



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, April 23, 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, April 23, 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, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education Tory Christensen, 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 Klauss, Executive Director of Special Education 6-12 and Behavioral Health Robert Sorensen, and Ex. Director of Special Education Pre-K-5 Zach Carpenter.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel, Real Estate)

The Board adjourned to executive session at 5:30 P.M. to discuss acquisition of real estate, if public knowledge might increase the price 42.30.110 (1) (b); and 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 6:26 P.M.

The Board returned to the regular meeting at 6:35 P.M.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Roll Call-All Here

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS

2.1 Student Advisory Report

Marisa Dunfee, Hanford High School Student, reported on topics at the recent Student Advisory meeting including in-district transfers (some difference of opinion) and planning ideas for a new high school. Students felt the need was great for a third high school. Ms. Dunfee reported several of the Student Advisory members attended the recent Town Halls.

2.2 Parent Guardian Advisory Report

Toni O'Connor, President, reported on meeting discussions including reviewing answers to questions from the mental health team. Ms. O'Connor shared several recommendations from the group including designating a point person on the District website for mental health issues, mental health weekly minutes, a link on the website to Purposeful People across the District, expand

licensed mental health providers at each school, and others. The next meeting will take place on May 20, 2024.

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

Kat Espinda, non-resident, shared concern regarding the recent event at William Wiley Elementary and asked to arm teachers for defense.

Dr. Redinger stated all information regarding the recent event at William Wiley Elementary is on the District website including a timeline of events and hiring practices. Mr. Jansons stated all employment references were returned clear including background checks, fingerprints, OSPI clearances, the sexual misconduct form, and staff references from administration at the previous school district. Mr. Jansons stated all Human Resource protocols were followed. When staff learned of recent charges E. H. was terminated, and a restraining order was obtained. E. H. has not substituted in our District since June 2023.

2.4 Board/Student Representatives/Superintendent Reports

Shelley Redinger shared counselors and therapy dogs were available today in the board room for families, students, and staff members. Counselors from surrounding districts were here so Richland staff could stay in their buildings. Williams Wiley Elementary students and staff will return to school tomorrow with substitutes available as well as counselors and therapy dogs.

Sheila Dehkordi shared the application for the junior Student Representative to the Board of Directors position is online now. She also shared a National Honor Society “Packathon” will take place this Friday.

Chelsie Beck attended the Salmon Summit, the Libby Middle School Town Hall, and the White Bluffs “Muffins” event.

Jill Oldson attended the Towns Halls at Libby Middle School and Richland High School, the Parent/Guardian Advisory meeting, and the “Better Together Autism Walk”.

Bonnie Mitchell volunteered at Richland High School and heard positive comments on the District’s handling of the lockdown.

Katrina Waters attended the Parent Advisory meeting, several Town Hall meetings, and the Better Together” event.

Rick Jansons attended several Town Halls and worked on Washington State School Directors’ Association (WSSDA) projects over the weekend. Mr. Jansons thanked staff members who stayed and cared for students many hours after the normal school day. He also thanked the Police Officers, neighboring district staff, community groups and especially the Wiley Elementary staff for their patience, cooperation and caring during this tragic event.

3.0 BUSINESS

3.1 Special Education Update

Zach Carpenter, Executive Director of Elementary Special Education, and Robert Sorensen, Executive Director of Secondary Education and Behavioral Health, stated this school year the

Special Education Task Force met four times with the focus of identifying areas of growth. The Task Force includes family members, teachers (both general and special education), a principal, a school social worker, the Richland Education Association president, a board member, and special education administrators. The team reviewed the recommendations from the Urban Collaborative audit conducted in 2018 and identified growth areas to focus on for the school year. The team narrowed the focus to six areas including:

- communication
- professional development
- full continuum of services
- IEP process
- para support and 1:1
- inclusion and co-teaching

Board members appreciated the packet with problems listed and recommendations stated. Discussion followed.

3.2 Policy/Pr. No. 3419-Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medication

3.3 Policy/Pr. No. 3420-Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response

Tory Christensen, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, stated these policies are classified as essential by WSSDA and are long overdue for revisions. The administration is proposing updates to the policies which include definitions of asthma and anaphylaxis, language that procedures will be established, changing the titling from RR (Rules and Regulations) to Procedure to align with WSSDA's titling, as well as following procedures for asthma and anaphylaxis. These changes have been shared with District nurses for their input. Rebecca Baldwin, Marcus Whitman Elementary Nurse, and Brenda Atencio, Carmichael Middle School Nurse, shared how updates to student records are handled. An update will be added to Policy No. 3420 to explain how updates can be made.

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY/PR. NO. 3419-SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF ASTHMA AND ANAPHYLAXIS MEDICATION AND POLICY/PR. NO. 3420-ANAPHYLAXIS PREVENTION AND RESPONSE AS AMMENDED FOR FIRST READING.

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

3.4 Policy No. 2331-Controversial Issues-Guest Speakers

Mr. Christensen explained the administration is proposing updates to Policy 2331 to be in alignment with WSSDA's current policy. Changes include updating the policy name to include guest speakers as well as include a section on procedures for guest speakers.

It was moved by Jill Oldson and seconded by Chelsie Beck –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY NO. 2331-CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES-GUEST SPEAKERS FOR FIRST READING.

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

3.5 Policy No. 3131-Transfers

Mr. Christensen stated the District has Policy No. 3130-Pupil Attendance Areas. This policy was adopted in January 1986 and has had several updates over the years. The policy is regarding In-District Transfers. WSSDA has corresponding Policy No. 3131-Transfers in place. The proposed changes include changing the title from Pupil Attendance Areas to Transfers and changing the policy number to align with WSSDA's policy number. The administration is also proposing changes which would allow for a greater opportunity of students to be accepted at a different school. An appeal process was requested and will be added for second reading.

It was moved by Katrina Waters and seconded by Bonnie Mitchell –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY NO. 3131-TRANSFERS FOR FIRST READING, WITH APPEAL PROCESS LANGUAGE TO BE ADDED FOR SECOND READING.

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

3.6 Bond Package Discussion

Board members shared ideas for bond projects including:

- keeping tax rates flat
- comprehensive high school-help with overcrowding
 - value engineer the project (to reduce cost)
- innovative high school (Pacific Crest Online Academy/Rivers' Edge High School)
 - work with Benton Franklin Transit to partner for transportation issues

Another Town Hall via zoom will take place April 24, 2024 and Board members asked all those interested to attend and share feedback. A Board Workshop/Special meeting was requested for April 29, 2024 to discuss a prioritized project list. After further discussion, Board members listed prioritized projects below:

- Third High School-Value engineer to find cost reductions
- Innovative High School (River's Edge High School/Pacific Crest Online Academy)
- Hanford High School Stadium and Scene Shop
- Multipurpose room at Richland High School
- Cancellation of Safety and Security Levy debt
- \$20M for land acquisition
- Transportation Co-op with Benton City (state match available)
- Possibly drop the Technology Levy (\$.50)

More information on costs of projects and tax rates will be discussed at the Board Workshop.

3.7 Budget Development

Clinton Sherman, Executive Director of Finance, will budget for a student enrollment of 13,825,000 for the 2024/2025 school year. The first budget workshop will take place before the regular Board meeting on May 28, 2024 at 5:30 P.M. to address revenues, then discuss expenditures before the June 11, 2024 Board meeting.

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

Ms. Waters asked to pull Items No. 4.3-Assesst Preservation Program (APP) and 4.4-Resolution No. 972-Badger Mountain Elementary-Acceptance as Finally Complete and Resolution No. 973-Badger Mountain Elementary-Building Commissioning Report.

It was moved by Bonnie Mitchell and seconded by Jill Oldson that -

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (4.1, 4.2, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8) INCLUDING AN UPDATED PERSONNEL ACTION.

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

Ms. Waters asked for clarification on Item 4.3-Asset Preservation Program. Mr. Krasner stated this report is required for all buildings receiving School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP) funding. A management plan is being completed, with costs covered in the operational budget. Dr. Redinger advised it will be good to have a district-wide plan going forward.

It was moved by Katrina Waters and seconded by Bonnie Mitchell -

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 4.3-ASSET PROTECTION PROGRAM.

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

Ms. Waters stated the memo for Item 4.4 references a commissioning report that was not included in the packet. Mr. Krasner stated the report is lengthy, but the item can be brought back to the next meeting with the report included.

4.1 Personnel Actions

ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Beard, Ryan, Director of Career and Technical Education

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Jasper, Adair, 1.0 FTE, Resource Room, Richland High School

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Tolon, Heather, 1.0 FTE, Teacher on Special Assignment, Tapteal Elementary School

CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Cazier, Jeanine, 3rd Grade, William Wiley Elementary to 3rd Grade, White Bluffs Elementary
Fox, Stephanie, 5th Grade, Orchard Elementary to Physical Education, Orchard Elementary
McKenzie, Ariana, return from 2nd Year Leave to Structured, Leona Libby Middle School
Morgan, Jerry, 4th Grade, Orchard Elementary to Development Preschool, Early Learning Center
Scherer, Angie, 5th Grade, Orchard Elementary to Instructional Specialist, Orchard Elementary
Yecha, Renae, Resource Room, Desert Sky Elementary to Resource Room, Hanford HS

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Stumetz, Beth, Fiscal Analyst to Accounts Payable/Purchasing Supervisor, Financial Services,
effective 5/1/2024

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Al Rikaby, Anwar, Paraeducator, Libby Middle School, effective 4/11/2024

Batres, Marcos, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 4/18/2024

Liikala, Linda, Nutrition Services Team Member, Hanford High School, effective 4/15/2024

Mendoza, Cinthia, Paraeducator, Richland High School, effective 4/11/2024

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Bae, Sookhyn, Paraeducator, Badger Mountain Elementary, effective 4/22/2024

Gonzalez, Gustavo, Security, Hanford High School, effective 4/26/2024

Johnston, Angela, Secretary, Special Education, effective 5/23/2024

Lindhartsen, Danielle, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 3/31/2024

Naef, Cassidy, Paraeducator, Tapteal Elementary, effective 5/3/2024 (updated date)

Slack, Debra, Paraeducator (Temporary), Tapteal Elementary, effective 4/10/2024

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Page, Devin, Secretary, Leona Libby Middle School, (2nd Year Leave)

TERMINATION FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Evers, Adrianna, Paraeducator, Jefferson Elementary, effective 4/11/2024

4.2 Approval of Minutes (April 9, 2024)

4.3 Asset Preservation Program (APP)

**4.4 Resolution No. 972-Badger Mountain Elementary-Acceptance as Finally Complete
Resolution No. 973-Badger Mountain Elementary-Building Commissioning Report**

4.5 Policy No. 1810-Annual Governance Goals and Objectives

4.6 Enrollment Monthly

4.7 Budget Monthly

4.8 Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40007758 through 40007771 for \$24,514.49

Nos. 54000691 through 54000696 for \$201,886.14

Nos. 40007772 through 40007776 for \$7,133.14

Nos. 54000697 through 54000698 for \$4,637.53

Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20002147 through 20002154 for \$1,013,767.71

Nos. 52000392 through 52000396 for \$275,297.84

No. 20002155 for \$31,903.48

No. 52000397 for \$79.06

General Fund Warrant Nos. 10089293 through 10089299 for \$13,043.50

Nos. 51003471 through 51003520 for \$582,779.70

Nos. 51003521 through 51003532 for \$196,946.41

5.0 AGENDAS

5.1 Future Agenda Items

The May 14, 2024 agenda was reviewed. A Middle School Math update will be moved to the May 28, 2024 meeting. Mr. Jansons thanked the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Holly Way for the use of their facility for the reunification of students and families.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS