

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

Board member Michon stated that this past Monday, the Richmond Community Schools lost a student, Nathan Fecteau, an 11th grader at Richmond High School, who passed away after a lengthy battle with cancer. The Board's condolences went out to the family and friends of Nathan during this time of loss and grief. After a moment of silence, Board member Michon stated that a memorial service for Nathan will be held at Kaatz Funeral Home in Richmond on October 1st from 1-7pm.

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 Pacitto.

4. ROLL CALL

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

5 – 0 Quorum of the Board

Non-Discrimination Statement

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5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Discussion: None

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

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

Discussion: Superintendent Walmsley recognized the following:

Personnel Report:

Resignations and Retirements:

Bartels, Keith	Principal	2022-09-30
Sutton, Jessica	Paraprofessional	2022-09-26

Termination: None.

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

New Hires:

Franz, Samantha	Theater/Musical Assistant Director	2022-10-03
Kilpatrick, Colleen	PM Custodian	2022-10-03
Nowak-Owens, Glenda	Lunchroom Supervisor	2022-10-03
Petz, Christina	Science Teacher	2022-10-03
Zagacki, Miranda	GSRP Associate Teacher	2022-09-19

Notice of Appointments (Previously Hired by the Board):

Delore, Ed	Freshman Class Advisor	2022-09-21
Delore, Ed	Sophomore Class Advisor	2022-09-21
Laratonda, Nancy	Health & Wellness Chair	2022-09-21
Rineer, Michael	March is Reading Month	2022-09-21
Rineer, Michael	Green School/Club Coordinator	2022-09-21
Roodbeen, Brian	Senior Class Sponsor	2022-09-21
Shagena, Kari	Junior Class Advisor	2022-09-21
Walters, Autumn	Spelling B Advisor	2022-09-21

Superintendent Walmsley stated no errors brought to his attention regarding the 2022-09-12 Regular Board Meeting minutes.

No discussion by Board members.

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

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7. CLOSED SESSION TO CONSIDER MATERIALS EXEMPT FROM DISCUSSION OR DISCLOSURE BY STATE OR FEDERAL STATUTE PURSUANT TO SECTION 8(E) OF THE MICHIGAN OPEN MEETINGS ACT

Pursuant to Section 8(e) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, Board member Teltow motioned that the Board of Education go into Closed Session to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute. Support by Board member Fortuna.

Discussion: None.

Board member Michon called for a roll call vote: Candess Cunningham – Yes, Sandra Fortuna – Yes, Deborah Michon – Yes, Angela Pacitto – Yes, and Margaret Teltow – Yes.

No opposition. No abstention.

5 – 0 Quorum of the Board

Closed Session Started: 7:06 PM

Closed Session Ended: 8:12 PM

8. PRESENTATIONS

A. SMART Renewal Millage Presentation

Jeffrey White, Chief of EMS for Richmond and Lenox Township, presented information on the SMART renewal millage that will appear on the November ballot.

B. FY2023 Budget Update

Brian Walmsley, Superintendent, and Tammie Schadd, Director of Business and Management Services, will continue the conversation of 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.

Topics to discuss, following the Board of Education conversation at the September 12th Board meeting includes:

- B2 5-Year Cohort Enrollment Projection
- B3 5-Year Per Pupil Foundation Projection (\$150 per year increase)
- B4 Communications Director
- B5 Projected Contract Costs and Extensions
 - Custodians
 - Early Childhood
 - Food Service
 - Non-union
 - Paraprofessionals
 - RAA - Richmond Administrators Association
 - REA - Richmond Education Association

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	Secretaries	
	Transportation	
B6	“Bonus” for Employees	
	\$104,649.60	1% per employee budgeted salary
	\$24,651.85	\$100 per employee
B7	Athletic Budgets	
B8	Tiered Bussing and Schools of Choice Bus Stop Riders	

9. BOND UPDATE

None.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Beth Stemmerich stated that she has a concern regarding her children using the bathroom at school. She stated that other students are hesitant to use the girl’s bathroom now. She would like to know the precautions the district has in place to prevent students from being sexually assaulted.
- Rev. Kim Newport is a member of NAACP and stated she is a nonbinary lesbian. She stated she has received emails from youth being bullied and marginalized because of how they identify. She stated she is tired of officiating funerals for youth that can no longer keep fighting and this is a life-or-death topic. She stated that she hopes the Board acts for LGBTQ+ youth to protect them.
- Rev. Traci Bartell spoke asking for the Board and the community to lead with love and justice and to uphold the non-discrimination clause printed on the agenda. She asked the Board to consider the safety of all students, particularly ones oppressed and bullied. She stated that falsehoods are being spread about members of the LGBTQ+ community, particularly transgender students. She stated her hope is for everyone to be treated fairly and respectfully.
- Kelly Oldani stated she has two sons in the district, and she preaches inclusion in her house and feels the district must protect all students district wide. She read a quote from the United Nations page regarding violence against women and girls. She said a girl should be comfortable going to the women’s restroom.
- Cynthia Thornton is the president of *Pride at Work Michigan*. She said she has been proud of the students taking it upon themselves saying enough is enough with discrimination. She stated that everyone needs to take it upon themselves to learn and that discomfort equals learning. She hopes everyone can move forward not comfortably but with an open mind. She hopes all staff members and community members tries to understand LGBTQ students. She stated that comparing LGBTQ person to sexual assault is unacceptable and hopes the board and staff push back. There is training all over the state for LGBTQ issues.

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- Scott Deblouw stated this is a sensitive subject and that he has two daughters at home. He stated his daughters are uncomfortable using the restroom because the school lets transgender students use them. He said every student should feel comfortable using a bathroom in school because they do not like males coming in the girl's restroom. He said the kids need to feel comfortable using a restroom.
- Mercury Stubblefield stated that she was a junior at Lake Orion High School. Mercury counted the number of times people were talking about Mercury at school over a period of time and it ranged from seventeen times to twenty-eight times. Mercury stated it is not a matter of transgender people sexually assaulting other people, anyone is capable of it. It is a matter of just wanting to use the restroom. It hurts that the transgender students being called sexual predators. Transgender students do not use the public restrooms because of violence and bullying so often they use the main office bathrooms because that is where they feel safe.
- Amy Stier stated that it was not about transgender students using the restroom or being sexual predators, it is about the need for all students to feel safe.
- Wendy Pulaski stated that there needs to be money spent on education and stopping this hate towards transgender students. She stated that this discrimination is the problem and parents need to be educated on these issues.
- August Mullen-Rutledge stated that she is the target of all these issues that are being discussed today. She stated that they just want to be treated as the gender that they identify with and does not feel that its right she is being seen as a sexual predator. She stated that she is targeted on the streets and called names. She stated that she hopes information about acceptance is spread through the community.

11. SUPERINTENDENT AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Superintendent Walmsley provided an update on district and legislative issues.

Superintendent Walmsley reference a statement made by Board member Michon regarding the passing of Nathan Fecteau, an 11th grader at Richmond High School. Nathan Fecteau passed away after a lengthy battle with cancer. His condolences go out to the family and friends of Nathan. During this time, as the school community processes the tragic news and copes with grief, we will offer counseling and support to our students and staff. Superintendent Walmsley continued stating for the listening audience, a student death is a difficult and challenging situation that can generate anxiety and distress in some students. Richmond wants all parents to be aware of the situation so that they may discuss this with their child. There is no way to predict how this tragedy might affect your child, but changes in behavior might be a signal that your child may need assistance to deal with the death of a friend.

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Superintendent Walmsley state that as a school community we are saddened by Nathan's passing. District wide, our counselors, social workers, and teachers have been offering support to our students. If any parents feel further follow-up with their child would be helpful, please call the school. Families may also take advantage of our *Student Assistance Program* through CARE of Southeastern Michigan by calling (586) 541-2273. CARE is available to provide counseling sessions and assistance in coping with loss to students.

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

- NWEA testing has started.
- Lee Elementary School had a great turn out at the homecoming parade
- Preschool has been remarkably busy as they end the first month of school! Parents have been amazing following the arrival and dismissal procedures. They have had no parents parking in the bus loop and arrival and dismissal has been smooth. Ms. Mangune and Mr. Gibson wanted to recognize Preschool parents for that!
- Preschool is planning a trip to Westview Orchards for their fall field trip on Wednesday, October 5th, more information will be sent home.
- Childcare has been remarkably busy! They have been averaging 60-70 students/per day in the afternoon. Ms. Blanco, Lead Childcare, has been doing an excellent job organizing the students and running the program.

From Richmond Middle School, as reported by Mr. Bartels

- NWEA has started
- Middle school had an excellent homecoming pep assembly last week
- Grade 6-8 had an outstanding professional development through Amplify
- PTA organization is planning for *Boo Bash*, an annual event at Richmond Middle School

From Richmond High School, as reported by Ms. Szabo

- Over fifty invitations went out today to students to invite them to participate in Manufacturing Day on October 6th. Students were selected based on their Educational Development Plans (EDP) from Xello. Students who were interested in career fields in engineering, research and development, product development, chemistry and automation, and welding were invited. There are thirty seats available, on a first come, first serve basis.
- Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) held their first meeting this week.
- National Honor Society sponsors were selected, and one advisor is from the middle school in hopes of building a cohesive/joint middle school and high school program.
- PSAT/NMSQT letter went out to 11th graders regarding testing on October 12th.
- Devils Den is now open!
- Finally, Homecoming was a success! Bonfire, Powderpuff, Spirit Days, Parade, Football Game, it was a wonderful week.

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While there was no legislative action, several bills were introduced, which are:

- [House Bill 6393 \(Clements\)](#) provides funding to an eligible nonprofit organization to contract with an eligible vendor for implementation of firearms detection software on school property and the use of the services provided through a certain center.
- [House Bill 6411 \(Paquette\)](#) amends certain requirements concerning eligibility to serve as a substitute teacher.
- [House Bill 6405 \(Hertel\)](#) creates an urban forestry program for high school students.
- [House Bill 6418 \(Yaroch\)](#) recommends a model core academic curriculum content standards for health education and certain guidelines for health education.
- [House Bill 6378 \(Harris\)](#) creates a future educators scholarship program.
- [Senate Bill 1174 \(Hollier\)](#) prohibits high school and post-secondary institutions from preventing an amateur athlete from earning compensation for the use of his or her name, image, or likeness

12. ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board member Cunningham stated she wanted to echo what Board member Pacitto said and they have another meeting tomorrow night that has the candidates for the State Board of Education members.

Board member Fortuna stated she has no comments.

Board member Michon stated she would like the community to know that the district does have a transgender policy, 5106, and it can be located on the district website. She would like to encourage people to read the policy.

Board member Pacitto stated that she was able to attend the county legislative meeting with Board member Cunningham last week at the ISD and encouraged other board members to attend.

Board member Teltow stated she has no comment.

13. ACTION ITEM

A. Approval of Laptop Purchase from Sehi Computer Products, Inc.

Board member Teltow motioned to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the purchase of one hundred laptops from Sehi Computer Products, Inc. for a total

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not to exceed \$41,500, allowable under the ESSER III, and authorized in the FY2023 General Fund, as outlined in the attached documentation. Supported by Board member Fortuna.
Discussion: None.

Board member Michon took a roll call: Candess Cunningham – YES, Sandra Fortuna – YES, Deborah Michon – YES, Angela Pacitto – YES, Margaret Teltow – YES, 5 – 0. Motion passed

14. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Michon adjourned the meeting at 9:54pm.

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