

# Richmond Community Schools

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

Sarah Gillies, President  
Jessica Sexton, Vice President  
Angela Pacitto, Secretary  
Kyle Simmons, Treasurer  
Kristine Furtaw, Trustee  
Margaret Teltow, Trustee  
Sherri Zube, Trustee

Brian J. Walmsley, Ed.S.  
Superintendent

## BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

6:30PM, JUNE 5, 2019 IN THE MEDIA CENTER OF RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

S. Gillies called the Meeting to Order at 6:31pm

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of Education led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 3. MISSION STATEMENT

A. Pacitto, Secretary read the District's Mission Statement, *"At Richmond Community Schools, we provide a quality education that empowers students to be successful in a global community."*

### 4. ROLL CALL

A. Pacitto, Secretary, took Roll Call

Present: A. Pacitto, S. Gillies, J. Sexton, K. Simmons, M. Teltow, S. Zube

Late with Notice: K. Furtaw

Quorum: 6-0

### 5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motioned by S. Zube seconded J. Sexton to approve the Agenda as amended.

Ayes: A. Pacitto, S. Gillies, J. Sexton, K. Simmons, M. Teltow, S. Zube

Motion Carries: 6 to 0

### 6. PRESENTATION

#### A. Facilities Assessment and Bond Discussion

Mr. Walmsley presented information regarding the potential bond for November 2019. He presented information regarding the structural needs of each building, needed repairs, and the total cost to make the necessary repairs and upgrades. He also discussed athletic needs and facility upgrades and improvements for each building. Mr. Walmsley addressed the Board of Educations' questions from the previous Board meeting.

#### **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 Gillies asked if it's possible to put away \$50,000 a year for when the turf has to be replaced in ten years. Mr. Walmsley stated he is unsure of budget for next year, but we can plan now to allocate the money for the purpose of the turf based on projected budget increase from the state.

M. Teltow asked if maintenance is \$5,000 a year for turf and \$3,000 extra is as needed or recommended of the company, does it come to \$8,000 a year? B. Walmsley said that part of the cleaning and maintenance can be done in house to save money if the Board chose. Maintenance must be documented but doesn't have to be done by company. S. Zube asked how long warranty is, Mr. Walmsley said it depends on product, usually 8-10 years. M. Teltow asked who would be responsible for maintenance? Mr. Walmsley stated it would be contracted, or done in house by someone we hire.

S. Gillies asked what the cost is for the field now and its \$8,300 currently and roughly \$8,000 for turf. M. Teltow asked what the plan is for moving the weight room at middle school. B. Walmsley stated it will become a classroom space for future growth; art, STEAM, or a room for future growth not necessarily typical classroom.

M. Teltow asked about what the food service equipment is at Lee. B. Walmsley stated the items with high repair costs would be replaced. M. Teltow stated the need is there due to failing equipment and this would save us from having to use money from the general fund later.

M. Teltow asked about the dugouts that are being budget for. Mr. Walmsley stated that two dugouts on softball field have to be replaced immediately as well as allocating money to baseball field for dugouts as well as repairing the fence that's damaged.

K. Simmons asked the idea for the high school weight room. Mr. Walmsley stated that the idea is to remodel the area with the locker rooms or expand and remodel the existing locker rooms and have it be attached to the new aux gym.

S. Gillies asked what happens to the money that's budgeted for the AUD if we decide not to spend it there. Mr. Walmsley said the ballot will be worded so that the money may be allowed to be allocated to other areas.

R.J Naughton from PFM Financial presented a financial overview on the potential bond issue for Richmond Community Schools. He presented information on Richmond's ability to pay for the bond, the millage rates, and the effect on property tax.

Mr. Walmsley would like to know if the board is interested in going for a bond in November and if the board would like to hire a firm to help market the bond.

M. Teltow would like to have a discussion regarding the timeframe of the bond. She would like to know if the Board would like to have a vote in November, or not.

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S. Gillies would like to go to a November election and would like to budget 50k year for the turf. She would also like a three series bond and a consulting firm.

A. Pacitto agrees with S. Gillies, she feels turf is a great investment in the district due to decreased maintenance cost and benefit for students. She feels all the investments and modifications, and renovations would benefit the district and the students.

J. Sexton asked if anyone has been through this sort of a notice to go to a bond in November. Answer was no, but stated she was on board with November since we would have a second chance in May.

S. Gillies stated she is listening to professionals and community members that have come to the meeting, and we have another chance in May if the November election fails.

S. Zube stated she agrees but was hesitant at first, now that there is community interest it makes her more comfortable with November.

K. Furtaw stated that the information that she received during the second meeting was different than the first, she thinks a consultant should be hired, she feels that the public support is reassuring. She feels the three series bond is something we need to go after.

K. Simmons stated from the beginning he was an all-in from the beginning. He addressed the crowd and stated that we need the help of everyone in the crowd to help us pass this bond. He supported the three series bond as well.

M. Teltow stated going in November makes her very nervous but if the board decides to do this she will support it. She said that we should proceed with caution and educate the community on everything involved with the bond. M. Teltow stated she doesn't believe a turf field is needed but she will support the board's decision. She stated she is also nervous about setting \$50,000 a year for future turf needs.

S. Gillies stated that she is nervous as well, but she thinks setting the money aside is an investment for the future students of Richmond.

K. Furtaw stated that there are other costs associated with the existing field that would need to be addressed in the near future which having a turf field would avoid.

K. Simmons addressed the crowd and encouraged everyone to reach out to community members to vote.

S. Gillies stated November is the consensus of the Board with a three series bond.

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## 7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Teresa Ranger addressed the Board regarding the district bond stating that the teachers and Local 1 will back the bond issue in full if the board decides to go forward with a bond. She stated the REA will put a bond committee together to address the community. They will send post cards, social media, sign placements, sharing bond info at school events, and any other support they could offer.

Kelly Matthes addressed the Board in support of the bond as a community member, coach, and parent of Richmond Community Schools. She stated the robotics program and athletic programs have support for the bond.

Kim Jureau addressed the Board asking the percentage of the turf compared to the rest of the bond. She voiced concerns with middle school security and would like parents to focus on this issue. She would like enrollment projections stressed more to community members. She asked if the needs of the district will be met until 2028, if so the community should know this. She would like dumpsters relocated at high school and would like bleachers on guest side redone.

Nick Matthes addressed the Board stating the benefits of the potential bond passing for the robotics team. He stated that the football field now has a higher injury rate than a turf field.

## 8. ACTION ITEM

### A. Authorization for Superintendent to complete the required documentation for a Bond and submit to the Department of Treasury

Motioned by J. Sexton seconded by K. Simmons to authorize the Superintendent to complete and submit the necessary documentation, utilizing the resources of French & Associates, Auch Construction, PFM Financial, Thrun Law Firm, and Stanfred Consulting, as required by the Department of Treasury, in order to place a \$38.9 million-dollar bond on the ballot for the November, 2019

**Discussion:** RJ Naughton added that the actual bond amount is \$38.71 million and not \$38.9 million

J. Sexton withdrew original motion: K. Simmons supported

**Discussion:** M. Teltow added that a huge pieced of the bond is adding security to the middle school.

Motioned by J. Sexton seconded by K. Simmons to authorize the Superintendent to complete and submit the necessary documentation, utilizing the resources of French & Associates, Auch Construction, PFM Financial, Thrun Law Firm, and Stanfred Consulting, as required by the Department of Treasury, in order to place a \$38.71 million-dollar bond on the ballot for the November, 2019 election.

### **Roll call:**

Ayes: K. Furtaw, S. Gillies, A. Pacitto, J. Sexton, K. Simmons, M. Teltow, S. Zube

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Motion Carries: 7 to 0

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

S. Gillies adjourned the meeting at 7:45pm.



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