

**St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
November 16, 2022**

The St. Helens School District Board of School District #502 convened in a Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on November 16, 2022. This public meeting was observable at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_g7mm0dQ9SE2hjucke6FM3Q.

Members of the community interested in addressing the Board were invited to do so during the meeting or by emailing the Board of Directors at: sb502@sthelens.k12.or.us with a summary of the topic they wish to address and to request prior to 5:00 on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, then a Zoom meeting link would be provided.

PRESENT

Those present were:

Melody Killens, Board Chair
Bill Amos, Vice Chair
Trinity Monahan, Board Member
Ryan Scholl, Board Member
Kellie Smith, Board Member
Colton Freeman, Student Board Representative
Scot Stockwell, Superintendent
Jessica Seay, Director of Fiscal Services
Kristi Ward, Executive Assistant

Absent:

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Killens called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Bill Amos moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ryan Scholl seconded; the motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

- Keith Meeuwsen, President of the St. Helens Education Association (SHEA) read a letter to the Board from a group of elementary teachers. In the letter, the teachers requested that the following issues be addressed:
 - The increased amount of work and time being asked of teachers
 - An increase in extreme student behaviors
 - The lack of substitutes
 - A general feeling that the powers that be in the district have not been as supportive as need be
 - A feeling that supplies and curriculum need to be more available
 - Morale is low and people want to feel more supported and that their voices are being heard

CONSENT AGENDA

Ryan Scholl entered a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Bill Amos seconded; the motion to approve the consent agenda carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- Emelia Watkins, SHHS ASB Public Relations Representative, provided the Board with an update about the events and activities taking place at SHHS. She reported that Thankfulness week started on the 14th, the Leadership Team attended the OASC Conference, and there was a great turnout for Winter Guard auditions. There will be a blood drive the first week of December, and several band and choir events. Winter Spirit Week will take place the week of December 12th.
- The District Principals informed members about the work, activities and planning taking place at each school:
 - Dr. Katy Wagner reported that at SHHS:
 - 181 students qualified for the honor roll this quarter, and of those, 52 had a 3.5 GPA or higher.
 - The level of response from staff on the Climate and Culture survey conducted was good. The top four words chosen by staff to describe SHHS were: welcoming, respectful, warm and safe.
 - The survey also revealed that 60% of students think it is OK to try drugs and 56% think it is OK to get drunk. A focus will be placed on these perceptions and on putting supports in place, in partnership with Columbia County Health and others, to address education and prevention.
 - Cris Gwilliam reported that at SHMS:
 - Students are enjoying a Spirit Week this week, and there will be a School Social Hour on Friday with a movie, dance and other activities.
 - There is a high level of boys' basketball participation this season; enough to fill three teams.
 - A focus is being placed on improving department level Professional Learning Teams (PLT's), and the Teaching & Learning team is providing some coaching and guidance to support that work.
 - Jennifer Vanderschuere reported that at Columbia City Elementary:
 - They will soon welcome a new teacher, which will reduce 4th and 5th grade class sizes.
 - Ms. Korpela and Ms. Ramos spearheaded a successful Career Day which students really enjoyed. Students will get to participate in a follow-up project with a local engineer to help birds and squirrels causing power outages to remain safe and away from problem areas.
 - They are placing a focus on reducing student behaviors by using the Conscious Discipline model, Character Trait work, and restorative practices.
 - There has been an increased number of staff and student illnesses, so they will conduct a deep clean over the holiday.
 - Roger Fink reported that at McBride Elementary:
 - The staff worked hard, with the support of parent volunteers, to create a wonderful Fall Festival for students.
 - Students are making terrific progress in reading, per the school data, and there will be a continued effort to continue that trend. Mr. Fink noted that a volunteer known to students as "Grandpa Richard" is a

part of that work, as he comes every day for several hours to read with students and is very appreciated.

- Mr. Fink thanked the District for committing to the AVID program.
- Martine Barnett reported that at Lewis & Clark Elementary:
 - Staff and the PTO hosted a wonderful Halloween Carnival that was well supported and attended.
 - They now have a teaching job share in place so that both music and art are now available to students.
 - The team is focusing on preparing for conferences next week and is looking forward to having families in the school.
- Matt Doyle, Director of Academic Programs, presented the Board with an annual Student Investment Account (SIA) update. He provided members with a list of allowable uses for the funds, and the budget priorities currently in place for the District. He included a list of resulting student impacts:
 - Enhanced wellness rooms in the elementary schools
 - Professional development that is improving educator effectiveness
 - Increased attendance at the middle and high schools
 - A Family Resource Center (FRC) liaison for family support
 - A substantial increase in student activity participation

Matt reported that he has a District team in place that has been working with him in a number of community engagement efforts to include student and parent phone interviews, Parent Cafe's for Spanish-speaking parents, listening sessions and interviews with local business partners. He outlined next steps, and described the way this work will also support the District strategic planning process.

- Andy Bonesz and Elizabeth Gonzalez from Soderstrom Architects presented the Board with an update regarding the interior finishes that have been selected for the SHHS renovation project. They provided samples of the finish materials, and listened to suggestions. The finish samples were left at the District Office so that staff and community members could get a closer look at them.
- Jessica Seay, Director of Fiscal Services, asked that members, acting in their role as the Local Contract Review Board (LCRB) to approve the use of materials the contractors wish to use on the SHHS renovation project without engaging the competitive bidding process. The materials included the HVAC system, paint and the Public Announcement System. The findings about these materials were provided to the board in advance of the meeting. There were no questions or comments.
- Superintendent Stockwell reviewed the Oregon School Board Association (OSBA) Legislative Priorities and Principles Resolution which requires an annual vote by member Districts. The resolution and preamble were provided to members in advance of the meeting.
- Superintendent Stockwell reopened the discussion about renting the Chiles Center for the 2023 SHHS graduation ceremony. Colton Freeman worked with SHHS Civics teachers to poll his fellow seniors and their families to obtain opinions about the location of the graduation. He reported that 56.3% of students prefer to keep it local, but 60% of parents would prefer to move it to the indoor, offsite venue. Members discussed the input recently received from high school staff, which was that much planning has already taken place by this time each year. Members discussed the matter and a consensus was reached that any change in graduation venues

should be decided in the spring of the year prior, and that it is too late to make that change for the 2023 ceremony, so it will remain in St. Helens.

- Superintendent Stockwell reported that there have continued to be delays to the SHHS renovation project due to supply problems.
- Superintendent Stockwell noted that we have entered the cold/flu/COVID and hand, foot and mouth disease season, so please remember to be diligent with hand washing and other precautions, and choose to stay home/keep your student home if any symptoms are present.

ACTION ITEMS

- Bill Amos entered a motion to approve RESOLUTION 2022-23 #8 - GRANTING AN EXEMPTION FROM COMPETITIVE BIDDING PURSUANT TO ORS 279B.075(2) TO PERMIT SELECTIVE SOLE SOURCE MATERIALS AS A PART OF A FACILITY RENOVATION PROJECT. Ryan Scholl seconded; the motion to approve carried unanimously.

Item#	Motion	Board Member	Yes	No	Notes
9.1	Entered a motion	Bill Amos	X		
9.1		Melody Killens	X		
9.1	Seconded the motion	Ryan Scholl	X		
9.1		Trinity Monahan	X		
9.1		Kellie Smith	X		

- Bill Amos entered a motion to approve the Resolution to Adopt the OSBA Legislative Priorities and Principles. Ryan Scholl seconded; the motion to approve carried unanimously.

Item#	Motion	Board Member	Yes	No	Notes
9.1	Entered a motion	Bill Amos	X		
9.1		Melody Killens	X		
9.1	Seconded the motion	Ryan Scholl	X		
9.1		Trinity Monahan	X		
9.1		Kellie Smith	X		

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

- No requests to address the Board were received.


UPCOMING MEETING INPUT

December 14, 2022 – Regular Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

- Policy Updates
 - CB – Superintendent
 - JHC – Student Health Services

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Killens adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.



Melody Killens, Board Chair



Scot Stockwell, Superintendent