

Minutes of the Board Meeting of December 16, 2024
Richards Independent School District

The Board of Trustees met in a meeting on Monday, December 16, 2024.

Members Present: Wendy Graves, Phillip Burnett, Britney Ketkoski, Reed Edelman, and Jeannine Shead.

Members Absent: Beau Conner and Dan Hardin.

Also Present: Superintendent Michael Smith and Principal Delynn Decatur.

Agenda Item #1 – Wendy Graves called the roll and meeting to order at 7:02 PM, Jeannine Shead arrived at 7:20 PM.

Agenda Item #2 – Phillip Burnett gave the invocation.

Agenda Item #3 – Visitors and guests were recognized with no public comments.

Agenda Item #4 – Phillip Burnett made the motion and Reed Edelman seconded to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting held on November 21, 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 – Phillip Burnett made the motion and Reed Edelman seconded to approve the amended minutes of the Board Meeting held on August 15, 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 – The art students from Mrs. Wilson's class were recognized as the Mid-South Calendar Contest Winners. Eight of our students won the contest and their art work was featured in the Mid-South 2025 Calendar.

Agenda Item #7 –

- a. Mr. Tennison gave an update on athletics by talking about the basketball teams and upcoming events including baseball. Coach Cook and Coach Corolla are doing an amazing job!
- b. The finance reports were reviewed.
- c. Mrs. Decatur gave the Principal's report speaking about the enrollment, EOC and STAAR testing, Ascender Discipline Program and the Reading Academy. The Christmas Parade was a huge hit and the Pep Squad has been amazing! Mrs. Decatur also announced upcoming events including the Christmas Play, Christmas Spirit Week and Homecoming. She met with the FFA, Student Advisory Team, NHS and PTO about their ideas and events.
- d. Mr. Smith gave the Superintendent's report speaking about the Health Inspector visit, Cafeteria Audit, TASB Board Conference, new part time help for Mrs. Decatur, LASO Strong Foundation Grant and the new weather station installed by Mr. Arnold. Mr. Smith also discussed maintenance needs and improvements including the concession stand ice machine filter, no smoking signs installed, Entergy adding lights on poles, adding school zone signs, and flooring repairs.

Agenda Item #8 – The 2023-2024 Annual Audit Report was presented by Eric Carver from Axley and Rode.

Agenda Item #9 – Jeannine Shead made the motion and Phillip Burnett seconded to approve the 2023-2024 Annual Audit Report as presented by Eric Carver from Axley and Rode. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #10 – Reed Edelman made the motion and Britney Ketkoski seconded to approve the District of Innovation Plan. Motion passed unanimously. The plan includes the school start date, student transfers, contracted service dates, teacher certifications and bank depository.

Agenda Item #11 – Jeannine Shead made the motion and Britney Ketkoski seconded to approve to add Michael Smith to sign contracts with the Board President for future land purchases. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #12 – Phillip Burnett made the motion and Jeannine Shead seconded to approve the letter to the Texas Department of Agriculture to give Amanda McMillian the title of Director of Nutrition. Motion passed with Reed Edelman abstaining.

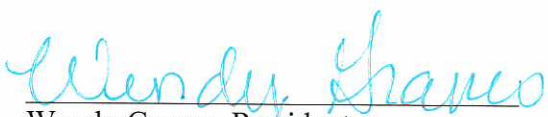
Agenda Item #13 – The School Safety Update was reviewed during Executive Session.

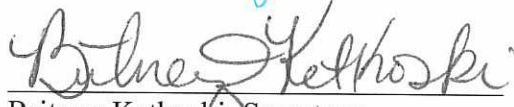
Agenda Item #14 – The discussion of the future opportunities of land for purchase was done in Executive Session.

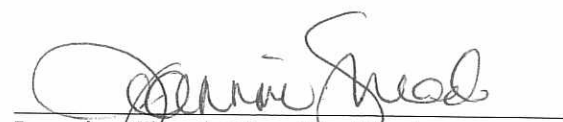
Agenda Item #15 – The RISD board entered into Executive Session at 8:04 PM and closed at 8:39 PM.

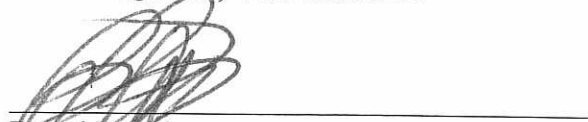
Agenda Item #16 – No action.

Agenda Item #17 – Reed Edelman made the motion to adjourn and Phillip Burnett seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 PM.


Wendy Graves, President


Britney Ketkoski, Secretary


Jeannine Shead, Vice-President


Board Member