

**St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Meeting
November 10, 2008**

The District School Board of School District #502, Columbia County, Oregon convened a work session at 6:40 in the Administration Office of the District, County and State on November 10, 2008.

Those present were:

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

Guests:

Michelle Johnson	Nathan Nash	Mike Adenau
Lisa Rawlings	Marleen Zytniowski	Kira Curtis
Carolyn Curtis	Ryan Winters	

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

Agenda Approval

Rebecca Wallace moved to approve the agenda as presented. Jana Mann seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Special Recognition

Superintendent Adams recognized the 2008 Bond Campaign Committee members and spoke to the member's individual roles. All who was in attendance was presented with a certificate of appreciation and the board thanked them for their hours of service to the 2008 election bond campaign.

Reports and Discussions

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Adams reported on current opportunities existing in the district. The first is the Art Leadership Panel. This panel consists of a board member, a local artist, and administrative and teaching staff. The panel has identified the need for staff training and these training sessions will be held once per month beginning in January. The panel has also been allotted a marginal amount of funding and a budget line item for this will be considered during the 2009-2010 budget process.

The next opportunity is the math adoption. This group consists of representatives from all grade levels with the adoption being overseen by Lisa Rawlings, Nanette Hagen, and Sandi Curelo. The review is ongoing through the 2008-2009 school year and the implementation will occur next school year.

The Talented and Gifted Program is developing as well. The TAG Liaison Committee met a couple of weeks ago and is in the process of developing a small plan to address this year and a wider plan for next school year. Additional money was shifted in the budget and allotted to the TAG Program to allow for some extended learning opportunities this year. The committee

has been requested to have 2009-2010 budgetary needs prepared for the 2009-2010 budget cycle.

The New Mentor Teacher Program is another opportunity for staff. The program is being organized and facilitated by Jamie Kingery. The group has met twice and is scheduled to meet a total of five times throughout the school year. Each of the new teachers have a mentor and it is the hope the program will overcome new teacher challenges.

Last week Strategic Planning letters went out to a group of approximately 60 individuals. This group includes parents; community members; and certified, classified, and administrative staff. The sessions will be facilitated by a representative from the Oregon School Boards Association.

Parent teacher conferences were last week. Each building has been requested to forward their conference attendance rate. Based on the visually observed attendance of the conferences, there was a good turn out. Parent Assist has launched and login information was provided during conferences. The conference attendance rate and the use of Parent Assist will continue to be monitored.

The final opportunity is building walk-throughs. Patricia announced she has been conducting building walk-throughs and commented on the impressive writing and reading she has witnessed during this time.

Arthur Academy Status Report

Mrs. Burns briefly reviewed the official report from PBS Engineering + Environmental that was included in the board's packet. It was reported by the Arthur Academy to Mrs. Burns that the school is working with PBS on the recommendations noted in the report and the school has relayed the information to parents.

Mrs. Wallace questioned the district's role in monitoring follow-through of the recommendations.

Mrs. Adams explained that the district sponsors the charter school but does not supervise the program or the teaching of the program. The district has the ability to make changes when it affects the health and safety of the students. Mrs. Adams noted the district has been assured by the academy that they are following the recommendations and the district has every indication that they are doing so.

McBride Elementary School 2008-2009 Improvement Plan

Lisa Rawlings began the McBride Elementary School Improvement Plan with a review of the 2007-2008 gains measured by the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS).

The first goal of the McBride Elementary 2008-2009 SIP states that effective literacy instructional strategies will be implemented in order that achievement will increase by at least 5%. This will be measured by spring 2009 Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA2) or Curriculum Based Measures (CBM). Strategies to achieve this goal include teachers instructing students at their assessed instructional level during guided reading groups and providing daily writing instruction in a Writers Workshop format including guided writing.

The second goal states that effective mathematics instructional strategies will be implemented in order that achievement will increase by at least 5% as measure by spring 2009 District or Curriculum Based Measures. Strategies to achieve goal two include instructing in accordance with current adopted Oregon State Mathematics Standards and use of effective instructional strategies for the teaching of mathematics.

Mrs. Wallace questioned exactly how math is assessed at McBride's grade level.

Mrs. Rawlings explained there is an assessment that has been around for a long time that McBride uses. This is done through one on one assessing.

Mrs. Wallace also asked how much emphasis is placed on memorization of math facts.

Mrs. Rawlings explained it is mapped out by the state. However, at kindergarten and first grade the concept of the number is the focus. The goal in first grade is to have mathematical understanding to the number of ten.

November Bond 2008 Election Results

Mr. Morrisson reported the board does not have the official election results at this time; however, the unofficial numbers do reflect that the bond was defeated. The official results will be accepted by the board when they are received from the elections department.

Land Swap

Mr. Morrisson reported the board reviewed information on the proposed land swap between the hospital coalition, the city, and the district during executive session and the district is not prepared to make comment on the matter. The board is meeting with legal counsel in executive session on Monday, November 17th at 4:00 p.m.

Action Items

Approval of Licensed Staff Salary Schedule Advancements

Bill Crist moved to approve the licensed staff salary schedule advancements as presented. Rebecca Wallace seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes

Rebecca Wallace moved to approve the October 27, 2008 regular meeting minutes. Bill Crist seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Board Chair

Superintendent