

# Richmond Community Schools

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

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

Brian J. Walmsley, Ed.S.  
Superintendent

## BOARD OF EDUCATION **REGULAR** MEETING AGENDA

**7:00PM ON AUGUST 8, 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 Pacitto 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 Sutton.

**4. ROLL CALL**

Board member Sutton took roll call: Candess Cunningham – Present, Deborah Michon – Absent with Notice, Angela Pacitto – Present, Danielle Sutton – Present, Margaret Teltow – Present, and Sherri Zube – Absent with Notice.  
4 – 2 Quorum of the Board

**5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Board Vice President Pacitto requested to amend the agenda to remove item 12 and 13. Item 14 would then become item 12.

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

Discussion: None

All in Favor: 4. Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

### **Non-Discrimination Statement**

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## 6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

Discussion: Superintendent Walmsley recognized the following:

Personnel Report:

Resignations and Retirements:

- Carter, Katie, Central Office, Athletics, Facilities, School Safety Secretary, 2022-08-03
- Christensen, Rebecca, Great Start Readiness Program, 2022-08-05
- Christmas, Keith, Computer Tech / Lighting & Sound Tech, 2022-08-25
- Kastl, Andrew, High School Principal, 2022-08-05
- Pacitto, Steven, FTC Robotics Head Coach, 2022-07-11

Termination: None.

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

New Hires:

- Brown, Kaylynne, Will L. Lee Elementary School
- Carter, Katie, Central Office, Athletics, Facilities, Safety Secretary
- Fair, Kara, Richmond Middle School Assistant Cook
- Fitzgerald, Elizabeth, Richmond Middle School, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher
- Froehlich, Michael, Richmond Middle School, General Maintenance Custodian
- LaZare, Megan, Richmond Middle School, Art Teacher
- Master-Rogers, Julie, Will L. Lee Elementary School, Resource Room Teacher
- Menozzi-Kreft, Denise, Richmond Middle School Assistant Cook
- Nash, Eric, Richmond High School Math Teacher
- Rands, Lisa, Will L. Lee Elementary School, Computer and Network Technician
- Yost, Kayla Will L. Lee Elementary School and Richmond Middle School Music Teacher

Notice of Appointments (Previously Hired by the Board):

- Day, Brandon, Football, Junior Varsity Coach

Superintendent Walmsley stated no errors brought to his attention regarding the 2022-06-27 Special Board Meeting minutes and the 2022-06-27 Regular Board Meeting minutes.

Superintendent Walmsley stated there were no questions regarding the June and July's *Claims of Accounts*.

No discussion by Board members.

All in Favor: 4 Opposed: 0. Motion passed

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## 7. PRESENTATIONS

### A. 2022-23 Student-Parent Handbook

Renee Ara, Executive Director of Curriculum and Educational Services, presented an overview of the recommended changes to the 2022-23 Student-Parent Handbook.

During the presentation, Board member Teltow stated that Preston Treend's name was spelled incorrectly. In addition, Board member Teltow raised concern about requiring a parent's signature for a retake if the parent is not available or a participant in the child educational life. Superintendent Walmsley stated that his team will review the language and make amendments prior to the Board's approval of the handbook.

Board member Teltow asked if there would be any further discussion regarding the sub-committee of the Board who worked with administration to amend the consequences for possession and/or under the influence of marijuana. It was determined that the discussion was occurring at this Board meeting.

### B. 2022 Summer School Programs

Renee Ara, Executive Director of Curriculum and Educational Services, and Rebecca Hercula, Summer School Coordinator, presented an overview of the 2022 Summer School Programs.

### C. E-Sports Presentation

Renee Ara, Executive Director of Curriculum and Educational Services, presented an overview of E-Sports, which the district is launching during the 2022-23 school year.

### D. Professional Learning Communities Presentation

Renee Ara, Executive Director of Curriculum and Educational Services, presented an overview of a contract with Solution Tree regarding training Professional Learning Communities for building/department administrators and school improvement teams.

## 8. BOND UPDATE

Brian Walmsley, Superintendent, provided a bond update to the Board of Education.

- Curbs and gutters will be finished this week.
- Paving is scheduled to begin Thursday of this week. First home soccer game is Monday, August 22, 2022.
- Fencing is going up around the baseball fields.
- The current varsity softball field dug outs needed to be removed and new ones are going in, as previously reported to the Board. Contracts for existing contracted were amended to keep the project moving.

## 9. PUBLIC COMMENT

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- A. Brad Keegan stated that his preschooler is going to go to L'Anse Creuse Public Schools next school year because Richmond does not have enough preschool programs. He stated he wished there was a 3-day preschool program for three-year-olds.

Mr. Keegan also stated that an unintended consequence of PLC would be retention of teachers and feels the investment would pay off.

Mr. Keegan also stated that he is asking for help from the Board of Education regarding safety within the buildings. He would like to see more information put out to the public such as regular updates.

## 10. SUPERINTENDENT AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Superintendent Walmsley provided an update on district and legislative issues

Mid July the Governor signed the budget passed by the legislature. The budget was negotiated between the House, Senate, and State Budget Office, and Governor Whitmer. Overall, the budget comes in at \$19.6 billion and was a true compromise amongst lawmakers. The final budget is \$500 million less than the House, \$1.7 billion more than the Senate, and \$1.3 billion more than the Executive recommendations, respectively.

The major highlight is the foundation allowance increase of \$610 million, which is a \$450 per pupil increase over last year and brings the foundation allowance to \$9,150 per pupil. Just like last year, the foundation allowance is the same for all districts and the “gap” between districts is once again gone.

Alongside the foundation allowance increase, the final budget allocates significant dollars to At-Risk, increasing program funding by \$223 million and fully funding all eligible students at 11.5% of the foundation allowance, following the governor’s recommendation. (This contrasts with the original House and Senate budgets, which did not recommend an increase.)

Additionally, Special Education saw its biggest ever increase while also changing the funding formula, settling at 75% of the base foundation, plus a 28% reimbursement rate. Overall, this is a \$312 million increase – larger than both the Executive recommendation and the House’s proposed increase (the Senate’s budget did not include any increase). This was a priority for both MASA and MAISA, and while we believe the formula should be at 100% of the foundation, plus the reimbursement rate, this is a very good first step. This will equal a higher Special Education disbursement, while also implementing a simpler, more fair system for funding special education.

The final budget also made significant investments to address the teacher shortage, allocating resources for recruitment, including teacher fellowship programs. Specifically, the budget appropriates \$25 million for the MI Future Educator Fellowship Program and \$50 million for MI Future Educator Student Teacher stipends, which will pay eligible student teachers \$9,600 per semester. Also included was \$175 million for Grow Your Own programs, allowing districts and ISDs to provide no-cost

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pathways for support staff to become certified teachers. The final budget also included \$15 million for the Troops to Teachers program which was initially funded at \$50 million in the House budget. The budget also spends \$280 million in supplemental appropriations (2021-2022) for an Educator Fellowship Public and Private Provider fund to improve recruitment efforts for public and private educator prep programs.

Also included in the budget were:

- \$250 million for mental health initiatives
- More than \$200 million for school safety funding.
- \$1 billion into the Michigan Public School Employee Retirement System (MPSERS) for unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) contributions.
- \$10 million for Career and Technical Education reimbursements to districts and ISD's for vocational education programs.
- \$10 million to recruit and retain CTE teachers.
- \$34 million increase for the Great Start Readiness Program and increases the allocation per child for a full-day program to the standard foundation allowance (\$9,150).
- A 5.2% increase for ISD Operations, bringing total funding to \$75.6 million.
- \$25 million for before and after school programs using federal funds.
- \$1.3 million increase (\$26.5 million total) for English Language Learners services.
- \$5 million for a "learning pod" grant program where ISD's would be able to offer up to 2 summer programs for each interested student.

Notable boilerplate provisions that were included in the final budget:

- Section 8c: Prohibits MDE from requiring a cyber school pupil to participate in all educational hours and prohibits MDE from tracking a pupil's participation through attendance. The section contains intent language that is retroactive to July 1, 2021.
- Section 98a: This section requires instruction under an Extended COVID-19 learning plan but is not updated for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Overall, the budget is a positive step forward for our students and classrooms across the state and meets many funding priorities, including substantial increases in At-Risk, Special Education funding, and MPSERS. However, billions of dollars were left on the balance sheet, presumably to leave room for a potential tax cut agreement. Recognizing the concern that there is still much uncertainty regarding the record School Aid Fund revenue. We need to continue to advocate for investing as much revenue in the classroom as the state can afford, especially in this time of increasing inflation and numerous challenges our schools are facing head-on.

HB 4375 has been signed into law. HS4375 revises the law to allow retirees to return to work nine months after retirement and simultaneously draw their pension. The bill also removes the requirement for the retiree to be hired in a critical shortage position. The bill would exempt from the provisions of the bill any existing retiree who currently is working at a reporting unit, which would remove any earnings limitations or sunsets limiting how long that retiree could work during retirement. The

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concurrent version of the bill also clarifies that a school district means any district, not just the original district of the employee.

Today was the first day for Fall athletics. Good luck to our athletes.

Mark your calendars, the first day of School is Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, which is a half-day of school. September 7<sup>th</sup> is a full-day of school for students in grades K-12. The first day for 3- and 4-year-old preschool is Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. The 2022-23 school calendar is on the district's website.

Blue Devil Days for Richmond High School is on Monday, August 29, 2022, Richmond Middle School on Tuesday, August 30, 2022, and Will L. Lee Elementary School on Wednesday, August 31, 2022. Times are from 5:00-8:00pm for all three nights.

Finally, James Surowiec recently resigned from the Board of Education. I would like to thank him for the time he served on the Board and look forward to working with his replacement.

Ms. Ara discussed the preschool summer social program that is coming up on August 23, 2022, from 12:00pm-2:00pm.

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

*Candess Cunningham – None.*

*Angela Pacitto – None.*

*Danielle Sutton – Thanked the district for summer school program, her child loved the program.*

*Margaret Teltow – None.*

#### ~~12. CLOSED SESSION FOR 011022—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 \_\_\_\_\_ 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 011022—A. Support by Board member \_\_\_\_\_.~~

~~Discussion: None.~~

~~Discussion: None.~~

~~Board member Pacitto called for a vote: In Favor: 5. Opposed: 0.~~

~~5—0 Quorum of the Board~~

~~Closed Session Start: \_\_\_\_\_ PM~~

~~Closed Session: \_\_\_\_\_ PM~~

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~~13.~~ **ACTION ITEMS**

~~A. Approval of Board Resolution for Student 011022—A Discipline Hearing  
Board member \_\_\_\_ motioned that following a Closed Session Student Discipline Hearing, the  
Board votes to reinstate Student 011022— A, consistent with the attached resolution.  
Support by Board member \_\_\_\_.~~

~~Discussion: None.~~

~~Board member Pacitto called for a vote: In Favor: 5. Opposed: 0. Abstention: 1.  
5—0 Quorum of the Board~~

14. **12. ADJOURNMENT**

Board member Pacitto adjourned the meeting at 8:19 PM.

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