



Board of Directors, Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, March 10, 2015  
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, March 10, 2015, at 6:00 P.M. at the Administrative Service Center, 615 Snow Avenue, Richland, Washington. School Board President Phyllis Strickler presided. Board members present: Rick Jansons, Heather Cleary, Rick Donahoe, and Mary Guay. Administrators present: Superintendent Rick Schulte, Executive Director of Financial Services Rich Puryear, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and Secondary Education Todd Baddley, Assistant Superintendent K-5 and Assessment Mike Hansen, Executive Director of Human Resources Tony Howard, Executive Director of Support Services Mark Panther, Communications Manager Steve Aagaard, Executive Director of Information Technology Mike Leseberg, and Executive Director of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Nicki Blake.

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

## **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

### **1.1 Pledge of Allegiance**

### **1.2 Roll Call-All Here**

### **1.3 Approval of Minutes (February 24, 2015)**

It was moved by Rick Jansons and seconded by Mary Guay that –

THE BOARD APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 24, 2015.

Vote: Guay, yes; Cleary, yes; Donahoe, abstained; Jansons, yes; Strickler, yes.  
Motion was approved.

## **2.0 COMMUNICATIONS**

### **2.1 Student Representative Report-Makaila Draker-River's Edge High School**

Makaila Draker, River's Edge High School student, reported on topics discussed at the Superintendent/Student Advisory meeting. Topics included the recent measles outbreak and immunization requirements, future graduation requirements, technology literacy test, finals scheduling, and the college application process.

### **2.2 Presentations/Recognitions**

Marcus Whitman Elementary Principal Brian Moore, recognized Galt Pettett, who has volunteered with students for the past ten years, five days a week. Mr. Pettett is a positive male role model and has truly made a difference in the lives of students.

Margie Bass, Marcus Whitman Teacher, recognized Phyllis Strickler for her leadership with the Westside Tutoring Program. This program provides one-on-one tutors, as well as breakfast, transportation, and home visits for Marcus Whitman students.

Richland High School Assistant Principal Jerry Riggs, introduced Anne Springer, Lead Secretary. Mr. Riggs praised her for many years of dedication and support. He congratulated Ms. Springer for being a team player and her work with parents, students and staff.

### **2.3 Classified Employee Appreciation Week**

Tony Howard, Executive Director of Human Resources, introduced Theresa Hayden, Pareducator President, and Seumas Jarrett, Administrative Support President, and thanked them for their leadership. Mr. Howard reported the District employs over 600 classified staff including food service workers, bus drivers, maintenance/grounds workers, and secretaries. Mr. Howard advised classified staff work to help provide the best environment for students.

### **2.4 Requests and Comments by Visitors (time limit)**

Abby Stevens, 910 Sanford Avenue, shared her concerns regarding the upcoming school year for Marcus Whitman Elementary students and families starting the school day later than normal. Ms. Stevens feels this will cause a hardship on families including the need for daycare, decreased participation in after school activities, transportation, and safety concerns. She asked Board members to include parent input before final decisions are made.

Matt Millbauer, 1023 Cedar Avenue, shared the same concerns and had several suggestions for the Board.

Mike Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, stated no decisions have been made regarding the starting time. Discussion recently began with the Transportation Department, and there will be a time for public input before this decision is made.

## **3.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **3.1 Construction Projects (Tier Item 1.13)**

#### **3.1.1 Progress Report**

Richard Krasner, Director of Facilities and Operations, presented slides showing progress on construction projects currently underway:

- Lewis and Clark Elementary-a date will be set in the near future for a tour of the building
- Sacajawea Elementary-project approximately four weeks behind Lewis and Clark
- Orchard Elementary-framing the library-sidewalks completed around building
- Fran Rish Stadium-digging and pouring footings-helical pier installed

#### **3.1.2 Marcus Whitman Elementary Project**

Mark Panther, Executive Director of Support Services, reported action on several resolutions is needed to continue progress on these projects.

#### **\*Resolution No. 788-Constructability Review**

It was moved by Mary Guay and seconded by Rick Donahoe that –

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 400 ACCEPTS AND APPROVES THE MARCUS WHITMAN ELEMENTARY CONSTRUCTABILITY REVIEW REPORT AND IMPLEMENTATION, AS REQUIRED BY WAC 392-343-080- RESOLUTION No. 788.

Vote: Guay, yes; Cleary, yes; Donahoe, yes; Jansons, yes; Strickler, yes.  
Motion was approved.

**\*Resolution No. 789-Award of Bid**

Dr. Schulte reported a bid of \$17, 688,768.00 from Fowler Construction. Superintendent Schulte advised Fowler Construction is currently building the new Lewis and Clark and Sacajawea Elementaries.

It was moved by Rick Donahoe and seconded by Heather Cleary that –

THE RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 400 BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS AWARD OF THE GENERAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE MARCUS WHITMAN ELEMENTARY PROJECT TO FOWLER GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, INC.- RESOLUTION No. 789-IN COMPLIANCE WITH WAC 392-344-220.

Vote: Guay, yes; Cleary, yes; Donahoe, yes; Jansons, yes; Strickler, yes.  
Motion was approved.

**\*Resolution No. 790-Intent to Construct**

It was moved by Heather Cleary and seconded by Rick Donahoe that –

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 400 DOES HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE CONSTRUCTION OF MARCUS WHITMAN ELEMENTARY WILL BE COMPLETED FOR THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE STATE MATCHING FUNDS ARE BEING PROVIDED, AS REQUIRED BY WAC 392-340-130-RESOLUTION 790-INTENT TO CONSTRUCT.

Vote: Guay, yes; Cleary, yes; Donahoe, yes; Jansons, yes; Strickler, yes.  
Motion was approved.

**3.1.3 Three Rivers HomeLink Site Package**

**\*Resolution No. 791-Award of Bid**

Mr. Panther explained the modular building for the new HomeLink is currently under construction. This resolution is to award the bid for site preparation at the new Three Rivers HomeLink location. Big D Construction worked on both Hanford High School and the Special Programs Building projects in the past.

It was moved by Rick Jansons and seconded by Mary Guay that –

THE RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 400 BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS AWARD OF THE GENERAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THREE RIVERS HOMELINK SITE PACKAGE PROJECT TO BIG D'S CONSTRUCTION-RESOLUTION No. 791-IN COMPLIANCE WITH WAC 392-344-220.

Vote: Guay, yes; Cleary, yes; Donahoe, yes; Jansons, yes; Strickler, yes.  
Motion was approved.

Dr. Schulte reported a groundbreaking ceremony will be scheduled when dates have been finalized.

### **3.2 Advanced Placement via Determination (AVID)-Secondary (*Tier Item 1.7*)**

Nicki Blake, Executive Director of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum, stated AVID is not a curriculum, rather a system of instruction used to ensure college readiness for AVID elective students and improved academic performance for *all* students.

Ms. Blake introduced Derek O’Konek, Assistant Principal-Enterprise Middle School, Kevin Norris, Assistant Principal-Chief Joseph Middle School, and Brian Stadelman, Principal-Carmichael Middle School, who explained how secondary schools are working to transform instruction, systems, leadership, and culture to ensure college and career readiness for all students. Topics included:

- Organizational skills-Use of binders/planners
- Note taking skills
- Teachers instructing and modeling this system
- Staff development-two year training

Ms. Blake reported there are specific qualifications for AVID elective classes, but staff are using these skills for *all* students. She stated students who enter the elective cohort in middle school usually stay in the program throughout high school. Administrators are presenting information to fifth grade students at this time for those who are interested in the program at the middle school level. All thanked the Board for their support of this program.

## **4.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **4.1 SBAC Sample Test Items (*Tier Item 1.8*)**

Mike Hansen, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education and Assessment, reported as part of the move to the Smarter Balanced Assessments, Washington State adopted new guidelines on tools, supports, and accommodations. These are designed to provide every student with a positive and productive Smarter Balanced Assessment experience, which should lead to results that are a fair and accurate estimate of each student’s achievement. Mr. Hansen explained:

Universal Tools-Universal tools are available to all students based on student preference and selection.

Designated Supports-Designated supports for the state assessments are those features that are available for use by any student for whom the need has been indicated by an educator (or team of educators with parent/guardian and student).

Accommodations-Accommodations generate valid assessment results for students who need them; they allow these students to show what they know and can do. This identifies digitally-embedded and non-embedded accommodations for students for whom there is documentation of the need for the accommodations on an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 accommodation plan.

Mr. Hansen advised the first test given at White Bluffs Elementary went smoothly. He introduced Toni Vonderhuls, Assessment Coordinator, who addressed questions from the Board regarding specific support and accommodations.

#### **4.2 Special Education-High Needs Programs**

Mandy Cathey, Assistant Director of Special Education, introduced Amy DesChane, Richland High School Lifeskills Teacher, and Brittany Poff, Richland High School Structured Teacher. Both explained their effort to prepare high school special education students to successfully transition to a life beyond graduation. They are in communication with businesses outside of school, to set up learning opportunities for their students. Discussion followed.

#### **4.3 Alternative Schools (*Tier Item T2.2*)**

Todd Baddley, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, reported a yearly Board interaction is required for alternative schools. Mr. Baddley introduced Dan Chubb, River's Edge High School Principal and Eric Sobotta, Three Rivers HomeLink Principal. Both programs were recently audited by the State of Washington with excellent results!

Mr. Chubb advised the *Graduation Alliance Program* is a program designed to reengage students who have attempted programs at River's Edge High School with limited success or students not able to be on a school campus, due to personal issues or discipline. Mr. Chubb reported fifty-three River's Edge students accessed services since January of 2013. The *Independent Learning Program* requires students to attend school for a minimum of five hours per week, with the remainder of the work completed off site. OSPI recognizes this as a site based program utilizing online curriculum.

Mr. Sobotta advised staff, students and parents are excited to move into the new facility for the 2015-2016 school year and thanked the Board for their support. A public information meeting to be held on March 26, 2015 will highlight the new facility along with program offerings. Mr. Sobotta explained the audit process resulted in a clean audit containing no recommendations. He reported the HomeLink program was used as an example of good work at a recent Washington WALA Conference.

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

It was moved by Rick Jansons and seconded by Heather Cleary –

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (5.1) AND (5.2) INCLUDING A REVISED PERSONNEL ACTION.

#### **5.1 Personnel Actions**

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL:

Mancinelli, John, 1.0 FTE, Elementary Principal, currently on leave

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL:

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR:

Kostorowski, Tonia, 1.0 FTE, Kindergarten Teacher, Badger Mountain Elementary

Wysock, Andrea, 1.0 FTE, Kindergarten Teacher, Lewis and Clark Elementary

Wertemberger, Staci, 1.0 FTE, Kindergarten Teacher, Tapteal Elementary

RESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR:

Colwell, Kimberly, 1.0 FTE, Special Education Teacher, William Wiley Elementary (eff. 6/9/15)

Clements, Amy, .2 FTE, Speech Language Pathologist, Special Education (retaining .8 FTE)

Higby, Sheila, 1.0 FTE, Instructional Specialist, William Wiley Elementary (effective 2/28/15)

RETIREMENTS FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR: (effective 6/9/15)

-----  
Knight, Suzanne, 1.0 FTE, Special Education Preschool Techer, Jefferson Elementary (eff. 6/9/15)  
Ruge, Chris, 1.0 FTE, Special Education Teacher, Sacajawea Elementary (effective 6/9/15)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR:

Hays, Kenneth, 1.0 FTE, Special Education Teacher, Sacajawea Elementary

**CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL:**

Caiceros, Gabriela, Hired, Nutrition Services, Tapteal Elementary, effective 03/02/15  
Branham, Ronnie, Hired, Nutrition Services, River's Edge High School, effective 02/21/15  
Harding, Tiffany, Hired, Paraeducator, Badger Mountain Elementary, effective 03/02/15  
Poteet, Michelle, Hired, Paraeducator, Special Programs, effective 03/16/15  
Powell, Cynthia, Hired, Paraeducator, Badger Mountain Elementary, effective 03/02/15  
Svancara, Maria (Opal), Hired, Paraeducator, Badger Mountain Elementary, effective 03/02/15

**5.2 Payroll and Warrants**

General Fund Warrant Nos. 10035052 through 10035224 for \$1,529,797.15

No. 51000139 for \$228,042.46

Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 20000430 through 20000439 for \$815,351.26

No. 52000021 for \$8,780.58

ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 40003723 through 40003735 for \$13,691.96

No. 54000113 for \$78,507.82

Transportation Vehicle Fund Warrant No. 90000112 for \$660,501.46

Payroll Warrant No. 10034350 for \$1,906.23

No. 10034351 for \$1,028.84

Nos. 10034526 through 10034527 for \$885.93

Nos. 10034745 through 10034992 for \$263,702.84

Nos. 10034993 through 10035051 for \$ 2,453,657.22

Void No. 10034314 for \$(885.93)

Void No. 10033474 for \$(1,028.84)

Electronic Fund Transfer for \$4,776,948.06

Total February Payroll approved in the amount of \$7,496,214.35

The Board approved the motion unanimously.

**6.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS-None**

**7.0 BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS**

Rick Schulte stated the State Auditor has requested a meeting with a Board member before or after the Entrance Conference. Rick Jansons volunteered. Dr. Schulte gave an update on the Urban Growth Area (UGA) issue. Superintendent Schulte attended the Badger Club luncheon, the WSSDA Legislative Assembly, the Regional High School Art Show, the Delta Superintendent's Council, and the Three Rivers HomeLink bid opening.

Mary Guay attended the WSSDA Legislative Conference, the Resolutions Committee meetings, PFEL, and the HomeLink bid opening.

Phyllis Strickler attended PFEL, several construction meetings, visited Three Rivers HomeLink, the graduation ceremony at Richland High School, and the HomeLink bid opening.

Rick Donahoe mentioned he was presenting at the Leadership Tri Cities event and reported on a recent visit to a high poverty school district in Tennessee.

Heather Cleary attended the graduation at Richland High School.

Rick Jansons attended the WSSDA Legislative Conference, the Badger Club luncheon, and reported he would not be able to attend the March 24, 2015 Board meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 P.M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 400

\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DRAFT