

Aug. 28, 2018



Board Summary

Start of School

Deputy Superintendent Nicole MacTavish reported to the Richland School Board that the district's new Early Learning Center (ELC) continues to enroll preschoolers and will likely meet its goal of 315 students. Enrollment in the district's other schools will change over the first two weeks of classes and is expected to increase compared to the prior school year. However, the district likely will not meet projections for kindergarten and first-grade students. The district has 12 unfilled certificated positions and staff are working to fill them.

Secondary Math Materials Renewal Update

Erika Doyle, assistant director of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum (TLC), informed the Board that selected middle school and high school teachers will pilot new math materials beginning in September. The new materials are Big Idea by Cengage, Pearson AGA (high school only) and Curriculum Association's Ready Math (middle school only). The district will inform parents if their child's teacher will be using any pilot materials. Feedback from the pilot will determine which materials TLC presents to the Board for adoption in May.

K-12 English Language Arts Materials Renewal Update

Kristina Tucker, English language arts and social studies coordinator for TLC, reported that the district this year will roll out its new language arts curriculum in middle schools and high schools while continuing to provide support for elementary teachers. Secondary and special education teachers are reporting they are pleased with the range of materials the curriculum provides and the ability to tailor it to individual student abilities.

2018-19 Budget Adoption

There was no public comment during a hearing on the proposed 2018-19 budget and it was unanimously approved by the Board. As previously reported, the nearly \$199 million budget will have an estimated reserve of \$14,500,000, estimated revenues of \$184,417,359 and estimated expenditures of \$187,404,913.

Policy On Drone Use

District Counsel Galt Pettett presented Policy No. 2500 to the Board. The policy applies to students and staff using drones on district property or during school activities. It includes federal restrictions on unlicensed drone operators as well as guidance from the district's insurer and the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA). The policy won't apply to federally-licensed drone operators such as those documenting the district's construction projects. The Board will vote on whether to approve the policy on a future consent agenda.

School Resource Officers Contract Update

Superintendent Rick Schulte updated the Board on contract discussions with the Richland Police Department for school resource officers (SROs) at Hanford and Richland high schools. The district believes Benton County should use the Public Safety Sales Tax the schools pay every year to cover the costs of the SROs. The county has a sizable reserve from those taxes but has turned down the district's requests for support. The district and officials from the city of Richland will continue to pursue funding from the sales tax.

Next Regular Meeting: Sept. 11, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m.

Richland School District

615 Snow Avenue · (509) 967-6000 · www.rsd.edu