

Board of Education
Special Public Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 11, 2026 – 5:30 pm
1st Floor Boardroom and via Zoom

Present:

Chairperson	K. Hamaguchi
Vice Chairperson	H. Larson
Trustee	R. Belleza
Trustee	D. Sargent
Trustee	D. Tabolotney
Trustee	D. Yang
Superintendent of Schools	C. Usih
Secretary Treasurer	C. Wang
Assistant Superintendent	C. Brautigam
Assistant Superintendent	R. Laing
Assistant Superintendent	M. Naser
Assistant Superintendent	B. Thompson
Executive Director, Human Resources	T. Major
Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)	T. Lee

Regrets:

Trustee	A. Wong
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The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 5:39 pm.

The Richmond Board of Education acknowledged and thanked the First Peoples of the hən̓q̓əmiñəm language group on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.

1. Adoption of Agenda

071/2026 MOVED BY D. YANG AND SECONDED H. LARSON:

THAT the Monday, May 11, 2026 special public agenda of the Board of Education be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from Prior Minutes

(a) **MOTIONS**

(i) **Amendment to Draft 2026/27 Annual Budget – Mental Health and School Psychologist**

Trustee Yang spoke to his report as included in the agenda package and provided rationale for the motion.

072/2026 MOVED BY D. YANG AND SECONDED H. LARSON:

THAT the Board of Education amend the draft 2026/27 Annual Budget to reverse the proposed budget adjustments of Teacher Consultant - Mental Health (1.0 FTE) and School Psychologist (0.2 FTE);

AND FURTHER THAT the Board allocate \$153,000 from operating surplus or contingency reserve to fund the amendment.

Discussion ensued regarding the motion, including the impact of proposed staffing changes on student supports and service delivery, and alignment with district priorities.

A trustee stated they would not support the amendments, noting concerns regarding budget impacts and alignment with district priorities.

Following discussion, trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED

NEGATIVE: D. SARGENT, D. TABOLOTNEY

Amendment to Draft 2026/2027 Annual Budget – District Inquiry Grant

Trustee Yang spoke to his report as included in the agenda package.

073/2026 MOVED BY D. YANG AND SECONDED H. LARSON:

THAT the Board of Education amend the draft 2026/27 Annual Budget to allocate \$20,000 from operating surplus or contingency reserve for the District Inquiry Grant.

Discussion ensued regarding the motion, including its funding source, alignment with district priorities, and whether it was necessary given existing commitments.

Following discussion, trustees voted on the motion.

DEFEATED

NEGATIVE: K. HAMAGUCHI, D. SARGENT, D. TABOLOTNEY

(b) **MOTION – Helpdesk Analyst Position Retention**

Trustee Belleza spoke to his report as included in the agenda package and provided rationale to the motion.

074/2026 MOVED BY R. BELLEZA AND SECONDED H. LARSON:

THAT the Richmond Board of Education amend the 2026/27 Annual Budget to retain Helpdesk Analyst position with 1.0 FTE;

AND FURTHER THAT the Richmond Board of Education allocate \$92,000 from the unrestricted Board Reserve to fund this position.

Discussion ensued regarding the motion, including the position's role in supporting district operations and user needs, operational restructuring, and sustainability concerns. Following discussion, trustees voted.

CARRIED

NEGATIVE: D. SARGENT, D. TABOLOTNEY

(c) **MOTION – Retention of District Administrator Position (DEI, Indigenous Success, and Student Voice)**

Trustee Larson spoke to her report as included in the agenda package and provided rationale for the motion.

075/2026 MOVED BY H. LARSON AND SECONDED D. YANG:

THAT the Board of Education amend the draft 2026/27 Annual Budget to retain the current District Administrator position for DEI initiatives, supervision of Indigenous Success staff, and student voice (1.0 FTE);

AND FURTHER THAT the Board allocate \$223,000, from operating surplus or contingency reserve to fund the amendment.

Discussion ensued regarding the motion, including the position's role in supporting district priorities and operations, and concerns related to budget pressures and fiscal sustainability. Following discussion, trustees voted on the motion.

DEFEATED

NEGATIVE: K. HAMAGUCHI, D. SARGENT, D. TABOLOTNEY

(d) 2026/27 Annual Budget Strategies were attached for information.

3. Adjournment

076/2026 MOVED BY D. YANG AND SECONDED BY D. TABOLOTNEY:

THAT the special public meeting of Monday, May 11, 2026 of the Board of Education be adjourned at 7:10 pm.

CARRIED

K. HAMAGUCHI
Chairperson

C. WANG
Secretary Treasurer