



Board of Directors, Special Meeting-Workshop/Regular Meeting Minutes,  
Tuesday, September 27, 2022  
RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400  
BENTON COUNTY, RICHLAND, WASHINGTON

The Board of Directors of Richland School District No. 400 met for a Special Meeting/Workshop meeting Tuesday, September 27, 2022, at 5:30 P.M. via Zoom and in person, 6972 Keene Road, West Richland, Washington. School Board President Jill Oldson presided. Board members participating: Kari Williams, Semi Bird, Audra Byrd, and Rick Jansons. Administrators present: Superintendent Dr. Shelley Redinger, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education Brian Moore, 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 Robert Sorensen, Executive Director of Special Education Pre-K-5 Zach Carpenter, Executive Director of Behavioral Health Services Tory Christensen, and Director of Communications Ty Beaver.

The Special Meeting/Workshop was called to order at 5:34 P.M.

**1. Workshop Topic: *Strategic Plan-Mission/Vision Statements***

Ms. Olson called the meeting to order and introduced Karrin Wierchowski, Student Representative to the Board of Directors. Dr. Redinger reported administration met with negotiated group leaders earlier this afternoon regarding the Strategic Plan. She advised administration will make changes after today's input and bring back in late October with the final plan for Board approval. Board members shared feedback on the Strategic Plan Vision and Mission Statements. After much discussion, Board members agreed on:

**Vision Statement:**

*To become a center of academic excellence by empowering graduates to be engaged and powerful learners, effective communicators, creative and critical thinkers, resilient individuals, and compassionate citizens.*

**Mission Statement:**

*Richland School District will educate and develop students who learn from the past, listen in the present, and lead our future by meeting all students' individual needs by cultivating knowledge, skills, and abilities to maximize their potential and achieve their goals.*

Ms. Oldson recessed the meeting at 6:19 P.M. The Board reconvened for a regular meeting at 6:31 P.M.

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

**2.1 Pledge of Allegiance**

**2.2 Roll Call-All Here**

Ms. Oldson introduced the new Student Representatives to the Board of Directors, Karrin Wierchowski and Leif Carman, and welcomed them to their new positions.

## **2.0 COMMUNICATIONS**

### **3.1 Student Representative Report-Parent/Guardian Advisory Committee Report**

Brianna Watson, Co-Chairman of the Parent/Guardian Committee, reported on discussions at the recent committee meeting including the Superintendent report, Hazel Health, threat assessment training underway, and asked the Board for direction on expectations of the committee. Ms. Byrd shared goals developed. These will be on the October 11, 2022 agenda for discussion and approval.

### **3.2 GOOD NEWS**

Jordan Perkins, Richland High School Student, reported on the visit to schools by Kayla Barron, Astronaut. She was excited for this opportunity and asked that more speakers be brought in to help motivate students.

### **3.3 Requests and Comments by Visitors (2 minutes per individual-30 minutes)**

Shelley Burt asked that more parents be included when reviewing curriculum. Ms. Burt also feels there will be little support for running a bond in the near future.

Shayla Pambrun, Richland, stated it is Suicide Prevention Month. She reported the rate of suicide is four times higher in the LGBTQ+ community. She asked the Board to stop hate speech at Board meetings and provide a safe, respectful environment for students.

Dusty Howard, Richland, commended Steve Fisk, Richland High School Principal, for student advocacy, fostering an inclusive community, and upholding the code of ethics.

Damian Davis, Richland, is thankful for improvements he sees in schools but feels student control issues have gotten worse this year.

Tina Gregory is thankful for her first amendment rights and asked the Board to stand up for Church and State and not indoctrinate children.

Ron Higgins, Richland, stated allowing children to mask their faces has caused harm to students. He strongly encouraged no masks.

Ms. Williams asked the Board to reflect on policy regarding hate speech at Board meetings.

Darci Brightman, West Richland, spoke regarding Item 5.2-Workplace Secondary Traumatic Stress. She asked all to think about how to create safe spaces for students and look at behaviors.

Cassidy Gaul, Richland, thanked the District for the amazing results of Fran Rish Stadium and the field at Hanford High School. Ms. Gaul asked for more safety measures at buildings and would also like to see Health and Physical Education teachers included in the Health curriculum adoption.

Krista Calvin, Richland Education Association President, complimented all educators and staff and stated, when we allow students to come as they are, we all win. Ms. Calvin visited several schools and was excited to see the many exciting things taking place in schools.

## **4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **4.1 Bond Planning Update**

Superintendent Redinger and Richard Krasner, Executive Director of Operations, explained the Board needs a target date to focus on a bond for February 2023, or a levy-both or none. No decision needs to be made tonight on the scope of projects included. That will be discussed at the October 11, 2022 meeting. Cory Plager-DA Davison, and Lee Marchisio-Foster Garvey, bond legal counsel, were available to answer questions.

Clinton Sherman, Executive Director of Finance, shared an example including a \$331M Bond and a \$15M Capital Projects Levy. This would lift the overall tax rate to \$6.28 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. He also explained a scenario using non-voted debt to expediate the process. Mr. Sherman explained his numbers were very conservative. He also shared this amount keeps the District under its debt ceiling.

*1.48 (bond) + 23 cents (levy) = \$1.71:*

- (\$855/year = \$500,000-assessed home valuation)
- (\$684/year = \$400,000-assessed home valuation)
- (\$513/year = \$300,000-assessed home valuation)

Board members discussed several other scenarios including tax rates, timelines, and ballot measure options. Dr. Redinger stated the cost to taxpayers would be less if all projects were put in a bond. After much discussion, there was consensus to pursue a bond (no levy) on the February 2023 ballot. This will also coincide with a bond by the Pasco School District. Mr. Krasner advised a decision on the scope of projects will be needed by the October 25, 2023 meeting, to bring for first reading at the November 8, 2023 meeting. Board members requested a Special Meeting/Workshop soon to prioritize the scope of projects in the bond package. Mr. Krasner reminded all that the facility planning committee prioritized projects and a survey was also sent out, but safety and security needs have been increased. There was no consensus for another survey.

### **4.2 Washington State School Distractors' Association (WSSDA)**

#### **\*General Assembly Discussion/District Voting**

Ms. Oldson sits on the WSSDA Legislative Committee and asked Board members to please review the "2022 Legislative Handbook". The District only has one voting delegate (Mr. Bird-District Legislative Representative). She stated the Board needs to speak as a whole and asked all to share opinions if they differ from the "pass or do not pass" recommendations from WSSDA. Board members shared several concerns and there was consensus for Mr. Bird to pull Item No. 109 from the consent agenda which would eliminate the citizenship requirement of Board members.

## **5.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **5.1 Secondary Health Curriculum Adoption Planning and Update**

Jen Klauss, Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, and Erika Doyle, Assistant Director of Teaching and Learning, shared the District is not changing the standards that are currently taught in the District. Ms. Klauss explained:

- As required by RCW 28A.300.475, the Richland School District provides an opt out option for students.
- Elementary will only be updating the videos for Personal Growth & Development and HIV/AIDS (5th grade only).

- This is a 6th, 7th and 9th grade Health course curriculum adoption process only.
- Richland School District's Health courses are aligned to the 2016 Health standards, and we have been teaching Comprehensive Sexual Health Education as outlined above since Fall of 2015.
- The state provides for districts to have local control on decisions about what standards our Richland School District teaches.

Timeline:

- October through March, Health Curriculum Renewal Committee Work
- April- Public Review and Instructional Material Committee (IMC)
- May- Request for School Board approval

Board members requested more parents on the committee and ample time for parents to opt out of this curriculum.

**5.2 Policy/RR No. 5515 -Workplace Secondary Traumatic Stress (STS)**

Galt Pettett, General Counsel, stated the District modified this WSSDA Policy. The State is working to address STS in the K-12 workforce. This legislation acknowledges the significant toll STS has on school staff and, subsequently students, and focuses on the adoption of policy and procedures so districts and schools can take meaningful steps in supporting their staff's health and well-being.

It was moved by Rick Jansons and seconded by Semi Bird –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY/RR NO. 5515 – WORKPLACE SECONDARY TRAUMATIC STRESS FOR FIRST READING.

Vote: Bird, yes; Jansons, yes; Williams, yes; Byrd, yes: and Oldson, yes.

Motion was approved.

**5.3 Policy/RR No. 4250-School Safety and Security Services Program**

Dr. Redinger advised this Policy is required by the State. Superintendent Redinger has spoken with both the Richland and West Richland Police Departments and has extremely good relations with both. This policy will not change how the District interacts with Police and the Security Resource Officers (SRO) program. Mr. Jansons also questioned the five-day timeline for reporting. Mr. Pettett stated the District is able to extend that timeline. Mr. Pettett will revise for second reading.

It was moved by Semi Bird and seconded by Rick Jansons –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE POLICY/RR NO. 4250-SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITYSERVICES PROGRAM FOR FIRST READING.

Vote: Bird, yes; Jansons, yes; Williams, yes; Byrd, yes: and Oldson, yes.

Motion was approved.

**5.4 Policy/RR 6112-District Lease Agreements**

Washington State School Director Association's (WSSDA) Policy No. 6112 entitled "Rental or Lease of District Real Property" is listed as essential, therefore is required by all school districts to

have in place. Recently, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 87 requires school districts to specify a threshold amount for leases when a school district leases buildings, land, vehicles, and equipment from another party.

This policy addition serves two purposes. First, it brings the District compliant with WSSDA's Policy No. 6112. Second, it also brings the District into compliance with the new requirements of GASB 87.

It was moved by Rick Jansons and seconded by Kari Williams –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGEND

Vote: Bird, yes; Jansons, yes; Williams, yes; Byrd, yes: and Oldson, yes.  
Motion was approved.

### **5.5 Performance Audit Update**

Dr. Redinger reported the District received a grant to conduct natural hazard assessments on District properties. Students will also participate in this assessment as part of a science exploration. This report will help direct efforts to mitigate outdoor hazards.

### **6.0 CONSENT AGENDA** (approval by a single vote of the Board)

It was moved by Semi Bird and seconded by Rick Jansons –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (6.1) THROUGH (6.5) INCLUDING AN UPDATED PERSONNEL ACTION.

Vote: Bird, yes; Jansons, yes; Williams, yes; Byrd, yes: and Oldson, yes.  
Motion was approved.

### **6.1 Personnel Actions**

#### CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

##### NEW HIRES FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Kooiker, Mandy, 1.0 FTE, Resource Room, Jefferson (eff. 9/21/2022-coming from sub)  
Payne, Susan, 1.0 FTE, Structured, Leona Libby MS (non-continuing & coming from sub)

##### INCREASE IN FTE FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Ochoa, Mariah, 0.44 FTE to 1.0 FTE (effective 8/22/22)

##### DECREASE IN FTE FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

O'Hara, Sacha, 0.5 FTE to 0.3 FTE, Music (0.1 FTE), Library (0.1 FTE), and Art (0.1 FTE) (effective 8/29/22)

#### CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

##### NEW HIRES FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Conley, Jacob, IT Technician 1 (temporary), Information Technology, effective 9/21/2022

Davis, Kendal, Paraeducator, Sacajawea Elementary, effective 9/15/2022

Dent, LaTonya, Nutrition Services, Libby Middle School, effective 9/19/2022

Duran Toralba, Aylin Paraeducator, William Wiley Elementary, effective 9/15/2022

Finch, Michael, Paraeducator, River's Edge High School, effective 9/21/2022

Guffey, Courtney, Paraeducator, Early Learning Center, effective 9/22/2022

Holdren, Jaymie, Paraeducator, Marcus Whitman Elementary, effective 9/22/2022  
Howard, Lacey, Paraeducator, Orchard Elementary, effective 9/15/22 (corrected from 9/13/22)  
Kasselder, Alicia, Paraeducator, Marcus Whitman Elementary, effective 9/15/2022  
Lawrence, Alexis, Paraeducator, Special Education, effective 8/31/2022  
Maine, Erin, Paraeducator, Jason Lee Elementary, effective 9/22/2022  
Mohr, Malia, Paraeducator, Jason Lee Elementary, effective 9/21/2022  
Powell, Rebecca, Nutrition Services, Hanford High School, effective 9/22/2022  
Rodriguez, Amber, Paraeducator, William Wiley Elementary, effective 9/19/2022  
Rodriguez, Tyler, Grounds Applicator, Support Services, effective 10/1/2022  
Short, Dawn, Paraeducator, Marcus Whitman Elementary, effective 9/1/2022  
Smith, Kyle, Paraeducator, Jason Lee Elementary, effective 9/21/2022  
Wagner, Ross, Paraeducator, Orchard Elementary, effective 9/21/2022  
Weddle, Janis, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark Elementary, effective 9/01/2022  
Wimble, April, Paraeducator, Lewis & Clark Elem. effective 9/15/22 (corrected from 9/14/22)  
Wood, Cathy, Paraeducator, Enterprise Middle School, effective 9/20/22 (corrected from 9/14/22)  
CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT FOR 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR  
Bjerkestrand, Kurt, IT Technician 1 to Business Systems Analyst, effective 10/15/2022  
RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR  
Mao, Chunna, Fiscal Budget Analyst, Special Programs, effective 9/30/2022  
Jackman, Jordan, HVAC, Support Services, effective 9/30/2022  
RETIREMENTS FOR THE END OF THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR  
Wagoner, Curtis, Bus Driver, Transportation (correction from August 9, 2022, retirement not resignation)

RETIREMENTS FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Fowler, Tammy, Nutrition Services, Leona Libby Middle School, effective 12/16/2022

**6.2 Approval of Minutes (September 13, 2022)**

**6.3 Career and Technical Education (CTE), Perkins Grant Application Assurances Page**

**6.4 Enrollment Monthly**

**6.5 Warrant Information**

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40007093 through 40007095 for \$8,386.37  
    No. 54000479 for \$1,762.98  
    Nos. 74000150 through 74000151 for \$49,632.38  
    Nos. 40007096 through 40007100 for \$22,360.00  
    Nos. 54000480 through 54000481 for \$6,625.48  
    No. 74000152 for \$7,187.83  
Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20001865 through 20001868 for \$36,121.40  
    Nos. 20001869 through 20001870 for \$102,014.02  
    Nos. 52000302 through 52000302 for \$11,267.00  
General Fund Warrant Nos. 10082839 through 10082908 for \$445,838.96  
    Nos. 51001815 through 51001828 for \$149,769.47  
    Nos. 71002957 through 71002974 for \$54,873.48  
    Nos. 10082909 through 10082956 for \$595,513.98  
    Nos. 51001829 through 51001838 for \$65,381.95  
    Nos. 71002975 through 71002993 for \$42,922.80  
Self-Insurance Fund Warrant No. 57000102 for 7,947.88

**7.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**7.1 Approval of October 11, 2022 Agenda**

Mr. Bird asked about a policy passed by the Kennewick School Board earlier. Ms. Williams stated it has been placed on the October 25, 2022 agenda. Other topics discussed to be placed on a future agenda were: District-wide discipline policy, Special Education Task Force update, and an update on the curriculum adoption timeline.

It was moved by Rick Jansons and seconded by Semi Bird –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE OCTOBER 11, 2022 MEETING AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Vote: Bird, yes; Jansons, yes; Williams, yes; Byrd, yes: and Oldson, yes.  
Motion was approved.

**8.0 BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS**

Shelley Redinger reported Hazel Health information will sent out to all families starting in October, then starting at schools in November. Safeguard3 is performing vulnerability assessment training at Richland High School next week. Staff members will continue at other schools in the future. Dr. Redinger will also be a panelist on the League of Education Voters webinar.

Semi Bird will participate in the WSSDA Legislative Positions session and is the District’s voting member, serving as the District’s Legislative Representative.

Audra Byrd attended the Parent/Guardian Advisory meeting, and football games.

Rick Jansons attended several football games and complimented Steve Fisk for the Richland High School Open House and the Kayla Barron assembly, both very well done.

Kari Williams visited schools with Brian Moore (Marcus Whitman, Jason Lee and Desert Sky Elementaries). She also reminded all of the Suicide Prevention Walk tomorrow.

Jill Oldson attended a football game. She also complimented the Community Based Transition Class (CBTC) staff on their amazing program.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

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RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

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SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS