



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, February 10, 2026
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, 2026, at 5:00 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, Rick Jansons, and Dan Evans. Administrators present: Superintendent Dr. Shelley Redinger, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Dr. Bryan Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Human Capital and Operations Ken Gosney, Executive Director of Instructional Services Tory Christensen, Executive Director of Finance Travis Belisle, Executive Director of State and Federal Programs Derek O'Konek, Director of Communications Robert Sorensen, Executive Director of Special Education Zac Carpenter, and Director of Information Technology Glenn Whitcomb.

The Board meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel, Legal, Real Estate)

The Board adjourned to executive session at 5:00 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 an adverse legal or financial consequence. (Does not permit an executive session solely because attorney is present.) 42.30.110 (1) (i); qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office (interviews and final appointment must be in public) 42.30.110 (1) (h) and acquisition of real estate, if public knowledge might increase the price 42.30.110 (1) (b).

The executive session was projected to last ninety minutes, with no action expected. Executive Session ended at 6:17 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-Bonnie Mitchell was excused. Jill Oldson participated via Zoom.

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS

2.1 RECOGNITIONS-National Board Certification

Kristien McKenzie, Orchard Elementary and National Board Certification Coordinator, introduced Angela Forrester (Early Learning Center), Jessica Kenny (River's Edge High School), and Andrea Tamez (Jefferson Elementary). Ms. McKenzie reported this certification requires 400 hours of intensive work to complete. There are 84 National Board Certified teachers currently in the District. Pamela Lucas (Jason Lee Elementary) and Sarah Sarver (Chief Joseph Middle School) earned the certification as well but were unable to attend.

2.2 Student Advisory Report

Alaa Mabrouki, Hanford High School Student, reported Artificial Intelligence (AI) was the main topic at the recent Student Advisory Committee meeting. Students shared experiences using AI, both positive and negative. All felt a policy with clear guidelines for use was needed in the future.

2.3 Parent/Guardian Advisory Report

Kayla Bean reported the committee met on January 26, 2026. The main topics included discipline and multilingual learners. Recommendations included: safety plans on the District website, equitable enforcement of policies, standardized documentation of incidents, and “English Learners” changed to “Multilingual Learners” on the website.

2.4 Requests and Comments by Visitors (2 minutes per individual)-None

2.5 Board/Student Representatives/Superintendent Reports

Shelley Redinger shared recent RISE (Recognizing, Innovation, Service and Excellence) award winners:

- Amy Browsers, Pacific Crest Online Academy (PCOA)
- Dario Lucic, Distribution Center.

Superintendent Redinger attended *Kiss Me Kate* at Hanford High School and several Richland High School basketball games.

Student Representatives:

Tiffany Qian reported on Hanford High School events including a leadership conference, Career and Technical Education (CTE) Fair, a jazz concert, and both the swim team and chess club placed first in competitions.

Sinan Farawila stated a Levy information video was made with a tour of schools, a Winter Musical at Richland High School, a dual credit information night, and spring sports to begin soon.

Rick Jansons attended the drama production at Hanford High School. There were no updates from the Legislative session.

Dan Evans stated the Hanford Swim Team earned first place. He attended Richland High School basketball games, several Levy Town Halls, and shared playoffs for winter sports will take place over the next several weeks.

Jill Oldson thanked all who attended the Levy Town Halls.

Katrina Waters advised election results will be announced shortly after 8:00 P.M. tonight, with certification to take place in two weeks. She also reported that Akshath Motkuri, Richland High School Student, was recently awarded the 2025 Congressional App Challenge Award for the 4th District. This App helps with early detection of diabetes and bone related issues.

3.0 BUSINESS

3.1 Performance Audit Update

Superintendent Redinger shared the annual fiscal audit has begun. A Board member and several staff members took part in risk assessment calls. The Title I program and Individuals with

Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) are the focus of this year's audit. An Entrance Conference is scheduled for next week. The Washington State Patrol recently conducted an inspection of the District's bus fleet with no findings. A minor issue with a bus coloring was identified and corrected.

3.2 Policy No. 2413-Equivalency Credit Opportunities

Tori Christensen, Executive Director of Instructional Services, reported policy modifications include separating mastery/competency-based credits into mastery-based credits and competency-based credits. Establishing minimum grade requirements, limiting when credits may be earned, and clarity for students and counselors.

Board discussion included:

- requiring a C or C- grade for competency-based credit
- limiting eligibility to seniors as a pathway to graduation,
- one-credit limit in core subject areas.
- students with previous credits to be grandfathered in

It was moved by Jill Oldson and seconded by Rick Jansons –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY NO. 2413 - EQUIVALENCY CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES WITH REQUESTED REVISIONS FOR FIRST READING.

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

Vote: Oldson, yes; Jansons, yes; Evans, yes; Waters, yes

Motion was approved.

This policy will be on the agenda at the next meeting for further review.

3.3 Policy No. 5222-Job Sharing Staff Members

Ken Gosney, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Operations, advised updates to the policy include changing the policy number to 5222 to align with Washington State School Director's Association's (WSSDA's) policy number, updates to legal references, and other changes to align the District's policy to WSSDA's model policy. Mr. Gosney stated the proposed updates match up well with the collective bargaining agreement (CBA). Board members asked to strike the final sentence in the draft policy.

It was moved by Rick Jansons and seconded by Dan Evans –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY NO. 5222 - JOB SHARING STAFF MEMBERS WITH REQUESTED REVISIONS FOR FIRST READING.

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

Vote: Oldson, yes; Jansons, yes; Evans, yes; Waters, yes

Motion was approved.

3.4 Policy No. 5235-Evaluation of Staff-old 5222

Mr. Gosney reported the proposed policy is a total overhaul of the previous policy to align with WSSDA's model policy. Board discussion included:

- questions on evaluation responsibilities
- questions on accountability procedures
- role of Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBA's)

This policy will be placed on the March 10, 2026 agenda for further discussion.

3.5 Board Discussion/Old Business

Board discussion topics included:

- student protest-balancing student voice with safety and legal considerations
- use of AI in education-need for clear expectations-workgroup being created
 - place on meeting agenda May 26, 2026

Ms. Waters stated levy election results will be announced shortly after 8:00 P.M. tonight. If the vote comes in less than 50% for either the EP & O or Technology levy, a Special Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 12, 2026, to discuss implications of failed levies and future planning. If the Board decides to run the levies again in April, a Resolution will be added to the February 24, 2026, meeting agenda for approval.

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

It was moved by Jill Oldson and seconded by Dan Evans –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (4.1) THROUGH (4.4) INCLUDING AN UPDATED PERSONNEL ACTION.

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

Vote: Oldson, yes; Jansons, yes; Evans, yes; Waters, yes

Motion was approved.

4.1 Personnel Actions

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR

Saddler, Casey, 1.0 FTE, Developmental Preschool, Early Learning Center (non-continuing, from sub) effective 2/11/26

DECREASE IN FTE FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR

Shupe, Paulette, 0.2 FTE (Now 0.6), Speech Language Pathologist, Carmichael Middle School, effective 2/11/26

TEMPORARY PLACEMENTS FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR

Brightman, Robert, Self-Contained, Enterprise, to Resource Room Split Assignment, Marcus Whitman and Jefferson, effective 2/10/26

Rhode, Raegan, Preschool, Early Learning Center, to Classroom Support, Sacajawea Elementary, effective 2/10/26 (return early from first year leave of absence)

ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSFERS FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR

Perez, Mindy, Classroom Support, Sacajawea Elementary, to Classroom Support, Lewis and Clark, effective 2/10/26

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR

Bade, Michelle, Nutrition Services Team Member, Hanford HS, effective 2/2/26 (from sub)

Febus, Lynsi, Paraeducator, Supplemental Supports, Badger Mountain, effective 1/29/26
Rodriguez, Christine, Nutrition Services Team Member, Carmichael MS, eff. 2/2/26 (from sub)
RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR

Fisher, Lacey, Paraeducator, Registered Behavior Technician, Badger Mountain Elementary
School, effective 2/13/26

Kingsley, Yuko, Nutrition Services Team Member, Tapteal, effective 1/30/26 (will sub)

**4.2 Approval of Minutes (January 27, 2026; January 28, 2026; January 29, 2026;
February 3, 2026)**

4.3 LightSpeed Networks Easement Lease

4.4 Payroll and Warrant Information

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40008578 through 40008585 for \$8,374.06

Nos. 54000904 through 54000905 for \$5,218.68

Nos. 40008585 through 40008595 for \$25,052.30

Nos. 54000906 through 54000908 for \$1,312.74

Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20002490 through 20002491 for \$56,890.71

No. 52000505 for \$17,355.97

General Fund Warrant Nos. 10094204 through 10094230 for \$263,345.25

Nos. 51005926 through 51005943 for \$50,219.54

Nos. 10094234 through 10094275 for \$222,849.12

Nos. 51005944 through 51005984 for \$26,617.05

Payroll Warrant Nos. 10094120 through 10094161 for \$77,108.88

Nos. 10094162 through 10094203 for \$4,958,505.91

Electronic Fund Transfer for \$11,581,537.83

Total Payroll approved in the amount of \$16,617,152.62

5.0 AGENDAS

5.1 Future Agenda Items

Ms. Waters advised the February 24, 2026, agenda may be subject to change depending on the
Levy election results.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 P.M.

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS