

# 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  
Sandra Fortuna, Trustee  
Margaret Teltow, Trustee

Brian J. Walmsley, Ed.S.  
Superintendent

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

**7:00PM ON SEPTEMBER 12, 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: Candess Cunningham – Present, Sandra Fortuna – Present, Deborah Michon – Present, Angela Pacitto – Present, Danielle Sutton – Present, Margaret Teltow – Present, and Sherri Zube – Present.

7 – 0 Quorum of the Board

**5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Discussion: None

All in Favor: 7. Opposed: 0. Motion passed.

**6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

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

### **Non-Discrimination Statement**

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Discussion: Superintendent Walmsley recognized the following:

Personnel Report:

Resignations and Retirements:

▪ Askew, Terri	Bus Driver	2022-09-06
▪ Denison, Richard	Custodian	2022-08-30
▪ Rineer, Michael	NHS Advisor (Schedule B)	2022-08-26
▪ Dailey, Pam	Community Liaison and PowerSchool Coordinator	2022-09-30

Termination: None.

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

New Hires:

• Badalamenti, Barbara	Lunchroom Supervisor	2022-09-07
• Barker, Krista	Custodian	2022-09-12
• Canaday, Brandi	Lunchroom Supervisor	2022-09-07
• Giancola, Sydney	3-year-old Preschool Aide (AM)	2022-09-07
• Peebles, Sarah	Lunchroom Supervisor	2022-09-07
• Pinch, Cary	First Lego League Coach	2022-09-12
• Swartz, Trisha	GSRP Lead Teacher	2022-08-26
• Walden, Lauren	Childcare Aide (AM & PM)	2022-09-12
• Wareham, Amaya	Childcare Aide (AM & PM)	2022-09-07
• Wilson, Ian	Custodian	2022-09-12
• Yost, Zachary	Social Studies / Spanish Teacher	2022-09-02

Notice of Appointments (Previously Hired by the Board):

• Akerley, Shelly	Culinary Arts Paraprofessional	2022-08-26
• Abdalhakiim, Khayriyyah	English Learner Paraprofessional	2022-08-26
• Day, Brandon	Fall Event Facilitator	2022-08-23
• Day, Brandon	Assistant Football Coach (MS)	2022-08-23
• Kelly, Kathleen	March is Reading Month Advisor	2022-09-12
• Merrill, Heather	Staff Health & Wellness Chairperson	2022-09-12
• Roseberg, Kristen	GSRP Associate Teacher	2022-08-31
• Wycinski, Jolie	Staff Health & Wellness Chairperson	2022-09-12

Superintendent Walmsley stated no errors brought to his attention regarding the 2022-08-22 Regular Board Meeting minutes.

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Superintendent Walmsley stated there were no questions regarding the Claims and Accounts brought to his attention.

No discussion by Board members.

All in Favor: 7. Opposed: 0. Motion passed

## 7. PRESENTATIONS

### A. Spotlight on Instruction: English Language (EL) Learners

Renee Ara, Executive Director of Curriculum and Educational Services, and Dawn Makar, Director of Student Support Services, presented an overview of the district's English language (EL) learners and programs and services provided by the district to support EL students and their families.

### B. FY2023 Budget Update

Brian Walmsley, Superintendent, and Tammie Schadd, Director of Business and Management Services, will present an update on the impact to the district's FY2023 general fund budget following the Board of Education's approval of the 2022-school year budget on June 27, 2022, and the legislature and governor adoption and signature of the 2022-23 School Aid Budget in July.

Documents to present:

- House Fiscal Agency Projected Budget Impact

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Column Title</u>
\$450	Est. Per-Pupil Foundation Increase
\$9,150	Est. FY2022-23 Foundation Allowance
\$668,793	Est. Total Foundation Payment Change
\$0	Est. Sec. 22d Rural District Change
\$155,135	Est. Sec. 31a At-Risk Change
\$168,017	Est. 31aa mental Health Per-pupil Payment
\$258,922	Est. Special Education Reimbursement Change
\$28,556	Est. 61a Career and Technical Education Change
<u>\$168,017</u>	<u>Sec. 97 School Safety Per-pupil Payment</u>
\$1,467,439	Est. Total Change

- Master FY2023 Document with Enrollment Projections – 2022-09-12
- Projected GF Budget Change as of 2022-09-22
- Preliminary Head Count

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## Board Discussion as to allocate funds

The board would like to see what the total FTE is over the anticipated 11 FTE that was budgeted for. A discussion took place regarding giving a one time payment to all employees and possibly giving an allocation to athletic teams. The board discussed putting money away for anticipated contract negotiations in the coming years in order to retain employees by providing a salary increase.

Mr. Walmsley stated that he will look in to staff pay increases, provide a more accurate budget, off schedule payments for employees, increasing the budget for band, art, choir, and robotics programs in addition to athletics, and a communications person or contract.

Ms. Fortuna stated that she would like to see the counselors meet with each high school student for 30 minutes regarding career guidance.

Ms. Cunningham stated the buses are too crowded and they would like to see a two tiered busing system.

### C. MASB Fall Conference Discussion

Board member Cunningham presented a request that the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Fall Conference be discussed for the Board to consider approval and allocation of funds for Board members to attend. Mr. Walmsley suggested that the board allocate \$5000.00 for board of education MASB classes.

## 8. BOND UPDATE

None.

## 9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Cheryl Jahr – Member of the REA. The discussion on what to do with the extra funds was interesting. Staff would love bonuses but please consider classroom allowances of maybe \$100.00. it would be a good moral booster for staff and students.

## 10. SUPERINTENDENT AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Superintendent Walmsley provided an update on district and legislative issues

[Source MASB's News from the Capitol]

### 1. Retired Educators: Return to Michigan Schools With Zero Earning Limitations

Last month, Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB), along with other education organizations, issued a press release [encouraging retired educators](#) to review recent changes to state law making it easier to return to schools across the state with zero earning limitations.

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In July, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed the law, Public Act 184 of 2022, adjusting the time period for retirees to be able to be hired to substitute from a year to nine months. It also removes the critical shortage list allowing retirees to return wherever needed and the requirement that districts pay the *Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL)* costs for that retiree. This went into effect on July 25, 2022.

Due to the teacher shortage, there continues to be a legislative push to eliminate the 9-month waiting period.

## **2. Second Voucher Petition Submitted, Pass School Board Resolution Opposing Vouchers**

Last week, the [Let MI Kids Learn](#) coalition turned in the second petition of the two-part ballot proposal. The first petition, turned in two weeks ago, would create "student opportunity scholarships." The second would establish a tax credit for student opportunity scholarships.

These signatures will have to be reviewed by the Secretary of State and then will go before the State Board of Canvassers for approval. If approved the Legislature will then have 40 days to consider the petition and could adopt it. If they do not act, it will be placed on the [November 2024 ballot](#).

The [For MI Kids, For Our Schools Coalition](#) continues to inform the public and legislators of the negative impacts of both proposals and how they violate the Michigan Constitution by creating indirect state aid to nonpublic schools.

### **State Board of Education Candidate Forum**

State Board of Education Candidate Forum will be held at the MISD on Tuesday, September 27, 2023 beginning at 7:30pm. The MISD is located on Garfield and Hall Road. Tim Skubick will moderate the question-and-answer forum between Pamel Pugh (D), Tami Carlone (R), Mitchell Robinson (D) and Linda Lee Tarver(R). I strongly encourage members of the listening audience to educate themselves of the candidate running. We need strong public education supporters in Lansing.

### **Macomb Intermediate School District**

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, election Day, the Macomb Intermediate School District will be asking voters to approve a Special Education Bond Proposal. The purpose of the special education bond proposal is to construct, renovate, and update facilities where Macomb County's special education students go to school and receive specialized support. Over the years, Richmond Community Schools has students that attended these programs for all or part of their day, so Richmond will benefit from the passage of this bond.

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Special Education students range from birth to age 26 and are eligible for services under disability areas, such as Autism, Deaf-blindness, Emotional Impairment, Cognitive Impairment, Severe Multiple Impairment, Physical Impairment, Specific-learning Disability, Speech and Language Impairment, Visual Impairment, and Traumatic Brain injury.

For the average Macomb County homeowner, the cost of the 0.17 mill special education bond proposal will be less than \$20 per year...or about 5 cents per day. I support and hope our community will support this special education bond proposal, as it will support our special education population with the most need.

### **Macomb County Clerk's Office Needs Election workers**

I meet with Anthony Forlini, last Wednesday. November 8, 2022 is Election Day and County Clerk Forlini is projecting a large voter turn-out for both in-person and absentee ballots. He ask me to For staff, community members, and our students who are 16 years old and over, that are off on November 8, 2022, please consider signing up to be an election workers.

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

- The first week off school was a great success. Enrollment has increased at both Lee and Richmond Preschool.
- NWEA testing begins next week. Teachers will use this data to further drive their instruction.
- The Richmond Marching Band will be performing a set for Lee Elementary on Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> to kick off the school year.
- Mrs. Mangune and Mr. Gibson was at the dunk tank at Good Old Days on Saturday.

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

- Great first week, lots of smiling faces
- Picture Day on Friday is complete
- Meet the Teacher - Clubs and Organizations set up information booths - first time ever
- Held - First Fire Drill
- Fall Sports have begun

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- Safety Patrol sign ups occurred with starting program soon.

### **Richmond High School, as reported by Ms. Szabo:**

- Picture Day #2 (to make up for Blue Devil Night) - Monday, September 12 beginning at 8:00am
- Seniors painted their parking spots on the first day of school with the support of Ms. Smallwood, parents and siblings
- Manufacturing Day partner established with L&L Products out of Romeo. 30 students and 2 adults will be attending on Thursday, October 6
- Powderpuff Football Game: Monday, September 19 at 6:30pm. Students are signing up at lunches. Practices start next week.
- Spain trip sponsored by Ms. Smallwood is taking place during Spring Break (March 31-April 9) and discounted registration has been extended until September 28.
- NWEA testing will begin on Tuesday, September 13 and continue until the end of the month in English and math classes.
- Teachers were trained in Kagan Cooperative Strategies during the professional development days and have spent the week implementing class/community building and teambuilding activities to foster a positive classroom environment.

### **Car Crash Incident**

At around 1:30pm I received a telephone call from the Richmond Police informing me that there was a car chase down Division Road by Lowe Plank. The car was being chased by another police agency. The car crashed and the suspect fled on foot. The police have a perimeter set-up. When I asked if the district needs to be in lock-down or lock-out, I was told there was no need to implement our protocols.

Within 10 minutes, I emailed the Board, Building and Department administrators and Secretaries and other key individuals to let them know of the situation and what the police had said. I reminded secretaries to make sure they were following the district protocol for letting visitors in and out of the building, which is to ask visitors to state their name and purpose for wanting in the building.

At 2:50pm, received a 2<sup>nd</sup> call from the Police stating the search was called off and that there was no threat to the school, and that there was no indication that the suspect was armed or

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dangerous. "It was a routine traffic stop." At this time, MS and HS had already dismissed, and ES was dismissing.

Since the incident began, I have received two calls from parents and an email from one Board members. When emergency occur, we make decisions based on the information at hand. I personally was not on scene and did not have first-hand knowledge of what was happening. I had no reason to doubt the information the Police were saying or providing me. The Richmond Police have always had an outstanding relationship with the District, and vice versa. We work together during emergencies.

Yes, ultimately it was my decision not to lock down, lock-out, or prevent individuals from leaving the campus. It was based on the information I had. I do not use social media to gather my facts, as we have seen all too often, social media rumor spread like wildfire. I rely on facts from a reliable source. I would like to thank the Richmond police for keeping the school informed with factual information.

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

*Board member Cunningham stated she thought the parade was a lot of fun and thank you to the staff that joined. She also wanted to discuss Blue Devil Night at the middle school. All the tables set up with extracurricular information was very helpful.*

*Board member Fortuna stated that she had a fun time at the Good Ole Days Parade on Sunday.*

*Board member Michon stated she would also like to say she had a good time at the parade and it was a lot of fun. She also said it was a very positive event for all.*

*Board member Pacitto stated she also had a great time at the parade.*

*Board member Sutton stated that she will not be present at the next meeting.*

*Board member Teltow stated she had a good time at the parade and that this year's parade was very positive. She thanked the staff that joined in the parade this year. She also wanted to acknowledge that Mr. Treend has had two different groups, fire and police, raise the flag during games. Next, he is having VFW members raise the flag.*

*Board member Zube had no comment.*

## **12. ACTION ITEM**

### **A. Approval to Purchase Gymnasium Graphics from Print All**

**Board member Teltow motioned to  
Cunningham Support  
Discussion: None.**

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Board member Michon took a roll call: Candess Cunningham – YES, Sandra Fortuna – YES, Deborah Michon – YES, Angela Pacitto – YES, Danielle Sutton – YES, Margaret Teltow – YES, and Sherri Zube – YES.

7 – 0. Motion passed

B. Approval to Purchase Electronic Marquess from Curb Appeal, Inc.

Board member Teltow motioned to Fortuna

Discussion: None.

Board member Michon took a roll call: Candess Cunningham – YES, Sandra Fortuna – YES, Deborah Michon – YES, Angela Pacitto – YES, Danielle Sutton – YES, Margaret Teltow – YES, and Sherri Zube – YES.

7 – 0. Motion passed

C. Authorization for Thrun Law to Investigate Board Policy Violation

Board member Teltow motioned to Fortuna

Discussion: Ms. Michon asked Ms. Sutton if she contacted Center Line as a board member. Ms. Sutton said no and Ms. Michon asked why did she get an email on this issue saying that she is a board member.

Ms. Sutton did say she was calling as a board member because she didn't want to trick the staff member in to thinking she was a random person. She stated she filled out FOIA forms. Ms. Michon said you did violate a board policy then stating you need permission from the whole board to ask questions.

Ms. Sutton said I did identify myself as a board member just so that she knew.

Ms. Teltow said when you called and stated you're a board member and ask questions about something that is the superintendent's responsibility. She stated that if she had questions about the process, you should have contacted the superintendent.

Ms. Sutton stated she asked Mr. Walmsley for a back up document and she didn't get the documents she needed.

Ms. Zube asked if she didn't identify herself as a board member would you be concerned.

We do have a responsibility to vote on the hires, we should have questions, and go to Brian.

Ms. Teltow asked Ms. Zube so what is our responsibility, to challenge a hire recommendation and challenge the process.

Ms. Sutton stated her questions to centerline was that she wanted Brian to provide documentation based upon the fact of rumors or talk on the new hire, and safety. Ms. Sutton wanted to see documentation from hiring process.

Ms. Pacitto wants to be able to trust employees and hiring committee and it is not our job to question the hiring process or team. You have a right to vote no instead of looking in to hiring documentation from the previous documentation.

Ms. Teltow asked why she doesn't feel like she does anything wrong.

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Ms. Zube asked Mr. Walmsley if he was aware of the request. Mr. Walmsley stated that he wasn't aware until the Superintendent of Center Line called him stating that a board member called the district.

Ms. Teltow said she sees no need in having an investigation done, and Ms. Sutton already admitted she represented herself as a board member.

Ms. Pacitto stated is there a way we can get more information presented in the back up documentation. Sometimes things get grey and maybe Danielle didn't know she was representing the board.

Ms. Michon stated she would never talk with Mr. Walmsley on the phone she will only communicate in writing. Ms. Michon feels that Ms. Sutton should have met with Mr. Walmsley in person with another board member. You over stepped the policy stating you were a board member.

Ms. Sutton said if I overstepped it by being transparent than I did it.

Ms. Teltow said you did it because you weren't happy with the choice of the candidate. Ms. Sutton admitted she called as a board member so I don't think its necessary for the investigation.

Ms. Zube asked if we are still allowed to ask about new hires.

Mr. Walmsley said that we will lose trust with employees if we have them start before the board approves them. You now violated my contract twice. I'm the leader of this district but your putting my credibility in to contract. I don't care if you're an average citizen who calls school boards on a hire. You have a history of saying one thing and doing another. Ms. Sutton said you attacked my credibility, and you attacked my contract twice.

Mr. Walmsley said I demand the board follow my contract. The board is attacking my character you had the backup in the board documents.

Ms. Sutton said you could have answered my questions.

Ms. Pacitto said you were accusatory and agres if your questions. I will not tolerate people violating policy or his contract. This is the second time that we spent unnecessary time eacue you cant follow policy. Do you want to be part of the team or not

Ms. Teltow stated as a board can we say moving forward we will not violated board policy.

Ms. Pacitto said we had a closed session months ago with this issue.

Ms. Michon said as a group can we agree we ill follow board policy moving forward.

Motion was withdrawn by ms. Teltow

Board member Michon took a roll call: Candess Cunningham – YES, Sandra Fortuna – YES, Deborah Michon – YES, Angela Pacitto – YES, Danielle Sutton – YES, Margaret Teltow – YES, and Sherri Zube – YES.

7 – 0. Motion passed

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**13. ADJOURNMENT**

Board member Michon adjourned the meeting at 9:54PM.



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