

St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
December 7, 2021

The St. Helens School District Board of School District #502 convened in a Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on December 7, 2021. This public meeting was observable on: <https://youtu.be/VcLP3g142hs>. 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 the Zoom meeting link prior to 5:00 on Tuesday, December 7, 2021.

PRESENT

Those present were:

Ryan Scholl, Board Chair
Melody Killens, Vice Chair
Bill Amos, Board Member
Trinity Monahan, Board Member
Kellie Smith, Board Member
Scot Stockwell, Superintendent
Jessica Seay, Business Manager
Kristi Ward, Executive Assistant

Absent:

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Scholl called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Melody Killens entered a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Bill Amos seconded; the motion to approve the agenda carried with “aye” votes from Melody Killens, Bill Amos, Trinity Monahan, and Ryan Scholl. Kellie Smith was unable to vote due to an inoperable audio feature.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

- None were present. Chair Scholl read questions presented via email by Paul Hayduk. Mr. Hayduk inquired about:
 - Improving lighting in the SHHS parking lots
 - Public announcements from the District when calendar changes occur
 - Whether the District is currently allowing volunteers
 - Why the SHHS building modifications plans have changed, and how long the bond funding is available for spending
 - Whether the District can keep gyms open for sports during winter break

Superintendent Stockwell replied:

- The District would appreciate volunteers in all of our schools at this time. Background checks and proof of vaccination or application for exceptions are required, and invitations have been sent to District families.
- He committed to assessing the exterior lighting at the HS with the Maintenance Director and to take whatever action is needed to keep students and the community safe.

- He noted that the bond project updates will be provided by the architects at a Board meeting in the near future. The current design has reduced the cost overage projection. He noted that he welcomes a meeting with Mr. Hayduk to answer any additional questions about the project.
- Superintended Stockwell observed that due to the delay in abatement at the HS, the gym will be available for use through February, so winter sports can continue as usual until then.
- The District will continue to try and improve communication to the community regarding scheduling changes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Melody Killens entered a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Kellie Smith seconded; the motion to approve the consent agenda carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- Colton Freeman updated the Board regarding the activities taking place at SHHS. He reported that Homecoming was in-person and well-attended this year and the accompanying Spirit Week fundraisers were quite successful. There has since been a Thankfulness week and blood drive, and current effort is being made on a Giving Tree for local families. Winter Spirit Week activities will take place the last week in January.
- The District Principals informed members about the work, activities and planning taking place at each school:
 - Dr. Katy Wagner updated members about the start of the school year at SHHS to include successes in:
 - An event by the NHS, Chor Leonis and the Culinary Art team Country competition that resulted in over two thousand dollars being raised for each program.
 - Many students did well on the PSAT and SAT's taken in October.
 - The SHHS staff recently reviewed safety protocols and the threat assessment system. There will be some drills going forward, in partnership with our first responders, and those will be posted in advance.
 - Cris Gwilliam provided an update regarding the school year start at SHMS to include the following successes:
 - The MS clubs and sports teams are now fully staffed. Yearbook started today and has already reached the max enrollment.
 - The band program at the MS has been very successful. Both the beginning and advanced band will have a concert in the next two weeks.
 - The MS team continues to work in the student intervention and student management programs.

Martine Barnett, Jennifer Vanderschuere and Roger Fink provided an Early Learning and Elementary team report including:

- Pollinator Lessons were given to 4th grade students in all the elementary schools by guest presenters.

- There were exceptional attendance rates by parents and students for parent-teacher conferences last month.
 - There has been a great connection rate with families via the Parent Square platform being used by the District; it is currently registering a 98% connection rate.
 - Some challenges being faced by all three schools includes:
 - Student behaviors and escalation due to distress
 - Attendance and tardiness
 - Increased rates of illness
- Dani Boylan reported that the Early Learning program:
 - Has now filled the 3 job openings that were open at the start of the school year.
 - A fundraiser is in the works for teen parents for the purpose of providing a year of cloth diapers to new parents.
 - The partnership with the Scappoose SD and the Children's Institute is growing and thriving.
 - There will be monthly activities for the Ready Freddy Program which pairs preschool and Kinders together to aid in the preparation of the students that will transition into Kindergarten in the fall.
- Jennifer Bartocci, the Special Programs Secretary, McKinney Vento Liaison, and Foster Care Liaison provided an update regarding the Family Resource Center (FRC). She noted that she works with Rosa Gonzalez, the District Family Resource Liaison, and that their offices are in the FRC. She outlined the services available being made available, and the importance of the partnerships held with other community groups. An Open House is planned for Spring of 2022. She welcomed the Board and the community to come visit any time.
- Chair Scholl noted that members had continued the review a packet of policy updates recommended by OSBA. Those include updates to policies:
 - AC – Nondiscrimination
 - BBAA – Individual Board Member's Authority and Responsibilities
 - BD/BDA – Board Meetings
 - BDDH – Public Comment at Board Meetings
 - CM – Compliance and Reporting on Standards
 - DJC – Bidding Requirements
 - GBA – Equal Employment Opportunity
 - GBEA – Workplace Harassment
 - GBNA/JHFF – Suspected Sexual Conduct with Students and Reporting Requirements
 - GBNA/JHFE – Suspected Sexual Conduct Report Procedures and Form
 - IA – Instructional Goals
 - IB – Freedom of Expression
 - IGBHA – Alternative Education Programs
 - IGBI – Bilingual Education
 - IIA – Instructional Resources/Instructional Materials
 - IJ – School Counseling Program
 - IKF – Graduation Requirements
 - IKFB – Graduation Exercises
 - IL – Assessment Program

- JB – Equal Educational Opportunity
- JBB – Educational Equity
- JECB – Admission of Nonresident Students
- JFC – Student Conduct
- JFCF – Hazing, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Menacing, Cyberbullying, Teen Dating Violence, or Domestic Violence – Student
- JFCJ – Weapons in Schools
- JHFE/GBNAB – Suspected Abuse of a Child Reporting Requirement
- JHFF/GBNAA – Suspected Sexual Conduct with Students and Reporting Requirements

There were no questions or comments.

- Jessica Seay, Business Manager, provided members with a review of the proposed ESSER II and III funded capital expenditures. A list was discussed during the Budget training process earlier in the year, and reviewed by ODE. The list includes HVAC installs or upgrades, voice amplification, intercom improvements and clocks, and playground improvements. There were no questions or comments.
- Jessica Seay provided a proposal for the 2022-23 Budget Calendar. She reported that all budget committee positions are currently vacant. Melody Killens noted that the Third Budget meeting, if needed, might conflict with graduation activities. Jessica noted that the third meeting has not been needed for the last few years. Superintendent Stockwell suggested leaving it on the calendar as a placeholder for now. Trinity Monahan appealed to the community that the Budget Committee position is a great way to support the school district, and urged community members to consider taking advantage of the opportunity to serve.
- Jessica Seay described the role of the budget committee members and listed the term lengths for each of the five positions, as they stand.
- Superintendent Stockwell reported that the District continues to look for ways to increase options for students to include the virtual academy, Plymouth HS as an option school, multiple CTE programs, a medical CTE program in progress and others. He would like to help students and families become aware of these options and therefore would like to hear ideas from the Board about options they would like to see and for getting that information to the community. Kellie Smith noted that she has received many inquiries about whether St. Helens Virtual Academy students can attend dances at SHHS, participate in the graduation ceremony, and take in-person classes if that will help them be more successful. Dr. Wagner reported that they can do so. They are working with Stacey Mendoza to increasingly communicate notice of those activities to the virtual academy students. Bill Amos and Trinity Monahan expressed their wish to see as many opportunities made available as possible.
- Superintendent Stockwell noted that the District is still very understaffed, though many positions are posted, and that there is a serious shortage of subs. The staff is therefore very frazzled while trying to cover empty classes. Other Districts are choosing to alter the current school calendar by offering some non-contact days for staff so that they have some additional time to properly prepare for classes and for additional social-emotional training. Superintendent Stockwell asked the Board to allow him to work with the two associations and District Leadership team to provide one day a month for this purpose. There was some discussion from the Board, and the consensus was to request that Superintendent Stockwell bring back more information after talking with the associations.

- Superintendent Stockwell reported that there is now a live COVID dashboard on the District web page. He shared the page and reviewed the data that is available on it. He reported that we are still having trouble with students wearing their masks properly and sick students coming to school. He appealed to the community to refrain from sending students to school if they have any symptoms of illness
- Superintendent Stockwell reported that enrollment in the District is up 141 students from this time last year, and that we are one of the few in the state that have seen an increase.
- The Board agreed to vote for the 2022 Budget Committee Declaration and the Declaration of Budget Committee Vacancies in a January meeting rather than today.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

- None were present.

ACTION ITEMS

- Kellie Smith entered a motion to vote to approve the policy updates listed in 7.1.0 through 7.1.26. Melody Killens seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

• Item#	Motion	Board Member	Yes	No	Notes
7.1.0 – 7.1.26		Bill Amos	X		
7.1.0 – 7.1.26		Melody Killens	X		
7.1.0 – 7.1.26		Ryan Scholl	X		
7.1.0 – 7.1.26	Seconded the motion	Trinity Monahan	X		
7.1.0 – 7.1.26	Entered a motion	Kellie Smith	X		

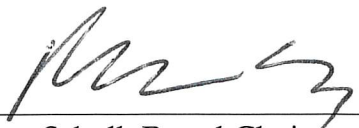
UPCOMING MEETING INPUT

January 12, 2021 – Board Work Session, 6:30 p.m.

- LCBR Approval of Soderstrom Contract
- LCBR Approval of Hoffman Construction Company Contract

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Scholl adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.



Ryan Scholl, Board Chair



Scot Stockwell, Superintendent

