



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, October 8, 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, October 8, 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 Dr. Bryan Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education Tory Christensen, Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning Jennifer Klauss, Executive Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning Derek O'Konek, Executive Director of Behavioral Health Robert Sorensen, and Executive Director of Special Education Pre-K-12 Zac Carpenter.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel-RCW 42.30.110 (1) (g)-Superintendent Check-in)

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 6:35 P.M.

The Board returned to the regular meeting at 6:37 P.M.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Roll Call-All Here

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS

2.1 RECOGNITIONS-National Merit Semi-Finalists

Mike Johnson, Hanford High School Principal, introduced Liz Lee, Counselor, who recognized Colin Shen and Audrey Xu, both Hanford High School Students, for earning National Merit Semi-Finalist status. Both students shared current activities and future plans.

2.2 Student Advisory Report

Harleen Kaur, Richland High School, shared topics discussed at the recent Student Advisory Meeting including: projects included in the upcoming bond and cell phone guidelines.

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

Samuel Rodes Tembe, Student, thanked the District for accepting him as an Exchange Student and stated his great pleasure to be attending Hanford High School.

Glenn Whitcomb was welcomed and introduced as the new Director of Information Technology.

Ron Higgins, Richland, feels some books are risky for students and should be banned.

2.4 Board/Student Representatives/Superintendent Reports

Shelley Redinger reported a meeting is scheduled Friday with Legislators and other Superintendents to discuss budget difficulties throughout the State. Dr. Redinger shared several key areas where the District is underfunded including Special Education, insurance costs, substitute costs, and policy changes with leaves.

Student Representatives:

Tiffany Qian reported Hanford High School completed their first evacuation drill and spoke about the new gate system.

Abby Koech shared information about the recent blood drive at Richland High School, attended the Homecoming Dance, and the Associated Student Body (ASB) meeting.

Ms. Oldson attended the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Launch meeting. Pathways for students without college degrees were discussed. She also met with the county commissioner regarding Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) allotments which continue to decrease.

3.0 BUSINESS

3.1 i-Ready Fall Assessment Update

Jen Klauss, Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, Derek O’Konek, Executive Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning, and Enid Flynn, Director of Instructional Technology and Assessment, all shared information regarding fall assessments. i-Ready is a computer adaptive assessment that adjusts its questions to suit each student’s needs. Data from the i-Ready assessment gives a good baseline of where students are starting when compared to grade level standards and skill acquisition. Students in grades K-8 take the i-Ready in the fall, winter, and spring. Board discussion followed.

3.2 Emergency Procedures and Protocols

Tory Christensen, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, and Dr. Bryan Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, shared the District adjusted standard response protocols around emergencies. Staff members were trained and new protocols are posted throughout buildings and on the District website. Drills on the new protocols are conducted at schools monthly. The District Emergency Committee meets twice a month to continually review and adapt our current emergency protocols. Adopting the Standard Response Protocol discussed here was the first step.

3.3 Balanced Calendar Discussion

Mr. Christensen explained in Washington State a traditional school year lasts 180 days. Students have a few short breaks along the way and a long break in the summer. Instead of concentrating 180 school days into nine months, a balanced calendar spreads shorter breaks throughout the year. Schools that follow a balanced calendar tend to have higher student achievement scores. A committee was formed in December of 2023 to research this topic. A survey was completed earlier this spring. Mr. Christensen shared each groups’ response (total responses 3,919-employee, parent,

employee and parent, community). A workshop may be planned in the future. Board discussion included:

- Go through the process/plan at least a year in advance
- need input from staff, students, community
- reduce length of summer break (eight weeks? seven weeks? six weeks?)
- what is best academically for students?
- end semester before holiday break/winter break in February
- impact on athletic/activities schedules?
- transportation impact-elementary start early/secondary later?
- costs/energy costs?

3.4 Policy/PR No. 4130-Title I, Part A-Parent and Family Engagement

Mr. Christensen stated the proposed changes are minor and include a slight name change to “Title I, Part A Parent and Family Engagement”. The changes in the policy include adding “Part A” after Title I in the body.

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY/PR NO. 4130-TITLE I, PART A-PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT FOR FIRST READING.

Advisory Vote-Student Representatives: Koech, yes; Qian, yes

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

Motion was approved.

3.5 Policy/PR No. 3246-Restraint, Isolation, and Other Uses of Reasonable Force

Mr. Christensen advised the proposed changes are to change the policy number to 3246 and the policy name to align with the Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA). The District is also proposing moving a portion of the policy into a new procedure. Several minor changes were requested for second reading on October 22, 2024.

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY/PR NO. 3246-RESTRAINT, ISOLATION, AND OTHER USES OF REASONABLE FORCE FOR FIRST READING.

Advisory Vote-Student Representatives: Koech, yes; Qian, yes

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

Motion was approved.

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

Ms. Oldson asked to pull Item 4.2-Approval of Minutes (September 24, 2024)

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (4.1; 4.3; 4.4; 4.5; 4.6; 4.7) INCLUDING AN UPDATED PERSONNEL ACTION.

Advisory Vote-Student Representatives: Koech, yes; Qian, yes
Vote: Waters, yes; Mitchell, yes; Beck, yes; Oldson, yes; Jansons, yes
Motion was approved.

It was moved by Chelsie Beck and seconded by Katrin Waters -

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 4.2.

Advisory Vote-Student Representatives: Koech, yes; Qian, yes
Vote: Waters, yes; Mitchell, yes; Beck, yes; Oldson, abstained; Jansons, yes
Motion was approved.

4.1 Personnel Actions

ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Whitcomb, Glenn, 1.0 FTE, Director of Information Technology

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Mulhausen, Dan, 1.0 FTE, Math, Carmichael MS, effective 9/30/24 (non-cont., coming from sub)

Woodward, Connor, 1.0 FTE, School Counselor, Jefferson, effective 9/27/24 (non-continuing)

TEACHERS WITH CONDITIONAL/LIMITED CERTIFICATES FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR (Educator Equity Report)

Woodward Connor, School Counselor, Jefferson Elementary School

*Individuals above are being reported per WACs 181-79A-231 and 181-77-014

INCREASE IN HOURS FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Meyer, Stacey, 0.2 FTE (Now 0.8 FTE), Occupational Therapist, Special Programs, effective 10/1/24 (non-continuing)

Monks, Stephanie, 0.2 FTE (Now 1.0 FTE), AVID, Richland High School (non-continuing)

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Briggs, Kathryn, Nutrition Services Team Member, Carmichael MS, effective 9/30/24 (from sub)

Cardenas, Victor, Custodian, Hanford High School, effective 10/7/2024

Foster, Cari, Nutrition Services Team Member, Chief Joseph MS, effective 10/7/24 (from sub)

Hernandez, Mayra, Custodian, Hanford High School, effective 10/1/2024

Hill, Kelsy, Nutrition Services Team Member, Badger Mountain Elementary, effective 9/30/24

Olsen, Tiffany, Paraeducator, Chief Joseph Middle School, effective 9/25/2024

Pavlicek, Mercedes, Paraeducator, Early Learning Center, effective 9/16/2024

Plowman, Travis, Mechanic III, Transportation, effective 10/1/2024

Short, Jeffery, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 10/1/2024

CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

David, Michael, Information Technology Technician 2 to Information Technology Analyst 2, Information Technology, effective 10/1/2024

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Fernandez, Chelsea, Nutrition Services Team Member, Jason Lee Elementary, effective 10/18/24

Hummer, Julie, Nutrition Services Kitchen Manager, Jason Lee Elementary, effective 10/18/24

Nondorf, Adam, Paraeducator, Hanford High School, effective 10/18/2024

Skadorwa, Delayna, Paraeducator, Jefferson Elementary, effective 9/30/2024

RETIREMENTS FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Taylor, Janice, Paraeducator, Orchard Elementary, effective 10/31/2024 EXTRACURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Kincaid, Matt, Head Coach Girls Basketball, Hanford High School

4.2 Approval of Minutes (September 24, 2024)

4.3 CASH GRANT-The Columbus Foundation-Elementary Immersive STEM Experiences

4.4 Instructional Materials Committee Member Approval

4.5 Policy/PR No. 3205-Sex-Based Discrimination and Harassment of Students Prohibited

4.6 Policy/PR No. 3432-Emergencies

4.7 Payroll and Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40007914 through 40007920 for \$20,061.32

Nos. 54000738 through 54000741 for \$32,334.73

Nos. 40007921 through 40007937 for \$41,222.36

Nos. 54000742 through 54000743 for \$8,851.86

Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20002244 through 20002246 for \$39,287.73

Nos. 52000421 through 52000422 for \$319,221.79

Nos. 20002247 through 20002249 for \$38,863.93

No. 52000423 for \$5,233.01

Debt Services Fund Warrant No. 30000143 for \$1,400.00

General Fund Warrant Nos. 10090531 through 10090656 for \$1,882,509.56

Nos. 51004028 through 51004058 for \$641,610.05

Nos. 10090660 through 10090661 for \$207.64

Nos. 51004059 through 51004073 for \$13,408.15

Payroll Warrant Nos. 10090426 through 10090428 for \$5,000.00

Nos. 10090430 through 10090431 for \$4,809.15

No. 10090439 for \$1,546.76

Nos. 10090440 through 10090486 for \$93,222.14

Nos. 10090487 through 10090530 for \$5,123,104.22

Electronic Fund Transfer for \$11,279,691.47

Total September Payroll approved in the amount of \$16,507,373.74

5.0 AGENDAS

5.1 Future Agenda Items

Remove *Balanced Calendar* from the October 22, 2024 agenda. Board members requested several Board Workshops/Special Meetings. Topics to include:

- Board working structure
- Balanced calendar
- Cell phone discussion
 - include elementary schools, principal input, data on several models of student outcomes

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS