



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, March 11, 2025
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 11, 2025, at 5:30 P.M. via Zoom and in person, 6972 Keene Road, West Richland, Washington. School Board President Katrina Waters presided. Board members participating: Jill Oldson, Bonnie Mitchell, Rick Jansons and Chelsie Beck. Administrators present: Superintendent Dr. Shelley Redinger, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education Dr. Bryan Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education Tory Christensen, Executive Director of Operations Richard Krasner, Chief Financial Officer Travis Belisle, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning Jennifer Klauss, Executive Director of State and Federal Programs Derek O'Konek, Executive Director of Behavioral Health Robert Sorensen, Executive Director of Special Education Pre-K-12 Zac Carpenter, and Director of Information Technology Glenn Whitcomb.

The Board meeting was called to order at 5:31 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel, Legal, Real Estate)

The Board adjourned to executive session at 5:31 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); discussion with legal counsel, of enforcement actions, litigation or potential litigation, if public discussion might result in adverse legal or financial consequence. (Does not permit an executive session solely because attorney is present.) 42.30.110 (1) (i); and acquisition of real estate, if public knowledge might increase the price 42.30.110 (1) (b). The executive session was projected to last sixty minutes, with no action expected. Executive session ended at 6:30 P.M.

The Board returned to the regular meeting at 6:30 P.M.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Roll Call-Rick Janson was excused after executive session.

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS

2.1 RECOGNITIONS-Richland High School Girls' Wrestling Team-1st in State

Tory Christensen, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, introduced Head Coach John Nicacio and the Richland High School Girls' Wrestling Team. The team recently competed in the State 4A Tournament and earned the first-place trophy. This is the first time a boys' or girls' team has placed first. Students shared credit with the coaches for their success. Board members congratulated the team on their tremendous success.

2.2 Student Advisory Report

Tiffany Qian and Abby Koech, Student Representatives, shared information from the recent Student Advisory Committee meeting including information regarding Alternative Learning Programs (ALEs) - Three Rivers HomeLink, Pacific Crest Online Academy (PCOA), and River's Edge High School (REHS). Career and Technical Education (CTE) class offerings were also discussed.

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

Ron Higgins, Richland, shared concern regarding boys competing in girls' sports.

2.5 Board/Student Representatives/Superintendent Reports

Shelley Redinger reported that spring sports and elementary conferences are both taking place this week.

Student Representatives:

Tiffany Qian stated both Hanford and Richland High School DECA teams had several students place at state, with some moving on to national competition. A Dessert Theatre was held, and Asa Knutson placed 1st in the State Boys' Wrestling competition.

Abby Koech reported on a Multicultural Night at Richland High School, the Richland High School Boys' Basketball Team placed fourth at State 4th, and shared ongoing discussion regarding Character Strong at the high school level. This will be a future Board meeting topic.

Jill Oldson enjoyed visiting co-teaching and dual credit classes at River's Edge High School. She also congratulated Abby Koech for being chosen as a Representative for the Princeton Prize in Race Relations. Abby is one of 29 students across the nation chosen for this committee. She will attend a two-day symposium at Princeton University and will also receive a \$2,500 scholarship. Abby thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as Student Representative to the Board this year.

Bonnie Mitchell visited Janson Lee Elementary and River's Edge High School. She also shared Leona Libby Middle School drama production of *Newsies* starts soon.

Chelsie Beck also shared the drama presentation at Leona Libby Middle School.

Katrina Waters toured Jason Lee Elementary, attended the Student Advisory meeting, and shared upcoming topics.

3.0 BUSINESS

3.1 Performance Audit Update

Superintendent Redinger advised this is Classified Employee Week! Dr. Redinger thanked classified employees for their invaluable work with students in the District. She also reported on several audits taking place. Nutrition Services is being audited by the State for after school snacks and meals at three schools. Dr. Redinger also reported there are also new guidelines coming from USDA to reduce sodium and sugar. She will report back when audits are complete.

3.2 Organizational Chart and Salary Study

Superintendent Redinger reported details of a reorganization of the District office. This realignment is designed to enhance efficiency, improve support for schools, and ensure that resources are directed where they matter most - to students and classrooms. The goal is to create a more streamlined leadership team that eliminates redundancies, strengthens communication, and enhances operational effectiveness, while remaining cost-neutral. This reorganization prioritizes fiscal responsibility.

Dr. Redinger also shared information comparing similar positions in nearby districts, as well as Mead and Battle Ground School Districts. Superintendent salaries were also shown compared to districts with similar enrollments. Both were mid-range compared to other similar districts and in line with industry standards. Dr. Redinger's salary will be frozen for the upcoming school year. Board discussion followed.

3.3 2025-2026 Budget Planning

Travis Belisle, Chief Financial Officer, shared a timeline for budget planning. Highlights include:

- April: building budgets due to Finance Department
- May: ASB budgets due
- June: presentation on District appropriations/expenditures
- July: present preliminary budget-July 10, 2025-budget available to the public
- August: budget hearing and Board adoption of 2025/2026 budget-August 12, 2025

3.4 I-Ready Update

Enid Flynn, Instructional Technology Director, shared this mid-year report provides an update on student progress in Reading and Math as measured by the i-Ready assessment. The data reflects growth from Fall to Winter 2025 and serves as a checkpoint toward achieving goals for Spring 2025. This year serves as a baseline year for middle school math growth, establishing key reference points for future expectations. After reviewing progress from fall to winter in our i-Ready assessments, staff members recognize the growth students have made and remain focused on the work ahead to meet spring growth goals. Board discussion followed.

3.5 Highly Capable Annual Report

Ms. Flynn explained the plan for students who are identified as highly capable requires annual approval by the Board of Directors (WAC 392-170-025). Approval of the plan is necessary for accessing funds allocated by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) for highly capable services. Board member discussion included:

- magnet program vs. boundary school programs?
- 78 students in magnet program (Quest)-students are transported
 - funds used to serve small number of students-more information is needed-how to serve more students with limited funds
- survey parents of those served in general education-how to improve?
- more information needed on middle school HiCap benefits

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE FORM PACKAGE 217: HIGHLY CAPABLE PROGRAM PLAN.

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

3.6 Policy No. 6600-Transportation

Mr. Christensen, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, and Kyle Carrier, Transportation Director, stated after the discussion at the January 28, 2025 meeting, it was decided that a two-mile walk radius for secondary students is not a viable option. The policy will stay at the one-and-one-half mile radius. Mr. Carrier will still evaluate and create routes that have more efficient stop locations. This will allow our secondary drivers to arrive at elementary schools on schedule. Revisions were suggested.

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY NO. 6600-TRANSPORTATION FOR FINAL READING WITH SUGGESTED REVISIONS.

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

3.7 Policy No. 2340-Religious Related Activities

Mr. Christensen reported administration is proposing to delete Policy 2341-Religion and the Curriculum, which is a Richland School District only policy. Policy 2340 is overdue for updating and has been aligned to WSSDA's policy. Language from Policy 2341 is being adopted into the revised version of Policy 2340.

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

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY NO. 2340-RELIGIOUS RELATED ACTIVITIES, FOR FINAL READING.

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

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

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

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

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

4.1 Personnel Actions

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

RETIREMENTS FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Barber, Susan, 0.8 FTE, Speech Language Pathologist, Desert Sky Elementary, effective 8/31/2025
Couron Smith, Colleen, 1.0 FTE, Language Arts Teacher, Carmichael MS, effective 8/31/2025
Hobbick, Kim, 1.0 FTE, History, Enterprise Middle School, effective 8/31/2025
Leggett, Matthew, 0.8 FTE, Social Studies, Hanford High School, effective 8/31/2025
McMinn, Robert, 1.0 FTE, Art, Richland High School, effective 8/31/2025
Morgan, Darren, 1.0 FTE, Resource Room, River's Edge High School, effective 8/31/2025
Perrault, Tina, 1.0 FTE, 2nd Grade, Lewis and Clark Elementary School, effective 8/31/2025
Schuster, Daniel, 1.0 FTE, 5th Grade, Jason Lee Elementary School, effective 8/31/2025
Steindorf, Lannette, 1.0 FTE, 1st Grade, William Wiley Elementary School, effective 8/31/2025
Yonemitsu, Michael, 1.0 FTE, Math, Richland High School, effective 8/31/2025

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Anderson, Misty, 1.0 FTE, Nurse, Orchard and William Wiley Elementary, effective 8/31/2025
Harding, Elizabeth (Lisa), 1.0 FTE, English Language Arts, Enterprise MS, effective 8/31/2025
Hendricks, Christopher, 1.0 FTE, History, Carmichael Middle School, effective 8/31/2025
Ollero, Mikaela, 1.0 FTE, 3rd Grade, Jason Lee Elementary School, effective 8/31/2025 (2nd year Leave of Absence)
Riley, Mykenzie, 1.0 FTE, 2nd Grade, Tapteal Elementary School, effective 8/31/2025 (1st year Leave of Absence)

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Comstock, Chase, IT Technician 1 to IT Field Technician Facilitator, Information Services, effective 3/3/2025
Wininger, Kodie, IT Technician 1 to IT Field Technician Facilitator, Information Services, effective 3/3/2025

Wiskerchen, Lynne, Secretary, Student Services to Payroll Specialist, Finance, effective 3/5/2025

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Danilyuk, Daniel, Custodian, Hanford High School, effective 3/4/2025
Mahbub, Mumu, Paraeducator, Lewis and Clark, effective 2/17/2025 (from Leave of Absence)
Williams, Laura, Paraeducator, CBTC, effective 3/24/2025 (will sub)

4.2 Approval of Minutes (February 25, 2025)

4.3 Richland School District 2025-2026 School Calendar

4.4 Policy No. 3205-Sexual Harassment of Students Prohibited

4.5 Policy No. 4200-Visitor Access and Safe and Orderly Learning Environment

4.6 Payroll and Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40008154 through 40008171 for \$37,476.70
Nos. 54000798 through 540008000 for \$3,055.00
Nos. 40008172 through 40008182 for \$10,731.74
Nos. 54000801 through 54000805 for \$108,318.40
Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20002332 through 20002334 for \$9,052.56
No. 52000448 for \$156,185.52
Nos. 20002335 through 20002337 for \$98,159.39
No. 52000449 for \$1,332.20
General Fund Warrant Nos. 10091731 through 10091769 for \$376,112.49
Nos. 51004676 through 51004692 for \$52,292.04

Nos. 10091771 through 10091806 for \$189,701.21
Nos. 51004693 through 51004732 for \$331,883.59
Payroll Warrant Nos. 10091644 through 10091687 for \$89,438.10
Nos. 10091688 through 10091730 for \$5,371,143.41
Electronic Fund Transfer for \$10,485,467.37
Total February Payroll approved in the amount of \$15,946,048.88

5.0 AGENDAS

5.1 Future Agenda Items

- Balanced calendar committee-regroup/add more parents/community members/PTA/PTO
 - stay on earlier timeline/survey
- Behavior Intervention Monitoring Assessment System (BIMAS) update-April 22, 2025
- Safety and Security Project update-April 22, 2025
- High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP)-March 25, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS