

# Richmond Community Schools

35276 Division \* Richmond, Michigan 48062 \* (586) 727-3565 \* [www.richmond.k12.mi.us](http://www.richmond.k12.mi.us)

Margaret Teltow, President  
Jessica Sexton, Vice President  
Kristine Furtaw, Secretary  
Kyle Simmons, Treasurer  
Sandra Fortuna, Trustee  
Angela Pacitto, Trustee  
Sherri Zube, Trustee

Brian J. Walmsley, Ed.S.  
Superintendent

## BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**7:00PM, AUGUST 24, 2020 HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM MEETING**

*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 9.*

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

M. Teltow called the Meeting to Order at 7:00pm.

### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board of Education recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **3. MISSION STATEMENT**

Kristine Furtaw, Secretary, read the District's Mission Statement, "At Richmond Community Schools, we provide a quality education that empowers students to be successful in a global community."

### **4. ROLL CALL**

Present: M. Teltow, J. Sexton, K. Furtaw, K. Simmons, S. Fortuna, A. Pacitto, and S. Zube  
No Absences  
Quorum: 7-0

### **5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motioned by J. Sexton seconded by S. Zube to approve the Agenda as presented.  
Ayes: M. Teltow, J. Sexton, K. Furtaw, K. Simmons, S. Fortuna, A. Pacitto, and S. Zube  
Nays: None

#### **Non-Discrimination Statement**

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Motion Carried: 7 to 0

## 6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

### A. Personnel Report

Superintendent, B. Walmsley thanked exiting employees for their dedication to Richmond Community Schools and provided an update on resignations: four (4) Early Learning Childcare Center, two (2) Middle School and one (1) Food Services.

K. Furtaw requested feedback regarding reasons for the high number of employees exiting the District from Early Childhood. B. Walmsley provided feedback that COVID-19 was a concern for a number of exiting staff.

## 7. BOND UPDATE

B. Walmsley provided an update on the bond projects: Football Field is 99% complete; Elementary fencing and other work has started; anticipated two-week shutdown in preparation for the start of the school year's technology distribution. Inspection by the State Fire Marshall was completed. B. Walmsley also provided feedback that Miller Contracting provided a temporary walkway from the parking lot to the Elementary entrance door. He also provided an update regarding the upcoming meeting for the High School & Middle School drawings. It is expected that all interior work will be done by next summer.

S. Zube expressed concerns regarding traffic during construction. B. Walmsley expressed that parking lots will be at capacity. J. Sexton asked if signage could be installed to direct parents to other areas for parking. B. Walmsley will work with AUCH to have signage added.

## 8. PRESENTATION(S)

### A. 2020-21 Student-Parent Handbook

A. Kastl provided updates on key changes in Handbook. Questions raised regarding students wearing hats that have face shields connected. D. Kochan clarified for the group. Additional amendment will be added to page 44 number 4 for facial coverings to be described as facemasks and face shields.

## 9. PUBLIC COMMENT

M. Teltow opened meeting to Public comments. No Public comments.

## 10. SUPERINTENDENT AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Walmsley provide a district update on the following:

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Last week the district mailed a letter to the parents and guardians of all the students currently enrolled in PowerSchool. The letter went out to almost 1,600 students when you take into consideration preschool. In the letter, Mr. Walmsley notifies families that all students are *automatically* registered for in-person learning unless the parent/guardian completes the *Virtual/Online Learning Agreement Form*, which was included in the letter and is available on the website.

The letter also explained that *Blue Devil Days*, in their traditional sense, will not be held in person the week before school starts, but will be held virtually utilizing Microsoft Teams the week of September 14, 2020. Directions on how to log in for virtual Blue Devil Days will be provided by the classroom teacher to their students and families. During the first week of school, all teachers will be teaching their in-person and virtual students the platforms the District will be utilizing for virtual learning in Phase 4, 5 and 6, and should the State move to Phase 1, 2, or 3, all students would then be proficient in Schoology and Microsoft teams.

*Technology and School-provided Resources Pick-up for Virtual Students* will be Monday, August 31, 2020 for HS students, Tuesday, September 1, 2020 for MS students, and Wednesday, September 2, 2020 for ES students. At this event the District will provide an overview of the

- *SafeWare Human Monitoring* software installed on District laptops, proper computer care, online classroom etiquette, and internet safety;
- Laptop, virtual classroom etiquette, internet safety, Cyberbullying, and the building's Positive Behavior Support program;
- Social and Emotional supports available;
- Accessing Microsoft OneDrive for saving and retrieving student documents and accessing student-emails/calendar;
- Schoology for receiving and submitting assignments and assessments;
- Microsoft TEAMS for interaction with the classroom teacher and in-person students;
- Online, virtual and telephone at-home tech support for families;
- Information on Instructional Technology Boot Camp will be presentation, and
- WiFi "Hot Spots" available for qualifying virtual students without internet accessibility.

All staff will be officially back to work on Monday, August 31, 2020. The 2020-21 school year brings excitement with

Mr. Walmsley also provided a legislative update on the following:

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Today, officials, during a rare August Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference, revised the state's revenues for the 2020-21 fiscal year up from previous estimates in May as the boost the state saw from federal assistance in unemployment and CARES Act dollars were underestimated earlier this year.

For the current fiscal year, officials agreed to revise revenue upward by \$1.3 billion General Fund and \$1 billion in the School Aid Fund. In total, revenues are up about \$2.3 billion from May.

The picture is a little less rosy, at least for now, in the 2020-21 fiscal year, where officials revised General Fund revenues up by \$257 million and the School Aid Fund up by \$321 million compared to May numbers.

Both sets of revenue estimates are still down from January numbers as the new coronavirus pandemic and the economic shutdown to deal with it, particularly in the earlier months, have upended projections.

Officials with the Department of Treasury, the House Fiscal Agency and the Senate Fiscal Agency said CARES Act programs added nearly \$43.3 billion to the state's economy during the second quarter of 2020. Those programs provided \$16 billion in loans to Michigan businesses, \$8.3 billion in payments to residents and \$13.4 billion in federally funded unemployment assistance.

The \$600 federal assistance, which has since expired, increased the state's withholding payments in a "completely unprecedented," way, officials said. Michigan consumers also spent more than expected, which has helped boost revenues. That spending has happened online, at home improvement stores and on vehicles, officials said. The lottery has also seen record spending.

Moving forward, with the \$600 payment cut in half to \$300 and uncertainty around how long it will last, withholding payments could drop. More federal assistance could boost the economy short-term while a drop may cause the economy to fall.

With large increases in taxable consumer spending in 2020, there is a lot of uncertainty around spending in the next fiscal year.

S. Zube inquired regarding hazard pay for teachers and staff and whether or not the District will be managing this. B. Walmsley clarified that hazard pay is only for teachers. It is expected that the State will managed payments to teachers.

## **11. ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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K. Furtaw provided an update on a recent conference that she attended with Jurassic Parliament. She found it to be very helpful. It was also nice to see that our Board is conducting its meetings very well as it should be.

K. Simmons and M. Teltow thanked everyone in the organization for the work that was done this summer in developing the *Return to School Plan*. K. Simmons expressed his disappointment in sports being cancelled this year.

M. Teltow seconded K. Simmons gratitude towards the development of Richmond's *Return to Learning Plan*.

## 12. ACTION ITEM(S)

### A. Approval of 2020-21 Student-Parent Handbook

Motioned by K. Simmons, seconded by J. Sexton, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the 2020-21 Student-Parent Handbook, as presented in the attached documentation with the amendment to #4 on page 44.

Ayes: M. Teltow, J. Sexton, K. Furtaw, K. Simmons, S. Fortuna, A. Pacitto, and S. Zube

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 7 to 0

### B. Approval of Math Expressions Workbooks and Digital Access

B. Walmsley provided an overview of the purchase, including cost increases to the workbooks from previous years.

Motioned by J. Sexton, seconded by S. Fortuna, to approve the purchase of Math Expressions Workbooks and Digital Access in the amount of \$13,676.50.

Roll Call Vote, Ayes: M. Teltow, J. Sexton, K. Furtaw, K. Simmons, S. Fortuna, A. Pacitto, and S. Zube

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 7 to 0

### C. Approval of Laptop Purchase from Sehi Computer Products, Inc.

Motioned by J. Sexton, seconded by K. Simmons, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve laptop purchase from Sehi Computer Products, Inc, as presented in the attached documentation.

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Roll Call Vote, Ayes: M. Teltow, J. Sexton, K. Furtaw, K. Simmons, S. Fortuna, A. Pacitto, and S. Zube  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried: 7 to 0

**13. CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSES OF NEGOTIATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 8(C) OF THE MICHIGAN OPEN MEETINGS ACT**

Motioned by S. Fortuna seconded by S. Zube, to go into Closed Session for the purposes of negotiations pursuant to Section 8(C) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, as presented in the attached documentation. Session began at 8:19pm.

Ayes: M. Teltow, J. Sexton, K. Furtaw, K. Simmons, S. Fortuna, A. Pacitto, and S. Zube  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried: 7 to 0

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

M. Teltow adjourned the meeting at 9:46 pm

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