

# 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 MINUTES

**7:00PM ON MARCH 28, 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 9.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**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 Zube.

**4. ROLL CALL**

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

5 – 2 Quorum of the Board

**5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. Michon stated that the agenda would be amended removing Agenda 7 – C, *Tyler Drives Student and Bus Tracking System* presentation, and Agenda 12 – E, Approval of *Tyler Drives Student and Bus Tracking System*. Presentation Agenda 7 - D will move to Agenda 7 – C.

Motion by Board member Zube to approve the Amended *Agenda* as presented. Support by Board member Sutton.

Discussion: None

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

### **Non-Discrimination Statement**

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## 6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

Discussion: Superintendent Walmsley recognized the following:

### Personnel Report:

Resignations and Retirements: Jill Gabridge (Special Education Paraprofessional) resigned. Ms. Gabridge resigned shortly after being approved by the Board at the March 14, 2022, meeting, before even starting. Janel Mueller (Special Education paraprofessional) is retiring March 31, 2022.

Termination: None.

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

New Hires: None.

Notice of Appointments (Previously Hired by the Board): None.

Superintendent Walmsley stated that were no corrections brought to his attention for the 03-14-22 Regular Meeting minutes.

Discussion: None

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

## 7. PRESENTATIONS

### A. Individual Wrestling Division 3 State Champion

Chris Rinehart, Director of Athletics, Facilities, and School Safety, on behalf of the board of Education, presented Kevin McKiernan a certificate of achievement for winning the Division 3, 171 lbs. weight class, State Champion. Mr. Rinehart also recognized coaches Brandon Day and Preston Treend.

### B. Competitive Cheer Division 3 State Champions

Chris Rinehart, Director of Athletics, Facilities, and School Safety, on behalf of the board of Education, presented the Richmond High School Competitive Cheer team each with a certificate of achievement for winning the Division 3 Competitive Cheer State Champion. Mr. Rinehart also recognized coaches Kelli Matthes, Melana Szczesniak, Jessica Hathcher, and Lauren Riggs.

### C. Athletic Department Presentation

Chris Rinehart, *Director of Athletics, Facilities, and School Safety*, presented an overview on football helmet reconditioning and reason for the need to purchase football helmets in a larger quantity than in years past.

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Mr. Rinehart will also present projected costs of individual sport programs in the district because of a discussion with the Board on January 24, 2022 (Agenda Item 9-C FY2022 *Athletic Budget Overview*).

**8. BOND UPDATE**

Brian Walmsley, Superintendent, reported that demolition has begun on new varsity softball field.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**10. SUPERINTENDENT AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

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

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

- Students have been enjoying mystery reader during March is Reading Month. Mr. Kochan, retired Principal, was one of many who have read to students.
- Teachers completed data protocols for winter NWEA and have been working hard to use that data to drive instruction.
- Title One Parent engagement night is Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup>..
- PBIS Moral Focus Assembly was Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. The virtue is on self-control.

*Richmond Middle School*, as reported by Mr. Bartels:

- First round for scheduling for the 2022-23 school year has taken place.
- Band students fitting for instruments for next year
- MS Science Olympiad Team competed last weekend
- Geography Bee next week

*Richmond High School*, as reported by Mr. Kastl:

- Interact Club has Spring Break Spirit week this week.
- The high school staff has distributed SAT PSAT study guides for students
- National Honor Society Induction Ceremony is scheduled for tomorrow (Tuesday, March 29, 2022)
- Robotics Tournament is this weekend on April 1 and April 2, 2022
- Successful Blue Devil Café opening on March 17, 18<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Special targeted audience will be on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and April 26<sup>th</sup> (Rotary)
- Open to the public beginning April 28<sup>th</sup> every Thursday and Friday from 11:00-1:00pm through Memorial Day.

*Curriculum and Instruction*, as reported by Renee Ara

- CTE Enrollment. Last school year, Richmond had twenty-one students leaving Richmond to attend CTE courses at other locations, such as New Haven and Pankow. With the addition of the

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District new CTE courses, Richmond has been able to successfully keep all students at Richmond for the 2022-23 school year.

- Attendance. A couple of months ago we reported the number of students absent from school and the impact that has on instruction. After targeted efforts by the building administrative teams, teachers, and support staff from December through February, Lee Elementary School saw a reduction of 346 absences, Richmond High School saw a reduction of 392 absence, and Richmond Middle school saw a reduction of 466 absences. In total, the District saw a reduction of absences of 1204.

Transportation, as reported by Suzanne Fulghum, Director of Transportation:

- Special thanks to Tim, Meagan and Dave who helped our partner district, New Haven, cover their elementary run for a few days after their morning runs in Richmond. We are extremely fortunate to have drivers that are able/willing to help when needed.
- Our MS Starbase field trip started back up in February. It was exciting for our drivers to be able to pick-up field trips, after not having them for about two (2) years due to Covid. Bus drivers were excited for our students to get back to Selfridge Air Base.

Food Service, as reported by Kathy Guiney, Food Service Director.

- For the month of February, the district's three kitchens served 18,801 meals. That is 340 more meals served in February 2022 than February of 2021, with one less serving day. Mr. Walmsley stated that he says this often, but these ladies and gentlemen are doing an outstanding job making sure all our students are fed. Especially when there are supply chain issues with some food and paper products.
- The District received a *Supply Chain Assistance Fund* grant for an amount totaling \$30,239.49.
- Unless legislation is passed at the Federal level, the free breakfast and lunch for all students will end this year. Beginning next year, 2022-23 we will operate as we did pre-COVID-19 where only eligible students will receive free or reduce-priced meals.

Athletics, as reported by Chris Rinehart, Director of Athletics, Facilities, and School Safety. No report provided.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request. There were no FOIA request since our last Board meeting.

Legislative Update

Last week was the legislature's last week of session before the spring break. House and Senate members will be home in their districts until Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Retirement Bills.

In the House, there was action last week on a pair of retirement bills the House has not discussed since this time last year.

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First, the Education Committee adopted a substituted version of HB 4375. This legislation would amend the Public-School Employees Retirement Act to allow retirees to return to work without a salary cap after sitting out for 12 months. This would remove the requirement that the retiree be hired back in a critical shortage discipline.

HB 4375 makes this change but reiterates the requirement for a bona fide termination of employment. This means that the employee must completely sever the relationship with their employer without a promise or a contingency offer to become employed at any public school district, ISD, PSA, tax-supported community or junior college, and in limited cases universities. This is current practice for retirees returning for critical shortage positions. To be clear, a bona fide termination of employment is currently required for those returning in critical shortage positions.

Additionally, HB 5536 is tie-barred to HB 4375. This bill would require the Office of Retirement Services (ORS) to prepare three different reports regarding retirees who are employed under the changes HB 4375 makes.

Infrastructure Bill.

In a late session last Wednesday night, the governor and legislative leaders came to an agreement on a bipartisan infrastructure supplemental. This funding was dedicated to drinking water, high-speed internet, housing, and state and local parks.

SB 565 would utilize \$4.7 billion in total, which is made up of \$3.1 billion federal covid relief funds, \$945.4 million federal infrastructure funds, and \$571.6 from the state federal general fund. The largest budget areas in this supplemental go toward the departments of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), and Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO).

The only school-related spending item in this supplemental is regarding water filtration devices. The legislature included \$50 million in federal covid relief dollars to establish a grant reimbursement program for schools. Funding will be provided for filtered drinking water stations, tap-mounted water filters, water filter pitchers, or universal cartridge water filters featuring molded collars for the purpose of filtering organic and man-made materials and chemicals from drinking water in locations of need. Grant recipients must provide a 50% match to be qualified for funding.

You may remember the “filter first” legislation that was moving towards the end of last year that would require schools and daycare centers to install all filtered bottle-filling stations and filtered faucets by the end of the 2024-25 school year. SB 184 states that this bill would not come into effect until the legislature appropriates funding for schools to comply with this requirement. State fiscal agency analysis estimated that the total cost for all schools and daycares to have filters would be \$78-88 million. This amount could be lower, as it is not certain how many schools and daycares would already have filters. The supplemental passed this week would only be \$50 million and requires a match from schools.

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However, to be clear, this week's passed supplemental does not *require* water filters, it only establishes the reimbursement program.

After SB 565 is signed by the governor, Michigan will have \$2.8 billion in federal funds left from the \$6.5 billion Covid relief funding we were allocated by Congress.

Bills We are Watching:

- Michigan Merit Examination: HB 4810 & HB 4811
- Oxford Community District Exemptions: SB 940 & SB 941
- Entrepreneurship: HB 4074
- Workkeys: HB 4037-8 and HB 4538

This Week's Introduced Bills

- HB 5939 (Beeler) Amends the definition of pupil to include pupils enrolled in a district other than their district of residence and whose parents or legal guardian is a member of the Armed Forces in a district's pupil membership.
- SB 984 (Ananich) Suspends the collection of sales tax on motor fuel. This bill we are watching as it has the potential to reduce revenue significantly from the school aid fund.

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

Board member Michon stated that on April 28, 2022, the Macomb County School Boards Association will be having their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner meeting and encouraged Board members to attend. She also thanks the teachers for opening their classrooms for her to read to them. Board member Michon asked Board members to review their calendars to send a couple of days in April to have a Special Meeting for a Board-Superintendent Relations workshop. Board member Michon stated she enjoyed eating at the Blue Devil Café last week with Mr. Walmsley, Mr. Thiel, and Ms. Schadd.

Board member Pacitto encouraged parents to reach out to their House and Senate members to get them motivated to settle our budget.

Board member Simmons. None.

Board member Surowiec – Absent

Board member Sutton thanks the seven classrooms she was able to read in last week.

Board member Teltow – Absent

Board member Sherri Zube thanked teachers that invited her to come read to the classrooms.

## 12. ACTION ITEMS

### A. Approval of Overnight Trip to Spain

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Board member Pacitto motioned to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the overnight trip request to Spain during the 2023 Spring Break, as presented during the March 14, 2022, Board meeting and outlined in the attached documentation. Supported by Board member Zube.  
Discussion: None.  
All in Favor: 5, Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

**B. Approval of Ratifying Resolution for the Sale of the Bonds**

Board member Zube motioned to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the “Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delegating the Sale of Bonds and Other Matters Relating thereto,” as outlined in the attached resolution and documentation. Supported by Board member Sutton.  
Discussion: None.  
All in Favor: 5, Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

**C. Approval of Teamsters 214/Richmond Administrators Association (RAA) Contract for 2022-23 and 2023-24 School Year**

Board member Sutton motioned to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the wages increases for Teamsters State, County and Municipal Workers, Local 214 - Administrators for 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years, as outlined in the attached documentation. Supported by Board member Zube.  
Discussion: None.  
All in Favor: 5, Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

**D. Approval of Football Helmet Purchase**

Board member Pacitto motioned to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the purchase of football helmets from Riddell Speedflex for an amount not to exceed \$13,171.70, as outlined in the attached documentation. Supported by Board member Zube  
Discussion: None.  
Roll call:  
All in Favor: 5, Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

Board member Michon adjourned the meeting at 7:45 PM.

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