

Richmond Community Schools

35276 Division * Richmond, Michigan 48062 * (586) 727-3565 * www.richmond.k12.mi.us

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Deborah Michon, President
Angela Pacitto, Vice President
Sherri Zube, Secretary
Danielle Sutton, Treasurer
Kyle Simmons, Trustee
Margaret Teltow, Trustee
OPEN, Trustee

Brian J. Walmsley, Ed.S.
Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION **REGULAR** MEETING MINUTES

**7:00PM ON FEBRUARY 14, 2022, IN THE MEDIA CENTER AT RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL
(35320 Division, Richmond, Michigan 48062)**

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in Agenda Item 10.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board member Michon called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education called to order at 7:00 PM.

Board member Michon read the resignation letter of Board member Shuboy.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance recited by Board of Education, Superintendent, Central Office, and audience.

3. MISSION STATEMENT

Mission statement read by Board member Pacitto.

4. ROLL CALL

Board member Pacitto took roll call: Deborah Michon – Present, Angela Pacitto – Present, Kyle Simmons – Present, Danielle Sutton – Absent with Notice, Margaret Teltow – Present, and Sherri Zube – Present.

5 – 0 Quorum of the Board

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board member Michon revised the agenda to add Action Item 13 – E, *Nominations for Board Secretary*.

Non-Discrimination Statement

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Motion by Board member Pacitto to approve the amended agenda as presented. Support by Board member Simmons.

Discussion: None

All in Favor: 5. Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Board member Pacitto to approve the Consent Agenda as presented in the attached documentation. Support by Board member Simmons.

Discussion: Superintendent Walmsley recognized the following:

Personnel Report:

Resignations and Retirements: Ashley Gee (Special Education Paraprofessional) and Kristie Lashbrook (Director of Student Support Services).

Termination: None.

Lay-off / Non-renewal of Contract: None.

New Hires: Amanda Walden (Childcare).

Notice of Appointments (Previously Hired by the Board): Krista Falk (Credit Recovery Supervisor).

Superintendent Walmsley stated there were no corrections to the 01-24-22 regular meeting minutes.

Superintendent Walmsley stated there were no questions regarding the *Claims and Accounts*.

All in Favor: 5. Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

7. CLOSED SESSION FOR 021422 – A STUDENT DISCIPLINE HEARING PURSUANT TO SECTION 8(B) OF THE MICHIGAN OPEN MEETINGS ACT

Pursuant to Section 8(b) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act and upon the request of the student's parent and/or guardian, Board member Simmons motioned that the Board of Education go into Closed Session for the purpose of conducting a hearing to consider the discipline of a student whose identity is known as Student 021422 – A. Support by Board member Teltow.

Discussion: None

All in Favor: 5. Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

Closed Session Started: 7:04 PM

Closed Session Ended: 7:43 PM

8. BOND UPDATE

Superintendent Walmsley provided an update on bond projects throughout the district.

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9. PRESENTATION

A. Instruction Spotlight: Career and Technical Education Month

Renee Ara, *Executive Director of Curriculum and Educational Services*, and Andy Kastl, *HS Principal and CTE Director*, presented an overview of the district's career and technical education programs in honor of Career and Technical Education Month.

B. Instruction Spotlight: Benchmark Assessment Reports (MCL 388.1698b)

Renee Ara, *Executive Director of Curriculum and Educational Services*, presented the district's benchmark assessment report for Will L. Lee Elementary School, Richmond Middle School, and Richmond High School, as required by State Law (MCL 388.1698b).

C. Instruction Spotlight: Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)

Renee Ara, *Executive Director of Curriculum and Educational Services*, Heidi Mangune, *ES Principal*, Michael Gibson, *ES Dean of Students*, Keith Bartels, *MS Principal*, Anthony Birkmeier, *MS Dean of Students*, Andy Kastl, *HS Principal*, and Becky Borwick, *HS Dean of Students*, presented an overview of multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) as well as building specific interventions.

D. 2022-23 Middle School and High School Course Catalog

Renee Ara, *Executive Director of Curriculum and Educational Services*, presented the 2022-23 Middle School and High School Course Catalog for the Board to consider.

E. FY2022 General Fund Budget – Amendment #2

Tammie Schadd, *Director of Business and Management Services*, presented the FY2022 General Fund Amendment #2 Budget.

Board member Teltow inquired about the reason for the additional athletic supply account for helmets and well as if there was a process in place for tracking the life-expectancy of football helmet to minimize the need for a large helmet purchase. Superintendent Walmsley stated he did not have that information before him and would need to bring that back to the Board.

F. MASB Board of Directors Election

Deborah Michon, Board President, lead a discussion among the Board as to whom the Board of Education will direct the Superintendent on their behalf to casts a ballot for the Region 8 Michigan Association of School Board (MASB) Board of Directors.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following members of the public spoke:

Brandon Day – stated that he asked questions and never got answers. This weekend past week, Mr. Day was coaching and received a text message demonstrating that Board member Sutton

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asking for information about him in an investigatory manner. Mr. Day stated comments were made that indicated he was involved in illegal activities and that there was an ongoing investigation. Mr. Day stated that he did not have a mandatory practice at his home during a snow day. He stated he was shocked by the screen shot he received by a parent. Mr. Day would like an answer as to why the Board member did not approach him about issues they with him. Mr. Day is concerned about where the information is coming from about him that is being reported to Board member Sutton. Mr. Day would like some answers as to where the information is coming from.

Sean Misko – stated he can provide information regarding football helmets. Mr. Misko yielded the remained of his time to watch a video sent by former Richmond student and wrestler, Luke Davis. Mr. Davis discussed his support of Brandon Day as a coach and mentor.

Beth Stimer yielded her time to Mr. Davis.

Kevin Berggon yielded his time to Mr. Davis.

Kevin Misch yielded his time to Mr. Davis.

Laurie Misch – addressed the Board regarding Brandon Day and the wrestling program. Ms. Misch stated she was impressed with the numbers and facts presentations to the Board during the *Presentation* portion of the agenda. She stated that the wrestling program and Mr. Day helped to shape her son into a young man. She spoke how the wrestling program feeds into the mission and vision of the district and all the other topics presented this evening.

Kevin McKiernan – discussed how he is an educator and has five sons that have been coached by Mr. Day. Mr. McKiernan stated that Mr. Day has never held a practice not allowed by school administration or during weather that would put students at risk. He stated that Mr. Day is an exceptional and passionate coach that goes above and beyond to help students.

Preston Treend – addressed the Board and shared his positive experiences after being coached by Brandon Day. Mr. Treend also spoke about Mr. Day and his ethics and morals as coach and mentor. Mr. Treend stated that he would like Ms. Sutton to be present this evening to hear the points being made tonight. Mr. Treend stated that all rules and guidelines are followed by Mr. Day and him. Mr. Treend stated that students are never put in jeopardy by having to practice on snow days. He encouraged Ms. Sutton to contact Mr. Day or him with questions regarding practices. Mr. Treend encouraged Ms. Sutton to come to wrestling meets and practices to see first-hand what goes on.

11. SUPERINTENDENT AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Superintendent Walmsley provided an update on the following district and legislative issues:

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Week ending February 4, 2022

Post-Secondary Information for Students Passes House

On Tuesday, the House passed House Bill 4953 on a 94-11 vote. This bill would require the Michigan Department of Education to develop and update information on postsecondary education for 8th-12th grade students by Aug. 1 of each year. MDE must distribute this information to all districts, ISDs and public-school academies and make it available via the web. Districts would have the flexibility to decide how best to share this information with their students. The bill will now go to the Senate for its consideration.

Transportation Stipends Covered in Senate Committee

On Tuesday afternoon, the Senate Education and Career Readiness Committee began hearings on Senate Bill 801, which would create a transportation grant program for choice students. Districts would qualify for up to \$25,000 to distribute to qualified students for public transportation, ride-sharing services, or district-operated transportation to go to and from school. The funds for students would be limited to \$1,400, the student must live at least one-and-a-half miles from the school and be eligible for free and reduced lunch.

The proponents of the bill said that it would increase the ability of parents to choose the best educational opportunity for their child(ren). Concerns were raised over the logistics of administering such a program as well as the safety of students on non-district-provided transportation. Hearings on the issue are expected to continue this week.

House Education Considers Student-Teacher Roles and Changes to the Pupil Accounting Manual

On Tuesday, the House Education Committee began hearings on two separate issues.

The first, House Bill 5685, would allow a student teacher who is not yet certified or endorsed to teach in a district for up to one year. Currently, a student teacher could be hired as a substitute, but not a full-time teacher. The sponsor noted that it would help fill teaching positions and act as a financial incentive for potential teachers. Opponents raised concerns about supervision or mentoring for new teachers and that many teacher preparation programs may not allow a student teacher to receive college credit in this situation.

The second, HB 5686, would require that changes to the Pupil Accounting Manual maintained by MDE be approved by the Legislature before going into effect. Currently, changes to the Manual must be made by March 31 to go into effect for the subsequent school year. This bill would remove the certainty districts have under current law, possibly causing confusion as to when changes go into effect. Further hearings are expected on both bills.

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MSP School Safety Grant Program Now Taking Applications

The Michigan State Police Office of School Safety announced applications are now being accepted for the Fiscal Year 2022 Competitive School Safety Grant Program. The grants are for any district looking to improve the safety and security of students and staff through the purchase and installation of technology and equipment for school buildings or to upgrade hardening measures. Completed and signed applications (including all attachments) must be received through the MSP-provided email by Thursday, March 24, 2022.

Week ending February 11, 2022

Governor Presents 2022-2023 Budget to Legislature

On Wednesday February 9, 2022, State Budget Director Chris Harkins officially kicked off budget season and delivered Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's proposed budget to a joint session of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees. The School Aid Budget includes a significant per-pupil boost and increases in areas that reflect the costs of educating different types of students.

Among the highlights of the School Aid Budget are:

- \$435 per-pupil increase in the foundation allowance, raising it to \$9,135. This is a 5% increase.
- \$222 million increase in at-risk, which funds the state's mandated portion and should avoid any proration of the funds this year.
- \$150 million increase in special education funding, which brings the state reimbursement of costs from 31% to 36%.
- 5% increase for Intermediate School Districts, English Language Learners, and rural and isolated districts.
- \$351 million in mental health funding for professionals in schools, on-demand support, school-based health clinics and more.
- \$1 billion over six years for school infrastructure, creating grants up to \$170 million a year.

The House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees begin hearings this week on the proposal and to start framing their budgets. The Governor also proposed a current-year supplemental and will be released this week in detail.

House Education Committee Considers Changes to State Testing

On Tuesday, the House Education Committee began testimony on House Bills 4810 and 4811. The bills would remove the currently required essay portion of the SAT as part of the Michigan Merit Examination. It also would remove the requirement that a school

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district or public-school academy include a student's MME score for each subject area on their high school transcripts.

There was also testimony on House Bill 5703, which would require posting certain sections of the Constitution and School Code pertaining to parent rights in administration offices and board rooms of public schools.

No votes were taken and hearings on all three bills are expected to continue.

House Committee Approves Changes to School Bond Loan Fund

The House Local Government and Municipal Finance Committee also approved House Bill 5666 on Tuesday. This bill would amend current law to make the interest rate for bonds whatever the market rate is at that time. Under state law, the School Bond Loan Fund is required to charge borrowers a minimum of 3% interest plus administrative fees. MASB supports the bill and it is now before the full House for consideration.

District News

Reminder Friday, February 18, 2022 there is no school. It is a professional development day for teachers.

Richmond High School

On March 3, RHS is conducting a district-wide fundraiser for the Oxford community. All proceeds from the t-shirt sales will be directly going to the Oxford community. Chef Garand and her culinary students will be conducting a bake sale that night during the basketball games vs. Armada. Mrs. Schack is also working in conjunction with the band from Armada to play the Oxford fight song during halftime of the game. Mrs. Smallwood and Dr. Ladd are working with our student government and Armada's student government to create some rivalry competitions between the schools. One idea between the schools is a penny war prior to the event, SAVE Mr. KASTL from becoming a Tiger.

The Penny Wars are on! Richmond High School is competing in a Penny Wars with Armada High School starting Monday, February 14th. Money raised will go to Oxford. Start gathering those coins now! You may drop your cash in the containers provided at lunch. If we lose Mr. Kastl has agreed to dress as the Armada Mascot. We can't let this happen to him. Save Kastl!

It would be great to see everybody in gold and blue and supporting this great cause on March 3rd. Order forms for t-shirts are located online and also located at all three schools.

Congratulations to Wayne State University Tri-County Winners

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Maddie Foss, 11th grade, Still-life
Aidan Kowalski, 10th grade, Bottle Pear Leaf
Aidan Kowalski, 10th grade, Donuts (Thiebaud Tribute)
Shannon Holk, 12th grade, Curiosity
Annabell Loftis, 10th grade, Glass Cup & Apple

The students received an automatic \$1,000 scholarship for each selected artwork for the Art and Art History programs at Wayne State University upon their enrollment. The student artwork will be on display at Wayne State's art gallery. The opening reception is February 24th.

Scholastic Winner Announcement

Riley Bartolone, 11th grade, received 2 honorable mentions for photography.
Dakota Bruci, 11th grade, received 1 gold key and 1 honorable mention for photography.

Madelaine Foss, 11th grade, received 1 gold key for drawing and 1 honorable mention for photography.

Shannon Holk, 12th grade, received 1 honorable mention for drawing.

Aidan Kowalski, 10th grade, received 1 honorable mention for drawing.

Katerina Lindsay, 12th grade, received 1 honorable mention for design.

Stephanie Lindsay, 12th grade, received 1 silver key for digital art and 2 honorable mentions for digital art.

Priscilla Mullen-Rutledge, 11th grade, received 3 honorable mentions: 1 photography, 1 drawing, 1 digital art

Emily Saunders, 12th grade, received 1 honorable mention for photography.

Congrats to our students! Gold keys are now going National! Will be sharing the art, soon!

It was a tough year with a late start and with participation cut in half this year, this is a great accomplishment. 16 of our 58 individual artworks we submitted were selected. We competed with schools from all over the region!

On January 25, 2022, three (3) varsity bowlers, Emma Millbrand, Marissa Germain, and Laine Wagner, finished in the Top 8 BWAC girl bowlers. First time Richmond has had 3 of the Top 8 in the conference. Congratulations to the high school bowling team and Coach Germain.

Blue Devil Café will open to the public shortly after Spring Break. The student-run restaurant will begin with a soft opening for staff beginning March 17th. After Spring Break, the District will host a targeted luncheon for targeted groups in the community.

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Around the 3rd week in April, the restaurant will officially open to the public on Thursdays and Fridays from 11:00-12:30pm until Memorial Day.

Will L. Lee Elementary School

Wednesday, March 2, 2022, is Preschool Round-up for the Class of 2036 and 2037 (3 and 4 Year Old students) and Thursday, March 3, 2022 is Kindergarten Round Up for the Class of 2035. Both nights will feature a dinner for families registering their students for Preschool and Kindergarten. In addition, t-shirts will be given to future preschool and kindergarten students.

March is Reading Month, and the theme at Lee Elementary School is Winter Olympics. Board of Education are invited to read to students all month. If you have not yet been contacted, you will.

Food Service.

Director of Food Service, Kathy Guiney reports that the district has served 11,703 fresh Michigan grown fruit this school year.

In addition, Cindy Arft and Kimberly Ellis have both passed the 10-hour *Serve Safe* training and exam. Kelly Kincaid has gone through the training and waiting results.

Finally, I would like to offer a special congratulations to Ms. Ara on her engagement to be married. We could not be happier for you and your fiancée, Nick.

12. ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board member Teltow - Mrs. Teltow discussed the Richmond Education Foundation Fundraiser "A Night at the Races" that is coming up on Saturday, April 30, 2022. Mrs. Teltow stated that she is embarrassed that Mr. Day had to come to this meeting to defend his character to the Board of Education, yet again. She would like to do something about it.

Board member Michon stated that there is a process to investigate these claims and allegations made against Mr. Day. She stated that we will investigate. Board member Teltow stated that text messaging is not the process.

13. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of School Bus Purchase

Board member Teltow motioned to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the purchased of one (1) school bus from Midwest Transit for a total not to exceed \$100,084.00, as outlined in the attached documentation, for which funding transferred from the FY2022 General Fund to the non-bond capital projects fund is authorized. Support by Board member Simmons.

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Discussion: Ms. Schadd corrected the number \$108,634. Board member Teltow corrected the motion, Board member Simmons supported the corrected motion. No further discussion.
Roll call vote
All in Favor: 5, Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

B. Approval of *Childcare Stabilization Fund* Bonuses

Board member Teltow motioned to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve *Childcare Stabilization Fund* bonuses to be paid to full-time and part-time equivalent childcare employees on February 25, 2022, June 25, 2022, January 25, 2023, and June 25, 2023, as outlined in the attached documentation. Support by Board member Pacitto.

Discussion: None
All in Favor: 5, Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

C. Authorization of the Superintendent to Submit MASB Board of Directors Ballot on behalf of the RCS Board of Education

Board member Teltow motioned to authorize the Superintendent to submit the name of the following candidate on the ballot cast by the Richmond Board of Education for the Michigan Association of School Boards Region 8 Board of Directors: Darlene Pomponio, Southgate Community Schools (Incumbent). Support by Board member Simmons.

Discussion: None
All in Favor: 5, Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

D. Approval of Board Resolution for Student 021422 – A Discipline Hearing

Board member Pacitto motioned that following a Closed Session Student Discipline Hearing, the Board votes to uphold the Superintendent's decision for Student 021422 – A, consistent with the attached resolution. Support by Board member Teltow.

Discussion: None
All in Favor: 5, Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

E. Approval of Nominations for Secretary to the Board of Education – **ADDED**

Board member Pacitto motioned to appointment Board member Zube as Secretary of the Board of Education for the term ending December 31, 2022. Board member Zube accepted.

All in Favor: 5, Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Board member Michon adjourned the meeting at 10:17 PM.

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