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

Merle Pence	Dena Nelson	Alan King
Harold Nelson	Pete Craemer	Becky Washburn
Ryan Winters	Brent Pockrus	Jeri Deady
Dakota White	Michael Sterling	Lisa Rawlings
Cathy Carson	Joanna Rau	Nanette Hagen
Colleen Grogan	Jamie Kingery	Alina Dolyniuk
Kelsi Mathews	Jill Youngberg	April Baumberg
Todd Smith		

Call to Order

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

Agenda Approval

Bill Crist moved to approve the October 27, 2008 regular meeting agenda with the removal of agenda item 5.2. Rebecca Wallace seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment on Non Agenda Items

Merle Pence from Shoestring Community Players shared a history of the relationship between the St. Helens School District and local production organizations who are regular users of the St. Helens High School's Olmsheid Auditorium. The summary concluded with a request for a formal letter of understanding between the District and the local organizations. It was requested that the relationship and the partnership between the district and the organizations be recognized in the letter of understanding and building use fees of the auditorium be waived in lieu of services and equipment provided.

Becky Washburn introduced herself and questioned the board's intent to address TAG or overachieving students since the release of the new benchmarks. Mrs. Washburn noted there is currently nothing in place to keep these students interested and to keep these students challenged.

Superintendent Adams asked that Mrs. Washburn leave contact information for a follow-up call to Mrs. Washburn regarding a recent district wide TAG Liaison meeting.

Consent Agenda

Jana Mann moved to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Minutes of the Work Session – October 13, 2008
Human Resources Report – October 27, 2008
General Fund Revenue & Expenditure Report
General Fund Revenue & Expenditure Projection
Estimate of State and School Support for School Year
School Nutrition Fund Report
Student Enrollment/Attendance Information
Accident Report – September 2008

Mr. Crist seconded.

Mrs. Wallace commented on the improved attendance of the September 2008 report as compared to the September 2007 report.

The motion carried unanimously.

Special Recognition

Terri Burns acknowledged and recognized First Student Transportation staff for their continuous effort to keep the SHSD students safe during their daily transport to and from school and various other school related events. A certificate of appreciation was given and cake was served.

Reports and Discussions

St. Helens High School ASB Report

ASB Public Relations Officer Alina Dolyniuk reported senior night was last week and this is the last week of football. Winter sports practice starts next week.

Renaissance Coordinator Kelci Matthews introduced herself and announced there is a leadership retreat is this coming weekend in Seaside Oregon. Leadership groups from the area attend and they work on planning the year's events during the retreat.

St. Helens High School Boys Basketball Out of State Travel Request

Todd Smith requested board permission to attend the Surf and Slam contest in San Diego California December 26th through December 31st. It was explained that the boy's basketball team takes the trip every two years which allows each player the opportunity to take the trip at least once. There are a total of eight players, one coach, and five sets of parents planning to attend. The departure date for the trip is set for December 26th with a return date of December 31st. The cost of the trip is a total of $440 plus the cost of airfare. The cost of the trip was covered through various fundraising events such as a free-throw tournament, youth basketball camps, donations, and an auction.

SHMS 2008-2009 SIP

Prior to presenting of the St. Helens Middle School SIP Mr. Morrisson requested the board keep conversation evenly distributed and set a panel type discussion.

Superintendent Adams reminded the board that School Improvement Plans are developed and based on assessment data. The plans target very specific areas that will increase student achievement.

St. Helens Middle School Principal Joanna Rau presented the SHMS 2008-2009 School Improvement Plan. The first goal addresses communication. This goal is established to improve communication among staff and between home and school through the implementation of grade level multidisciplinary teams and communication tools.

The second goal is in the area of math. This goal is established to increase the percentage of students entering the 9th grade in a placement of Algebra 1 or higher from 76% to a minimum of 81%.

The third goal is in the area of writing. The percentage of students passing the 7th grade benchmark in writing will increase by 5% (from 42%-47%) as measured by the Oregon State writing test.

Mrs. Saatvedt expressed a concern with the middle school only moving students toward the ninth grade math requirement and not addressing TAG students.

Mrs. Rau noted that all the middle school staff have moved into interdisciplinary teams and noted the math team is meeting on a regular basis. This concern should be addressed in the pending middle school tag plan.

Mrs. Mann commented on the writing goal and expressed her excitement for the upcoming "Write to Learn and Learn to Write" workshops for staff during the late start times.

Mrs. Wallace expressed appreciation of the tie between communication to student achievement while building stronger relationships between staff and students and between home and school. The non-inclusion of reading in the goals was questioned and the drop in the reading state assessment scores was noted.

Mrs. Rau explained that even though reading is not highlighted in the SIP, it is still a focus. It was also noted that the reading intervention program Read 180 is now implemented at the 6th grade level and Mrs. Rau explained the intervention process done by the reading team.

Mr. Crist questioned differentiation in the classroom in the area of math and inquired about the third writing results indicator.

Mrs. Rau explained that it was discovered that some of the middle school staff had already received the writing training staff were already doing a really great job. The next training will be done in teams and the teams will identify writing strategies two times per week. The third training session will be a brush up and for staff who for some reason did not receive the training during the first session.

<u>St. Helens High School 2008-2009 SIP</u>
St. Helens High School Principal Nanette Hagen presented the high schools 2008-2009 School Improvement Plan. Goal one states that the percentage of students meeting the state standard in reading will improve from 66% to 71% and in writing from 43% to 48% as

measured by the OAKS test when comparing reported data from the 07-08 and 08-09 school year. The second goal states that the percentage of students meeting the state standard in mathematics will improve from 38% to 43% as measure by the OAKS test when comparing reported data from the 07-08 and 08-09 school years. Goal three is established to decrease the number of students who are truant, drop out, or enter a 5th year of St. Helens High School over the 08-09 school year compared to the 07-08 school year.

Mrs. Hagen also added that at the end of last year she surveyed the high school staff and, based on the surveys results, the structure of the school has been revamped and is much more conducive. Staff meetings have been changed to team meetings and the late start time is spent in collaborative groups. Overall, the feeling at the high school is completely different than last year.

Mr. Crist commented on the continued differentiation at the high school and how it works at the high school.

Mrs. Hagen explained that when the students enter the high school they develop a four year plan and their placement is based on their state assessment results. It was noted that in previous years students didn't take the state assessment tests seriously, however, now that the results have such an impact in their placement, they are now putting an honest effort into their tests.

Mrs. Mann shared positive comments on the Positive Behavior Support Program being implemented school wide at the high school.

Mrs. Saatvedt added that she is very pleased with the plan and questioned the impact of the graduation change requirement at the high school.

Mrs. Hagen explained the various ways the high school is accommodating the change and noted the high school is working on the schedule to accommodate the needs of those students.

Columbia County Education Campus 2008-2009 SIP

CCEC Head Teacher Colleen Grogan presented CCEC's 2008-2009 School Improvement Plan. Goal one addresses the area of writing. This is established to increase the number of students in grade 10 who pass the state assessment writing test by 5% as measured by the spring 2009 OAKS assessment.

Goal two addressed the area of math. This goal states that the number of students in grade 10 who pass the state assessment in math will increase by 5% as measured by a comparison of the 08-09 and 07-08 school year assessment results. Mrs. Grogan noted that although CCEC students didn't meet the math assessment, they did have a 6% growth in the area.

Goal three states the number of students in grade 10 who pass the state assessment in reading will increase by 5%. This will be measured by the spring 2009 Oaks assessment results. Through the different reading programs and reading intervention programs, CCEC showed a 7% growth of students who passed the reading state assessment test.

Mrs. Wallace noted the reference to CIM in CCEC's plan.

Mrs. Grogan explained the reference was not caught during the development and proofing of the plan and noted this will be meeting the benchmark not CIM.

The board shared their appreciation of the plans enthusiasm and expressed their approval of CCEC's 2008-2009 School Improvement Plan.
Superintendent Adams concluded the school improvement plan reports with the announcement that she will be booked in the buildings throughout the next six weeks conducting walkthroughs. The walkthroughs are an administrative team agreement and it was stressed the intent is not to evaluate the classroom. During the walkthroughs she will be looking for evidence of the school improvement plans at work and the results of the plans.

McBride Elementary School's plan will be presented at the November 10th work session.

Hearing Test Update
Teri Burns reported that on November 19th and November 20th a district wide safety audit will be conducted by Special Districts and the audit will include hearing testing in the buildings. It was not known when the report will be provided. An update will be provided when Mrs. Burns knows more.

Policy Revisions, New Policy and Policy Deletions Third Reading
No input on the proposed policy revisions, the new policy, and policy deletions was provided.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Revised Policies

Rebecca Wallace moved to approve the revised policies as follows:
BBFA – Board Member Ethics & Conflicts of Interest
EEA – Student Transportation Services
EEAC – School Bus Safety Program
EEAE – Student Transportation in Private Vehicles
GBC – Staff Ethics
GCBDA/GDBDA – Family Medical Leave
IGCG – Service Learning
IK – Academic Achievement
IKF – Graduation Requirements
IL – Assessment Program
IMB – Student Achievement Program
KBA – Public Records

Benita Saatvedt seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of New Policy

Jana Mann moved to approve new policy BBFB – Board Member Ethics and Nepotism. Rebecca Wallace seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Policy Deletions

Rebecca Wallace moved to delete the policies as follows:

IKGA – CIM Proficiency Standards
IKGA-AR – District Standards
ILBB – Juried Assessments

Bill Crist seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of St. Helens High School Boys Basketball Out of State Travel Request

Jana Mann moved to approve the St. Helens High School Boys Basketball out of state travel request. Rebecca Wallace seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items
None.

Superintendent and Board Communication & Correspondence
Mr. Morrisson recognized the communication and correspondence included in the board packet.

Upcoming Meeting Input
Items provided by the board for upcoming meetings include: McBride Elementary School's 2008-2009 School Improvement Plan.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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Board Chair Superintendent