St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
October 27, 2021

The St. Helens School District Board of School District #502 convened in a Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on October 27, 2021. This public meeting was also observable at: https://youtu.be/pExF9QEFzX8. 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 Wednesday, October 27, 2021.

PRESENT

Those present were:
Ryan Scholl, Board Chair
Trinity Monahan, Board Member
Kellie Smith, Board Member
Bill Amos, Board Member
Scot Stockwell, Superintendent
Jessica Seay, Business Manager

Absent:
Melody Killens, Vice Chair

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Scholl called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Bill Amos entered a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Kellie Smith seconded; the motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously with all members in attendance.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

- None were present.

CONSENT AGENDA

Trinity Monahan entered a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Kellie Smith seconded; the motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously with all members in attendance.

NEW BUSINESS

- Dr. Wagner reported that Jezarel Ortiz will serve as the SHHS Public Relations representative to the Board this year, but had a soccer game this evening that conflicted with this meeting.
- The District Principals informed members about the work, activities and planning taking place at each school:
    - Martine Barnett, Jennifer Vandershuere and Roger Fink provided information regarding the start of the school year at the elementary schools including easyCBM results and the quarantining protocols. Students required to quarantine are receiving work at home as well as check-in calls from staff. Plans are in motion for the parent-teacher conferences in November.

- Cris Gwilliam provided an update regarding the school year start at SHMS to include the following successes:
  - The hiring of Laury Carter as the new Athletic Director
  - The official start of clubs and activities will be in quarter two, which begins next month. There will be virtual and on-site options for students, and Sources of Strength work will be included.
  - Outdoor school will take place for the 6th grade students in two one-day field trips in Vernonia.

  The SHMS team is working on staffing to meet the current needs of students. A new Instructional Assistant has been hired to help with COVID response and lunch time recreation. There are still openings for teachers and a counselor.
- Dr. Katy Wagner updated members about the start of the school year at SHHS to include successes in:
  - Increased 2021 graduation rates for multi-racial students, students receiving Special Education services, Spanish students and female students.
  - The start of a program called Character Connections. This will have a focus on establishing relationships to improve student outcomes and is intended to benefit students who have historically gone through a suspension process.
  - The Homecoming fundraising yielded over $700 to support Columbia County Mental Health and over $1,300 for the Healing Hunter Foundation to support cancer patients.

- Michael Arthur, Principal of Yankton Arthur Academy, provided the Board with a summary of the YAA 2020-21 Annual Report. He reviewed enrollment and ethnic demographics, and provided a financial overview. There were no comments or questions from members. Trinity Monahan thanked him for his willingness to join the meeting and provide the summary in person.
- Chair Scholl noted that members had received a packet of policy updates from OSBA to review. Those policies were:
  - 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
  - GBNAA/JHFF – Suspected Sexual Conduct with Students and Reporting Requirements
  - GBNAB/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
- KGBB – Firearms Prohibited

There was no discussion about the policies. Members will continue their review these policies and bring and questions or comments to the next Board meeting.

- Superintendent Stockwell summarized the SHSD 2020-21 Division 22 Assurances. This report is generated by the District and submitted to ODE on an annual basis. The intent of the report is to facilitate providing information about the district's status with respect to all of the standards for public elementary and secondary schools. He noted that some standards were waived or adjusted due to the school year being predominantly via CDL. SHSD was in compliance with all but one standard: Independent Adoptions of Instructional Materials. Because we stood up the virtual academy (ACELLUS) quickly, in response to the pandemic, there was not time to go through the required adoption steps, as it can take months. We are currently taking the proper steps to introduce the curricula being used in the St. Helens Virtual Academy which will return us to compliance.
- Superintendent Stockwell clarified that the staffing shortage referenced earlier in the meeting is not due to the vaccine mandate. The District has hired more than 100 employees since Spring, and have posted many vacancies that we have been unable to fill. We are also having difficulty obtaining subs. There is a lot of good work going on in this District, but we can't move it forward if we don't have enough staff to do it. We are actively recruiting and looking for creative ways to fill these positions.
- Superintendent Stockwell appealed to the community to refrain from sending students to school if they have any symptoms of illness. He noted that will only be able to keep our schools open if we work together and are diligent about keeping students home when they are sick.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

- None were present.

UPCOMING MEETING INPUT

November 17, 2021 – Regular Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

- Vote for OSBA Board of Directors Candidate

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Scholl adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Ryan Scholl, Board Chair

Scot Stockwell, Superintendent