

St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
February 23, 2022

The St. Helens School District Board of School District #502 convened in a Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on January 26, 2022. This public meeting was observable on: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M3qKU0CPgDs>. 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, February 23, 2022.

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. Kellie Smith seconded; the motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

- Paul Hayduk asked:
 - Whether the exterior lighting has been improved at SHHS. Superintendent Stockwell replied that the Maintenance Supervisor has assessed the lighting, and that he would refer back to him for an update.
 - If there is an unscheduled school closure, how do community partners that do not have students in the school learn about it? Superintendent Stockwell reported that the Communications Specialist pushes that out via Facebook and the newspapers. He noted that we can utilize the request to continue to make improvements.
 - How much COVID funding has the District received. Superintendent Stockwell noted that the amount has been reported at previous board meetings.
 - Is there a fund for necessary classroom equipment that breaks or is damaged?
 - Is there a deferred maintenance fund? Superintendent Stockwell noted that each school has a budget that specifies how equipment will be replaced, as needed. The Facility team has a maintenance cycle in place for all buildings.
 - Why hasn't the different funds, or my suggestion for a Running Start Program at the high school been discussed. Superintendent Stockwell

invited Mr. Hayduk to apply to serve on the Budget Committee. He noted that at the last meeting the Board signed an IGA with the Beaverton School District to begin an Early College High School (ECHS) program in the fall, which is a dual credit program.

- Whether ASPIRE is a priority for the District. Superintendent Stockwell responded that all programs that prepare students for life and success after high school are a priority.
- Whether the District is going to change their policies regarding student misbehavior. Superintendent Stockwell responded that there is a lot of good social-emotional and other supports in place in buildings to improve climate and culture in the District.
- Whether the District is giving building administrators the support they need. Superintendent Stockwell reported that they are.

CONSENT AGENDA

Trinity Monahan 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 students enjoyed a successful Love and Kindness Week and an ongoing mask incentive campaign with prizes, and are looking forward to a Winter ball in March.
- The District Principals informed members about the work, activities and planning taking place at each school:
 - Superintendent Stockwell reported on behalf of Colleen Grogan that Plymouth HS:
 - Is seeing a decrease in the absenteeism rates. They have been conducting successful student outreaches via phone and home visits and are pleased to have attendance rates improving.
 - Dr. Katy Wager reported that SHHS:
 - Hosted a virtual “Becoming a Lion” event for incoming 8th grade students on February 10th. There were over 80 families in attendance.
 - Counselors conducted visits to the 8th grade classrooms last week and did some pre-forecasting for 8th grade students.
 - Has placed a focus on positive behaviors to include zoned bathroom passes, hallway behavior and language, and the creation of a care and connection team for lunches and in the classrooms.
 - Is celebrating two Coach of the Year awards: Chelsie Orr as the Girl’s Swim Coach and Greg Gadbois, the Wrestling Coach of the Year.
 - Is celebrating that the swim relay team made it to state, and the wrestling team were the league champions. Narcissa Garza was Wrestler of the Year.
 - Cris Gwilliam provided an update regarding SHMS:
 - The SHMS Riverhawks won the District Wrestling Tournament
 - REAP has joined the team, and the advisor, Sarah Cantu, is now on site. She will be offering an after-school program designed to develop leadership skills and elevate our diverse populations.

- They are working on 8th grade forecasting for high school by teaching the students about the course catalogue, the credit earning process and how to prepare for 9th grade.
 - Jennifer Vanderschuere and Roger Fink provided an Elementary team report including the following celebrations:
 - School is starting to feel more normal.
 - The elementary teams are looking closely at student work and assessment data.
 - The substitute situation is improving.
 - Several Kindergarten welcome events are being planned for spring.
 - Staff and student awards being sponsored by community partners like Les Schwab Tires and the Rotary Club.
 - The Laughing and Learning Programs at each school.
- Some challenges being faced by the elementary schools include:
- We are anxious to be able to invite families into our schools to celebrate student learning.
 - We look forward to having school-wide events such as assemblies and field trips again.
- The team described some activities to include:
- The Laughing and Learning Program at each school
 - Elementary Spirit Week
- Lisa Tyler, Director of Teaching and Learning, introduced the early education team comprised of St. Helens and Scappoose educators, and Children's Institute representatives whom are collaborating to plan early school success programs for both Districts.
 - Karen Twain, Director of Programs at Children's Institute outlined the locations in the state that the Children's Institute and partners have already made an impact with Early Works, Early School Success, Early Learning Academy and Coordinated Care Organizations (CCO's). She reviewed the data pointing towards long term benefits of a quality early childhood education which is the focus of their work. They blend process with content and utilize a human centered design and a continuous improvement process to enhance a pre-k to fifth grade alignment.
 - Marina Merrill, Director of Research & strategy at Children's Institute shared some data from the Yoncalla SD. After the early learning programs were implemented, test scores improved and enrollment increased as parents learned about the good work and began to move their students into the district.
 - Jen Stearns, Director of Student Achievement in the Scappoose SD described the partnership between districts and the Children's Institute which began with Kindergarten Transitions and Kinder Camps, and led to their applying for the grant. The teams meet at least monthly and have expanded from pre-K to include a TAG partnership, Credit Recovery, Instructional Coaching and Trauma-Informed Care & Crisis Response programs.
 - Dani Boylan, the SHSD Early Childhood Education Coordinator outlined the professional learning that has been made possible by the Children's Institute grant. They conducted empathy interviews with staff, parents and students to collect data about the student experience and the needs of all stakeholders.

The team collaborates with other school districts participating in this work and shares ideas.

- Rosalie Sumsion, a Title Teacher and member of the team, spoke about her experience with this work. She described the way that she used the empathy interview skill to create a McBride pledge.

Melody Killens suggested that perhaps the team could share with local licensed and certified daycare providers some of the important information and ideas they have to offer about early childhood development, so they could implement them and align with their work to support students in the community.

- Superintendent Stockwell outlined the updates recommended by OSBA for the five board policies on the agenda:
 - ACB – Every Student Belongs
 - DH – Loss Coverage
 - GBL – Personnel Records
 - GBLA - Disclosure of Information (DELETE)
 - IGBB – Talented and Gifted Program

The board was given the policy updates prior to the meeting, and there were no comments or questions.

- Superintendent Stockwell presented current student and staff absence rates. He reported that both our absence and substitute fill-rates across the District are continuing to improve.
- Superintendent Stockwell reported that the District Calendar Committee has completed their work on a draft of the 2023-24 Community calendar. Members received a copy of the draft prior to the meeting. Melody Killens asked when we started having the break during a different week than Washington. Superintendent Stockwell replied that our District follows the state of Oregon when choosing the dates.
- Superintendent Stockwell reported that after March 31 masks will become a local option. At this time, it will not be an option to stop working with OHA to determine whether someone has been exposed, to stop quarantining, or to stop using other protocols. He would like the Board to decide what direction we would like to go as a District. The state is still recommended universal mask wearing indoors, but is allowing it to become a local decision. School busses still fall under Federal regulations for public transportation rules, so students will still be required to wear masks on busses. He noted that our job is to make sure all staff and students feel safe. Members offered their thoughts and reached a consensus that masks should be optional once local control over the decision is granted to the District and that it is very important that we develop a culture that is accepting in terms of personal mask choice. For staff members that have a mask exception in place, the Board would like to allow them the same option

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

- None were present.

ACTION ITEMS

- Kellie Smith entered a motion to vote to approve the NWRESD Annual Report and 2022-23 Service Plan. Trinity Monahan seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

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

- Kellie Smith entered a motion to vote to approve the 2023-24 Community Calendar, as presented. Melody Killens seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

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

UPCOMING MEETING INPUT

April 13, 2022 – Board Work Session, 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Scholl adjourned the meeting at 8:49 p.m.



Ryan Scholl, Board Chair



Scot Stockwell, Superintendent

