

Oct. 23, 2018



Board Summary

Classified Staff Contract Negotiations

Several classified staff members addressed the board about their roles in schools and their request to see their compensation increased. Richland School Board President Rick Jansons says classified staff perform valuable work in the district and the district intends to pass all additional state funding for salaries onto its staff as determined through contract negotiations.

Threat Assessment Cooperative

Superintendent Rick Schulte reported to the Board about the district's participation in the new Threat Assessment Cooperative being led by Educational Service District (ESD) 123. The cooperative is expected to assist districts and schools with training for and responding to threats. The district already has threat assessment procedures in place and Dr. Schulte says administrators will evaluate in the spring how the cooperative affected those procedures and whether to continue participating in the cooperative.

Inclement Weather

Jeff Lettau, Director of Facilities & Operations, provided an update to the Board regarding preparations for winter and its impact on school facilities. The district is regularly updating its equipment and operations so work crews more quickly and effectively clear parking lots and sidewalks in case of snowfall. Ty Beaver, Public Information Officer, updated the Board about plans to use several communication channels to inform students, families, staff and the community in case school is delayed or closed because of inclement weather.

Strategic Planning

Deputy & Successor Superintendent Nicole MacTavish began discussions with the Board about developing a strategic plan for the district. A strategic plan would define the district's goals, priorities and values in everything from classroom instruction to staffing levels. Board members voiced an interest in a focused strategic plan with three to five key points. The board also wants to ensure staff, students and community members have input and want the strategic plan finalized in the spring of 2019. Board members Rick Donahoe and Jill Oldson will meet with Dr. MacTavish to layout the process ahead of further discussion.

Ground Lease With Washington State University (WSU) Tri-Cities

District Counsel Galt Pettett presented a counter proposal from WSU Tri-Cities for a new lease on land owned by the university. The property is currently used by Hanford High School's athletic programs and is being considered for athletic facility improvements paid for by the 2017 bond. Board members say they are concerned about building facilities on leased land and with other terms in the university's counter offer. The Board directed Mr. Pettett to work with Dr. Schulte and Mr. Jansons to address those concerns with WSU administrators before moving forward.

Next Regular Meeting: Nov. 13, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m.

Richland School District

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