

**Dec. 11, 2018**



# Board Summary

## Election Of Board Officers

Richland School Board members elected Rick Jansons to another term as board president. Heather Cleary was re-elected as board vice president.

## Update On Child Care Services In Schools

Assistant Superintendent Brian Moore and Brian Ace, executive director of Boys & Girls Clubs of Benton and Franklin Counties, provided an update to the Board on the transition to Boys & Girls Clubs child care services at elementary schools and the Early Learning Center. The Clubs are using nearly all the portables dedicated to their programs with those not yet in use being licensed by mid-December. Mr. Moore says more than 400 students are enrolled in the program, with many schools seeing an enrollment increase of 50 percent or more. Work will continue through this school year to help the schools and Clubs meet needs and resolve any issues.

## Promise Kindergarten

Deputy Superintendent Mike Hansen presented a recommendation to the Board to implement Promise Kindergarten in the district for the 2019-20 school year. Also known as Promise K, the program identifies children who are five-years-old, not yet enrolled in kindergarten and could benefit from early enrollment in a kindergarten program. District staff will find children who fit the program in the fall and they will begin attending kindergarten in January. Those students will then continue in a kindergarten classroom through the following school year. Mr. Hansen says the program will give the selected students more time to develop skills, learn concepts and be better prepared for the rest of their education. The board members unanimously approved implementing the program.

## Discipline Rate Improvements

Assistant Superintendent Todd Baddley shared a report with the Board showing student suspensions are decreasing as the district works to keep students in school. The district has seen the discipline rate, the percent of students being expelled or given short- or long-term suspensions, drop from 5.5 percent in 2013 to 2.6 percent in 2017. This puts the district on track to reach discipline goals by 2020. Mr. Baddley says the work of school administrators and staff to minimize suspensions along with after-school tutoring programs for suspended students are key to the improvements.

## Digital Citizenship Curriculum

Erika Doyle, Assistant Director of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum, presented materials for a proposed Digital Citizenship curriculum. A committee of district and school staff and community members met for more than a year to develop the curriculum, which is aimed at helping students responsibly navigate the digital world. The committee made some changes to the curriculum following public input this fall. The district's Instructional Materials Committee (IMC) also recommended the materials for approval with three suggestions:

- A follow-up committee research and make recommendations regarding screen addiction.
- Development of written guidelines regarding how students report, schools notify parents and how families are supported if a student is exposed to inappropriate content.
- Development of procedures for documenting incidents of exposure to inappropriate content at the building and district levels.

Board members heard public comment on the curriculum. They agreed with the IMC's suggestions in approving the curriculum and asked district staff to develop a plan to incorporate them. The curriculum will be presented to the board for final approval at the Jan. 15 regular board meeting.

## Strategic Plan Update

The Board will hold a workshop at 4 p.m. on Jan. 16 to begin outlining the goals and objectives of a district strategic plan. The district will gather input from students, families, staff and community members this winter to inform that process.

## Board Meeting Schedule Changes

The Board approved changing the next two regular meetings to Jan. 15 and Jan. 29.

**Next Regular Meeting: Jan. 15 @ 6:30 p.m.**

*Richland School District*

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