St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
March 9, 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=wLqlvzM7EQY. 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, March 9, 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. Bill Amos entered a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Kellie Smith seconded; the motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously with members whom were present. Trinity Monahan had not yet joined the meeting.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

- Paul Hayduk submitted the following questions via email and requested that they be read during the meeting: "At the last meeting that there are improvements under way regarding the school district's policies on student discipline. Can he please explain in more detail what improvements are underway? Are contractors employed? Are disciplinary programs with in the school district implemented?"

  Superintendent Stockwell reported that there are several things that have been put in place for this purpose. There are three mentors from the Inflexion program working in the District. The program is supported by the ESD and these mentors are working on improving systems in our schools. We have implemented a Care and Connection team which connects students with adults during their lunch period at the HS. We've increased staffing by two full FTE on the HS campus, we've had a student Kindness Campaign started, and have begun issuing zone bathroom passes. We have hired a REAP coordinator that is working with students to help improve student voice. We've also hired a restorative practice coach who is working to improve positive classroom environments, in addition to other measures.

- Jose Ramirez, SHHS Senior submitted a question to the Board via email and asked that it be read during the meeting: "Can we have the class ranking system rank students by weighted GPA instead of unweighted? Changing it to weighted GPA will allow AP and College Credit classes to be more significant to class rant and make it more likely the valedictorians and salutatorians would be the most academically excellent students in the school." Superintendent Stockwell stated that he would talk with Dr. Wagner and provide an answer to Mr. Ramirez.

CONSENT AGENDA

Melody Killens entered a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Bill Amos seconded; the motion to approve the consent agenda carried unanimously with members whom were present. Trinity Monahan had not yet joined the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- Joe Mauck provided the Board with an update about the SHHS Renovation & Remodeling (R&R) Program. He reported that the program now has an excavator and the students are getting some great experience learning to operate it. One student in the program is skilled at operating it due to using one at home, and is teaching the other students and doing a great job. The students are putting up siding, new doors and windows, and will work on new flooring and interior projects after Spring Break.
- Joe Mauck reported that he applied for a Revitalization Grant and was awarded one about 7 years ago, which was how he was able to start the R&R program. He applied again recently, and received a $250,000 grant from ODE to develop free safety videos for the construction industry. They will go on a website that is accessible to any high school construction program in the state. They will receive bids from production companies starting next month. Superintendent Stockwell and the Board thanked Mr. Mauck for his excellent work. Mr. Mauck thanked Bill Amos for his continuing support and help with the students.
- Greg Gadbois, the SHHS Wrestling Coach, updated members regarding the wrestling season. He noted that they have focused on fun, which has increased participation in the program and resulted in a natural competitiveness. Their Kids Club program had 120 students this year, the middle school program over 50 students, and the high school program over 60. They also place a focus on academics and have seen team grades improve. Superintendent Stockwell thanked Mr. Gadbois, and his family, whom all help out with the programs, for their excellent work and for creating a family atmosphere that students thrive in.
- Jezarel Ortiz updated the Board regarding the activities taking place at SHHS. She reported that students enjoyed a successful Winter Ball Spirit Week leading up to the Winter Ball which will be held at Columbia City School on Saturday. The Kindness Campaign has begun, and students are awarded for any act of kindness and then become eligible for prizes. MORP is planned for April 9th.

- The District Principals informed members about the work, activities and planning taking place at each school:
    - Cris Gwilliam provided an update regarding SHMS:
        - The SHMS Riverhawks won the District Wrestling Tournament and had 8 Girl-state qualifiers and 2-Boy State qualifiers. They have had a great turn out for the sport in general.
        - The middle school has been able to begin to celebrate award and recognition events and are looking forward to a Spirit Week leading up to Spring Break.
        - The 6th grade class will get to experience Outdoor School this year. It will be two day-trips rather than the students staying overnight. He noted that there are some District volunteers needed to chaperone this trip.
    - Dr. Katy Wager reported that SHHS:
        - Continues to do some great work with the Inflexion program, by which students, families and staff unit leaders are establishing a school identity and a common vision for readiness. They are identifying key phrases for this purpose, and in the lead were: Courageous, Learners, Dedicated and Being Prepared.
        - Is celebrating the fact that 290 students were on the Honor Roll (3.5 or higher) this semester.
        - Is beginning to develop a new Health Occupation CTE option for students during the 2022-23 school year. There will also be a 1st Responders Club, in partnership with Columbia County Fire and Rescue, our Police Department and the Sheriff's Department.
        - Is continuing to work with PCC and the Beaverton School District to develop some dual credit options.
        - Received some training from Columbia County Public Health regarding the uptick in opioid overdoses in Columbia County. Staff were introduced to ways to identify symptoms, and Narcan, a first aid to a person who is overdosing.
    - Colleen Grogan reported 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.
        - Is working on student engagement, building their school community, and preparing for state testing.
    - Jennifer Vanderschuere, Martine Barnett, Roger Fink and Dani Boylan provided an Elementary and Early Learning team report including the following celebrations:
        - 100 Days of School
        - Classified Staff celebrations
        - Kid's Hear Challenge
        - Ready Freddy Events
        - Seaside tour of our preschool

      The team described some activities to include going on including:
        - The Laughing and Learning Program at each school
        - Elementary Spirit Week

- Superintendent Stockwell asked the Board if they would like to adapt the three-meeting policy review process due to the fact that there is only one meeting in March rather than two. There was some discussion and members decided to wait to vote during the next board meeting when all five members could be present. Kellie Smith would like to talk about policy ACB further, specifically about whether language should be added to the hate symbol section that includes virtual learning backgrounds. The policies are posted on the District website for review by the community:
    - ACB – Every Student Belongs
    - DH – Loss Coverage
    - GBL – Personnel Records
    - GBLA - Disclosure of Information (DELETE)
    - IGBB – Talented and Gifted Program
- Jessica Seay introduced the two applicants for the open Budget Committee positions: Rachael Barry and Claire Catt. They have both indicated their willingness to serve a full three-year term. Their applications were reviewed by the Board prior to the meeting. Superintendent Stockwell noted that he has had an opportunity to work with both of the candidates previously and that they would be assets to the team. The Board welcomed them to the Budget Committee and thanked them for their willingness to volunteer in this capacity.
- Superintendent Stockwell announced that this week is Classified Employee Appreciation Week. He read the Classified Employee Week Declaration and added a personal thanks to all of the excellent classified staff in the District.
- Superintendent Stocwell reported that absence rates in the District continue to decline, and enrolment continues to increase.
- Superintendent Stockwell read data from the CDC site regarding the level of the local community COVID levels. Now that Columbia County is in the "low" category, we will make masks optional in the District beginning the week of March 14th. We will continue to monitor COVID levels of Washington and Multnomah counties as well, as some of our staff members commute from there. Masks for unvaccinated staff is a local decision as well. He recommended that the District continue to require a daily symptom check for unvaccinated staff who have obtained an exception, but that masks are a choice for those employees as well.
- Superintendent Stockwell shared guidance given to districts by ODE on March 12 regarding the pause of contact tracing and quarantine. Families of medically fragile students were surveyed about their teachers and masking, and they communicated clearly that they would like their students' teachers to have a choice whether to mask. The District will work with them on an individual basis to be sure that each student's needs are known and supported. Staff in the infant room at SHHS will continue to mask.
- Superintendent Stockwell described the "choice" campaign that will take place in the District schools regarding masks. Posters will be placed in all buildings regarding respecting choice, and teachers will encourage it in classrooms.
- Superintendent Stockwell announced an open house that will be held on March 21 for local contractors interested in working on the SHHS remodel project.
- Superintendent Stockwell let members know that a Ground-Breaking ceremony for the SHHS bond project will take place on Monday, March 28 at 6:00 p.m.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

- None were present.

ACTION ITEMS

- Bill Amos entered a motion to amend the agenda by removing Action Item 7.1 and instead placing it on the April 13 meeting agenda. Kellie Smith seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

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

- Kellie Smith entered a motion to vote to appoint Rachael Barry to Position 3 and Claire Catt to Position 5 on the Budget Committee. Bill Amos seconded; the motion to so appoint the applicants carried unanimously.

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

- Kellie Smith entered a motion to vote to declare March 14-17 Classified Employee Appreciation Week. Trinity Monahan seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

Item#	Motion	Board Member	Yes	No	Notes
7.3		Bill Amos	X		
7.3		Melody Killens	X		
7.3		Ryan Scholl	X		
7.3	Seconded the motion	Trinity Monahan	X		
7.3	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 8:07 p.m.

Ryan Scholl, Board Chair

Scot Stockwell, Superintendent