

# BOARD BRIEFS

Dr. Allen Bourff, Superintendent

April 10, 2013

## WORK SESSION

The Future of Richmond Community Schools: Approximately thirty parents and community members discussed the following questions in small groups facilitated by School Board members. Listed below the questions are some of the responses received. To see a complete list of the responses please click this link [The Future of RCS](#).

### **What would you like a child to experience in our schools?**

- More student/parent accountability
- Anti-drug program
- Calm environment
- Consistent learning structure for each student
- Micro Society experience in all schools
- Life skills learning
- Exploration of a variety of things
- Advanced Placement/high ability and vocational needs

### **What should our schools look like in the next five to ten years?**

- More communication/partnership between teacher/parent/community/student
- More recess/better equipment/facilities for physical education
- Technology upgrades/state of the art without becoming technology dependent
- Enhanced vocational options
- Primary themed/magnet/schools of choice
- Educational map should be publicized (four year blocks)
- SAT prep available to all sophomores
- Extra-curricular clubs early

### **What should a child know or be able to do as a result of his/her enrollment in the Richmond Community Schools?**

- Trust faculty in regards to educational promises
- Be employable at graduation
- Fear drugs/jail
- Well prepared/equipped for a successful life
- Don't be afraid to ask questions
- Know where your resources are
- High school can help with next steps/post high school connection and commitment
- Be able to articulate

Discussion also included that test scores were not in the responses and that there is a gap in the measurements used by the community and the measurements used by the schools and the state. Dr. Bourff stated that we have closed some gaps and that there is a need to work towards a balance. The Board discussed input received from the groups including equal opportunities for all students, culture of the classrooms, length of day, empowering teachers and giving them flexibility to provide experiences and build relationships with students, the joy of teaching and learning, advocating for public education, and other topics. Dr. Bourff stated that next steps include incorporating common themes discussed at this meeting into a survey that will be distributed to parents and community members soon. Conversations will continue after the results from the survey are received.



## CONSENT ITEMS

Approval of Minutes: Approval of March 27, 2013 Board Meeting and Executive Session Minutes.

It is the policy of Richmond Community Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age or disability in its educational programs or employment policies.

## FOLLOW UP—OLD BUSINESS

- Member Heiny provided information on Richmond's Stellar Communities grant application and noted that Vaile Elementary School is included.
- Officials of the Excel Center and the YMCA will do a walk-through of the C. R. Richardson building on Friday, April 12, 2013 to determine how it could be divided to serve the needs of both programs.
- RCS did not receive the Head Start grant. The grants were re-awarded to all existing Head Start providers in the state.