

**St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Meeting
September 22, 2008**

The District School Board of School District #502, Columbia County, Oregon convened in regular session at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Office of the District, County and State on September 22, 2008.

Those present were:

David Morrisson, Board Chair
Rebecca Wallace, Board Vice Chair
Jana Mann, Board Member
Bill Crist, Board Member
Benita Saatvedt, Board Member
Patricia Adams, Superintendent
Terri Burns, Director of Operations and Finance
Amanda Stuber, Executive Assistant

Guests:

Cathy Carson	Joanna Rau	Nanette Hagen
Judy Valpiani	Pete Craemer	Jim Mabbott
Colleen Grogan	Jamie Kingery	Michael Arthur
Cecilia Haack, The Spotlight	John Lessard	John Liljegren
April Baumberg, The Chronicle	Karla Thompson	Cristy Pockrus
Megan Mannen	Alina Dolyniuk	Alyona Evans
Katie Van Winkle	Nic Adenau	Taylor Deschamps
Sarah Berg	Chris Robitz	Lindsey Krabbenhoft

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

Agenda Approval

Prior to approval of the September 22nd meeting agenda Mr. Morrisson introduced NWRESD administrators Pete Craemer and Jim Mabbott and the local representatives from The Spotlight and The Chronicle introduced themselves.

Mrs. Wallace removed the Science Textbook agenda items 6.5 and 7.2, 7.2.1 through 7.2.3 and explained the agenda items are postponed.

Public Comment on Non Agenda Items

No public comment on non agenda items.

Consent Agenda

Jana Mann moved to approve the consent agenda:

Minutes of the Work Session – September 8, 2008
General Fund Revenue & Expenditure Report
General Fund Revenue & Expenditure Projection
Estimate of State and School Support for School Year
Student Enrollment/Attendance Information

Mr. Crist seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Special Recognition

High School Principal Nanette Hagen recognized St. Helens St. Helens High School Math teacher Roger Patterson and announced Mr. Patterson's recent recognition as the Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year. Mr. Patterson was honored by Wal-Mart during an assembly last year and was presented with a \$100 gift card and the high school was given a check in the amount of \$1,000.

Superintendent Adams added that the Senior Focus Group shared a lot of great comments about the extra hours Mr. Patterson puts in with the students who need help in Math. Mr. Patterson shared comments on Family Math Night and acknowledged the students who helped with making it such a success.

Reports and Discussions

2008-2009 High School Leadership Introduction

Mr. Lessard commended Mr. Patterson for his love of teaching and expressed his appreciation for Mr. Patterson as both a person and teacher.

Mr. Lessard introduced ASB President Nic Adeneu and Nic introduced the other ASB officers and executive council.

Ms. Hagen spoke on the groups behalf and commented on the many additional leadership tasks and roles the group has taken on this year.

WEB

Chris Robitz and Lindsey Krabbenhoft shared information on the St. Helens Middle School's Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) transition and leadership program for 7th and 8th grade students. The program begins with a personal phone call from the WEB leader to the student inviting the student to WEB orientation that is held the day before the first day of school. During orientation students are welcomed in an assembly, participate in small group sessions of about 10 students per group with two WEB leaders, and the session ends with a closing assembly. Since this is the second year of the WEB program, the 8th grade WEB leader is now able to provide academic and social support throughout the school year.

The board commended Mr. Robitz and Ms. Krabbenhoft for their role in such a successful program and encouraged their continued success.

Arthur Academy 2008-2009 Update

Yankton Arthur Academy Director, Michael Arthur, presented the board with an update and announced the charter school now serves grades K-6 and the schools current enrollment is 172 students with 6 full time teaching staff. The first year ended with all students meeting the state standards and a satisfaction survey that reflects parents being satisfied. Five of last years attending families did not return to the school; four moved out of state and one may have opted to home school. Mr. Arthur announced the building received a new paint job prior to the start of school that created an issue following testing of paint samples by a concerned parent and Mr. John Lijgren was introduced.

Arthur Academy Chief Operating Officer, John Liljegren, provided a summary of the painting project and reviewed the sequence of events that followed the discovery of lead by the concerned parents who conducted the initial lead testing. Mr. Liljegren stated that the lab analysis results received today reflect the re-cleaned areas of the building are well below federal standards. The school is clean and the problem created by the preparation work has been taken care of and Mr. Liljegren noted the duct and heating system still needs to be done.

Superintendent Adams questioned the status of student capacity in the building prior to testing and questioned concern with students occupying the building while testing is conducted.

Mr. Liljegren reported the students were in occupancy in the building that Monday to Friday after the problem was reported and while the follow-up tests have been done. Any exposure was short term and the areas of concern were not too far above the federal level.

Mr. Liljegren also provided an update on the lead that was discovered in the school's drinking water. The water fountains have been turned off since the resume of school on Monday, September 8th. Water for drinking and cooking has been brought in from Culligan and Mr. Liljegren explained he is working with McNulty Water and Mindy Sass on testing and flushing the water system.

Superintendent Adams inquired about the asbestos concern.

Mr. Liljegren explained he understood the asbestos being an issue only in the event of major renovations and discussion was held on asbestos in the ceiling tiles if the water pipes are accessed above the ceiling. Mr. Liljegren and Mr. Arthur were not aware of any projects that would have been disruptive to the areas containing asbestos.

Terri Burns recommended the asbestos disclosure report included in the sale paperwork be reviewed for routine inspections and noted some possible areas to be aware off.

Mr. Arthur also reported on Arthur Academy's state testing scores. Their students have all met the state standard and they had a participation rate of 100%.

November 2008 Bond Report

Superintendent Adams announced the bond video is complete and will be online on the district webpage this evening and there will be a number of videos distributed throughout the community. Participants in the video include the St. Helens High School leadership class, the mayor, members from the bond committee, and local community members. Other campaigning activities include a phone bank; neighborhood canvassing; material distribution at homecoming, elementary school events; a public forum on October 8th; and a radio appearance at KOHI.

Mrs. Saatvedt commented on the community and student support in the campaign.

Mrs. Mann commented on how much fun she had with her segment of the bond video.

Board Communication Plan & Goals

Mrs. Wallace reviewed the proposed changes discussed during the September 8th work session and asked for further input on the items they did not discuss. The board was in favor of forwarding their suggestions to Mrs. Wallace for compiling. A deadline of Friday, September

26th was set and the board's communication plan will be revisited at the October 13th work session.

Proposed Policy Revisions, New Policy, and Policy Deletions – First Reading

Mr. Morrisson announced the following policies are on the agenda as a first reading for revisions: BBFA, EEA, EEAC, EEAE, GBD, GCGDA/GDBDA, IGCD, IK, IKF, IL, IMB and KBA. Policy BBFB is a new policy for board consideration and policies IKGA, IKGA-AR, and ILBB are on the agenda for policy deletion.

Mrs. Saatvedt brought attention to the reference to Jefferson County in policy IKF. This will be revised to reflect the proper district.

Mrs. Wallace requested the policies be broken down into sections during the revision process.

Superintendent Adams noted the district can do so but the board needed to keep in mind that the policy revisions are due to a change in the law so the policies as they are, are not inline with the law.

Mrs. Saatvedt questioned if there will be explanation and clarification on the transportation policies.

Mrs. Burns explained she will review the policies with the transportation company and will provide clarification as needed during the next reading.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Superintendent Evaluation & Contract

Mr. Morrisson reported the Superintendent evaluation is finalized and is public record. A copy can be obtained through the district office.

Bill Crist moved to approve the evaluation of Superintendent Adams and Superintendent Adams' 2008-2009 contract. Jana Mann seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items

Parent Cristy Pockrus introduced herself and explained she is the concerned parent who conducted the initial testing and brought the lead issue into light. Mrs. Pockrus stated she felt the issue is being minimized, shared what she witnessed during the painting project and abatement, and expressed frustration with what she considers a lack of communication on the clean up project. Mrs. Pockrus concluded her comments with the notation that the issues are manageable but would like to see a clear plan in place that is communicated and followed through.

Upcoming Meeting Input

Items provided by the board for upcoming meetings include: board communication plan, high school art students, the art leadership panel, K-6 school improvement plans, and an update on the Arthur Academy. Mr. Morrisson also added that the board will look into moving the meeting to the high school when they have their art on display in November.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Board Chair

Superintendent