

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
James Surowiec, Trustee
Margaret Teltow, Trustee

Brian J. Walmsley, Ed.S.
Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION **REGULAR** MEETING AGENDA

**7:00PM ON MARCH 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 11.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. BOARD MEMBER-APPOINTMENT ACCEPTANCE AND OATH OF OFFICE

Board member Surowiec was sworn in by Darlene McNicol, Notary Public, at 1:00pm on Sunday, March 13, 2022, in the presence of Board member Michon and Superintendent Walmsley.

Superintendent Walmsley ceremonially administered the *Oath of Office* to James Surowiec. Board member Surowiec took the following Oath of Office: *"I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the constitution of this State and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Member of the Board of Education of Richmond Community Schools Macomb and St. Clair Counties, Michigan according to the best of my ability."*

Superintendent Walmsley congratulated Board member Surowiec.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

4. MISSION STATEMENT

Mission statement read by Board member Pacitto.

5. ROLL CALL

Non-Discrimination Statement

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education amendments of 1972, Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title II of the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, and Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977, it is the policy of the Richmond Community School District that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, military status, national origin or ancestry, sex (including sexual orientation), disability, age (except as authorized by law,) height, weight, or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to, discrimination during any program, activity, service or employment. Inquiries related to any nondiscrimination policies should be directed to the Superintendent, 35276 Division Road, Richmond, MI 48062, (586) 727-3565.

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

5 – 0 Quorum of the Board

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board member Michon stated that agenda Item 8-B, Individual Wrestling Division 3 State Champion, and 8-C, Competitive Cheer Division 3 State Champions are being removed from the agenda to allow the students and coaches to attend the Regional Basketball game in Flint. These two agenda items will be moved to the March 28, 2022, Board meeting.

Motion by Board member Teltow to approve the amended *Agenda* as presented. Support by Board member Pacitto.

Discussion: None

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

7. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Board member Teltow to approve the *Consent Agenda* as presented. Support by Board member Pacitto.

Discussion: Superintendent Walmsley recognized the following:

Personnel Report:

Resignations and Retirements: David Finlay (ES/MS Music Teacher) is retiring. Judith McIntire, Purchasing and Accounts Payable Coordinator) is resigning at the end of the month.

Termination: None.

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

New Hires: Jill Gabridge (Special Education Paraprofessional).

Notice of Appointments (Previously Hired by the Board): Amanda Walden (Lunch Aide, currently in Childcare).

Superintendent Walmsley stated that Board member Zube brought to his attention an error in the 02-28-22 Regular Meeting minutes. A corrected version was emailed to the Board as well as in the official minutes of the Board.

Superintendent Walmsley stated there were no corrections to the 03-01-22 Special Meeting minutes or 03-09-22 Special Meeting Minutes.

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

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

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8. PRESENTATIONS

A. Richmond Lodge Grant Award

Mark Zink from the Richmond Lodges presented a \$500 grant from the Richmond Lodge to Krista Falk and Rebecca Hercula. The grant funds will support the IXL program at Richmond High School.

B. Overnight Trip Request to Spain

On behalf of Aimee Smallwood, Superintendent Walmsley presented a request for the Board to approve an overnight trip to Spain in April 2023.

C. Instructional Spotlight: Title I Program

Renee Ara, Executive Director of Curriculum and Educational Services, along with Lindsey McCoy, ES Title I Teacher, and Katie Kelly, MS Title I Teacher, presented an overview of the district's Title I program as well as gains made by the students

9. BOND UPDATE

Robert Naughton, Director PFM Financial Advisors LLC, presented to the Board of Education will:

- Review of remaining unissued bonds from 2019 vote
- Existing Debt
- Taxable Value growth history
- Millage projection without 2022 Bonds
- Millage projection with 2022 Bonds
- Method of sale alternatives
- Next Steps – including having a bond authorizing resolution presented at the April Board meeting

Gerry McClelland, Vice President/Project Director for AUCH Construction, presented an overview of the Summer 2022 Paving improvement and a recommendation on the recent bid openings for asphalt and cement work.

10. CLOSED SESSION FOR 031422 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 Pacitto 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 031422. Support by Board member Surowiec.

Discussion: None

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

Closed Session Started: 7:47 PM

Closed Session Ended: 9:27 PM

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11. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following members of the public spoke: None.

12. SUPERINTENDENT AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Superintendent Walmsley provided an update on district and legislative issues as follow:

House Education Committee Approves Changes to Michigan Merit Exam. Last Tuesday, the House Education Committee unanimously approved [House Bills 4810 and 4811](#). The bills would remove the required essay portion of the SAT as part of the Michigan Merit Examination. It also would remove the requirement that a school district or PSA include a student's MME score for each subject area on their high school transcripts. Finally, they repeal the duplicative language from the School Aid Act regarding the MME. Michigan Association of School Boards, along with the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals, supports the bill package as it would reduce state testing time and give students a choice in what they share with postsecondary institutions.

The bills are now before the full House for its consideration.

Posting of Constitutional Text Pass First Chamber. Last Thursday, the House passed [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.

The bill is now headed to the Senate for consideration.

Senate Education Committee Considers a List of Bills. The Senate brought up seven different bills for discussion and approval last Tuesday.

[Senate Bill 107](#) would encourage districts to use a Michigan Department of Education model instructional video on the dangers of opioid abuse in the ninth-grade curriculum. The bill was approved on a 6-1 vote and is now before the full Senate for consideration.

[House Bill 4326](#) would allow computer coding to be used for a foreign language credit under the Michigan Merit Curriculum. A few technical changes were made during committee debate and then the bill was approved by a 5-1 vote. It is now before the full Senate.

[Senate Bill 726](#) would shorten the period that retirees must wait before being eligible to be hired as substitute teachers without retirement benefit penalties. Currently, retirees must wait 12 months; under changes made in committee, that timeline would be reduced to one month. This change would expire on July 1, 2024. However, the State Office of Retirement Services raised some concerns about the changes. The committee agreed to work with the State Office of Retirement Services to fix it, and we expect the bill to come up again this week or next for a committee vote.

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[Senate Bills 940-941](#) make changes to laws for Oxford Community Schools for them to finish the year without facing penalties. They waive the days-and-hours provisions and the attendance threshold. They also would suspend the requirement to issue the Michigan Merit Exam and certain other state assessments, as well as teacher and administrator evaluations for this year. These bills were quickly approved and sent to the Senate for consideration. These are expected to be on a fast track through the Legislature.

[House Bill 5701](#) would change the reporting process for installing new temporary door lock devices in school buildings. This bill was approved easily by the committee and is now before the full Senate.

[House Bill 4953](#) would require MDE 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 then be required to disseminate the information. The committee added advanced placement courses to the list of items and approved the bill unanimously. It is now before the full Senate.

MDHHS Ends COVID-19 Infection Posting Requirement. Last Friday, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services [rescinded the order](#) from October 2020 that required all schools to post confirmed school-associated cases of COVID-19 on their websites. Schools will still proceed with the currently required reporting for communicable diseases, including confirmed and suspected COVID-19 cases to the local health department.

For MI Kids, For Our Schools Urges Against Petition Signatures on Vouchers. A group of organizations, including MASB, the Michigan Education Association and others, have joined together to form For MI Kids, For Our Schools to urge individuals to decline to sign the Let MI Kids Learn ballot petition. The coalition will be doing a full rollout of information and a website next week.

Currently, two ballot petitions are being circulated throughout the state that mirror the bill packages vetoed by the Governor in November 2021 ([Senate Bills 687-688](#) and [House Bills 5404-5405](#)). The two proposals submitted by *Let MI Kids Learn* would allow donors to receive tax breaks for donating to private education. The first petition would allow tax write-offs for contributions to scholarship granting organizations. The second petition would create student opportunity scholarships that parents could apply for. The petition drive would have to gather more than 340,000 signatures to be approved for the ballot.

Renee Ara, *Executive Director of Curriculum and Educational Services*, reported on the district's *March is Reading Month* initiatives at each building.

Superintendent Walmsley also reported the following activities as provided by the building principal.

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Richmond High School, as reported by Mr. Kastl, Principal

- March 17 is the St. Patrick's Day Lucky Charms Eating contest before School. Dr. Ladd is the reigning Lucky Charms Eating Contest Champion.
- Robotics is competing at Stoney Creek High School this past weekend in the Rochester Robotics Competition.
- RHS Concert band competed in the MSBOA competition at Anchor Bay and received first division ratings

Richmond Middle School and Will L. Lee Elementary School, as reported by Mr. Bartels, Principal, and Ms. Mangune, Principal

- Spring Conferences were a success

Will L. Lee Elementary School, as reported by Ms. Mangune, Principal

Superintendent Walmsley highlighted an article by *Michigan Mighty Meals*, in which Michele Girard, ES Cook, was quoted in the article.

Superintendent Walmsley reported receiving no from Mr. Rinehart, Director of Athletics, Facilities, and School Safety.

13. ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

None

14. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approval of Contracts for Richmond High Schools Paving Project: 32.1 Asphalt Paving & Concrete Curbs

Board member Simmons motioned to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award a contract to James P. Contracting, Inc., as outlined in the corresponding bid documents for Proposal 32.1 Asphalt Paving & Concrete Curbs, for an amount not to exceed \$591,215.00. Furthermore, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement within the scope of the project on behalf of the Board of Education.

Consistent with general provisions of the Board purchasing policy, the Superintendent is authorized to approve change orders on the project that are within the bond budget for allowances and contingency funds. This project is authorized in the application for Preliminary Qualification of Bonds, approved by the Michigan Department of Treasury and approved by the voters of Richmond Community Schools for which funding from the 2020 School Building and Site Bonds Series 1 is available. Supported by Board member Teltow.

Discussion: None.

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Roll Call Vote: Deborah Michon – Yes, Angela Pacitto – Yes, Kyle Simmons – Yes, James Surowiec – Yes, Margaret Teltow – Yes
Favor: 5, Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

B. Approval of Contract for Richmond High School Caulking Project

Board member motioned to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award a contract to Arisco Contracting Group, Inc., as outlined in the corresponding bid documents, for an amount not to exceed \$15,300.00. Furthermore, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement within the scope of the project on behalf of the Board of Education and is authorized to approve change orders on the project up to fifteen percent (15%) of the approved amount. Supported by Board member Simmons.

Discussion: Superintendent Walmsley reported that he did not expect to use the 15% for change orders but requested the variance from the Board approved amount to keep the project moving.

Roll Call Vote: Deborah Michon – Yes, Angela Pacitto – Yes, Kyle Simmons – Yes, James Surowiec – Yes, Margaret Teltow – Yes
Favor: 5, Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

C. Approval of Board Resolution for Student 031422 Discipline Hearing

Board member Pacitto motioned that following a Closed Session Student Discipline Hearing, the Board votes to suspend Student 031422, consistent with the attached resolution. Supported by Board member Teltow.

Discussion: None

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

15. ADJOURNMENT

Board member Michon adjourned the meeting at 9:39 PM.

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