include language to include advertising campaigns or promotions, as well as ensuring the activity does not promote the sponsoring group, and updates to the legal references.

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY NO. 4321-CONTESTS FOR FIRST READING.

Vote: Waters, yes; Mitchell, yes; Beck, yes; Oldson, yes; Jansons, yes
Student Representatives: Wierzchowski, yes; Dehkordi, yes
Motion was approved.

3.3 iReady Data Update (K-5)

Derek O’Konek, Executive Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning, introduced Kristien McKenzie, Principal-Marcus Whitman Elementary, Paul Chartrand, Principal-William Wiley Elementary, and Brian Foltz, Principal-Jason Lee Elementary, who stated iReady identifies specific data to show individual student weaknesses and strengths. The assessment is given multiple times per year as a check toward grade level skill acquisition. This is used as a screener to pinpoint areas where intervention is needed. Board discussion followed.

3.4 Financial Literacy Discussion

Jennifer Klaus, Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, introduced Ryan Beard, Director of Career and Technical Education, who advised currently the Richland School District is one of the few districts in the state requiring Careers and Financial Literacy as a graduation requirement. This tenth grade course offers a quarter of financial literacy, combined with a quarter of career exploration, with both serving to inform students’ High School and Beyond Plans. Additional financial literacy education is offered at both elementary and middle school through outreach programs from Junior Achievement, GESA, STCU, or other local financial institutions.

Mr. Beard explained a stand-alone required financial literacy class eliminates an elective opportunity for students, particularly impacting students taking full-year music, or academic intervention courses, by limiting any other elective options. He shared information to offer middle school integrated financial literacy instruction in lieu of an additional required class at seventh

grade. After discussion, Board members would like to see financial literacy instruction embedded in multiple courses with all students receiving this instruction. Dr. Redinger asked staff to summarize information with a timeline in a Friday packet and bring back to the Board.

3.5 2024/2025 Budget Discussion

Clinton Sherman, Executive Director of Finance, shared an overview of how the budget process is rolled out each year. The enrollment forecast drives all revenue. The current year January enrollment number is normally used for this forecast (this year 13,750). Melissa Gombosky, Lobbyist, will be present at the next meeting to share recent Legislative impacts on school budgets. Several budget workshops will be scheduled in May to present revenues, expenditures, and to further address any questions. The formal 2024/2025 Budget Adoption is planned for the last meeting in June.

3.6 Board Hearing of Proposed Sale of Surplus Property

Mr. Jansons explained the legal process for the sale of surplus property. The hearing has been posted in the local newspaper and is described as 5.06 acres of land located at 3807 East Lattin Road, West Richland, Washington, 99336. Mr. Jansons opened the Surplus Property Hearing at 8:11 P. M. and asked for any public comment. He repeated this request two more times. The hearing was ended at 8:12 P.M. with no public input.

Richard Krasner, Executive Director of Operations, stated this process is required by law. The next step will be putting the property up for sale. Mr. Krasner will bring further information back to the Board in the future.

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA (approval by a single vote of the Board)
It was moved by Katrina Waters and seconded by Bonnie Mitchell –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (4.1) THROUGH (4.6) INCLUDING AN UPDATED PERSONNEL ACTION.

Vote: Waters, yes; Mitchell, yes; Beck, yes; Oldson, yes; Jansons, yes
Motion was approved.

4.1 Personnel Actions

ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Reddinger, Denise, Assistant Principal, Hanford High School, effective 6/30/2024

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

RETIREMENTS FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Anderson, Kathy, 1.0 FTE, Librarian, Carmichael MS, effective 8/31/2024 (correction from 3/12/2024)

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Johnson, Skylar, 1.0 FTE, Resource Room, Richland High School, effective 8/31/2024

CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Jisa, Marta, Kindergarten, William Wiley Elementary to Kindergarten, Jason Lee Elementary

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Lafon, Katelyn, Bus Attendant, Transportation, effective 3/20/2024

Morales, Edward, Grounds Applicator (Temp.), Support Services, effective 3/25/2024 – 7/31/2024
Mulligan, Lesley, Paraeducator (Temporary), Marcus Whitman, eff. 3/20/2024 – 6/12/2024

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Cederbloom, Haley, Bus Attendant, Transportation, effective 3/21/2024
Herrera, Alondra, Custodian, Leona Libby Middle School, effective 4/5/2024
Klose, Brilyn, Paraeducator, Jefferson Elementary, effective 4/1/2024
Schutt, Jocelyn, Paraeducator, Marcus Whitman Elementary, effective 3/29/2024, will Cert Sub
Smith, Andrew, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 3/14/2024
Wildish, Jessica, Paraeducator (Temporary), Enterprise Middle School, effective 3/22/2024

RETIREMENTS FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Browning, Jennifer, Nutrition Services Team Member, Badger Mountain, effective 4/30/2024
Lara, Mary (Lorene), Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 4/1/2024

4.2 Approval of Minutes (March 12, 2024)

4.3 Policy/Pr. No. 2145-Suicide Prevention, Interventions and Postvention-Second Reading

4.4 Enrollment Monthly

4.5 Budget Monthly

4.6 Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40007730 through 40007745 for \$23,848.16
Nos. 54000683 through 54000684 for \$651.11
Nos. 40007746 through 40007753 for \$25,972.58
Nos. 54000685 through 54000687 for \$642.07
Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20002137 through 20002140 for \$354,035.95
Nos. 52000389 through 52000390 for \$5,106.14
No. 20002141 for \$693.00
General Fund Warrant Nos. 10088995 through 10089006 for \$11,413.43
Nos. 51003394 through 51003427 for \$3,404.05
Nos. 10089007 through 10089011 for \$100,743.44
Nos. 51003428 through 51003441 for \$150,512.59

5.0 AGENDAS

5.1 Future Agenda Items

Ms. Oldson asked to move forward with selecting Student Representatives to the Board using the current policy, with Sheila Dehkordi moving up as the Senior Representative for next year. Policy No. 1250-Student Representatives to the Board of Directors, will be reviewed in the future. Dr. Redinger will work with Shawna Dinh, Public Information Officer, to begin the application process. Ms. Oldson, Ms. Mitchell, Dr. Redinger, and students will follow up with the interview process.

Board members were reminded of a Special Board Meeting/Executive Session beginning at 9:00 A.M. on March 29, 2024. Town Halls were discussed to be held at Libby Middle School (April 16, 2024), Hanford High School (April 17, 2024), and Richland High School (April 18, 2024). All Town Halls will take place from 6:30-7:30 P.M. with two Board members participating at each.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS