

**St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Meeting
October 12, 2009**

The District School Board of School District #502, Columbia County, Oregon convened a work session at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Office of the District, County and State on October 12, 2009.

Those present were:

David Morrisson, Board Chair
Bill Crist, Board Member
Alan King, Board Member
Nathan Helwig, Board Member
Patricia Adams, Superintendent
Marleen Zytniowski, Temporary Executive Assistant

Guests:

Nanette Hagen	Joanna Rau
Jeri Deady	Karla Thompson
Lisa Rawlings	Tim Olietti
Jamie Kingery	Jerry Meadows
Michelle Johnson	Cathy Carson
Dave Clark, Chronicle	Erica Ryberg, Spotlight

Call to Order

David Morrison called the work session to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

Agenda Approval

Mr. Morrisson recommended removing 3.2 Athletics Injuries and Safety Program from the agenda and placing it on the next meeting's agenda. There was some discussion regarding policy reads and it was decided to leave all the policies as a first read on the agenda which will allow time at a future meeting for revisions. Mr. Helwig moved to approve the agenda as revised. Mr. Crist seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports and Discussions

Superintendent Report

Ms. Adams introduced Joanna Tobin formerly Joanna Rau to the Board members.

Superintendent Adams reported on the success of the October 8, 2009 H1N1 Forum. The members of the panel for this forum were Dr. Jennifer Vines, Columbia Health District; Robin Loper, St. Helens School District Nurse; Anne Parrott, Public Health Preparedness Coordinator; Chief Brian Burright, Columbia River Fire & Rescue; Derek White, Director of Emergency Management. There were 50 people or more in attendance. The questions were rich. This forum was well received and everyone in attendance learned something new. We would like to repeat this for local childcare providers, home school and charter school families.

Ms. Adams then announced the district's website statistics. Ms. Adams explained that this allows us to see how many website hits the district page receives. In comparison to last year there is an increase in hits. She then reviewed the incredible things happening on our site and suggested that each Board member take some time to "cruise" each building's page. We are always looking for suggestions to improve our communications. Our technology department is looking into the possibility of providing a link on our site to allow anyone to listen to previously sent School Connects phone announcements.

Ms. Adams updated the Board on State Funding for Education with the September forecast. The close out of 2007-2009 is down an additional 30 million from the May forecast which is a total loss of revenue of 1.3 billion. For 2009-2011 revenue is down 182.2 million. The December State Revenue Forecast comes out November 19th and the election date for revenue measures is January 26th.

Ms. Adams then discussed collaborating with Young Audiences "Arts for Education". St. Helens School District was one of only four districts invited to participate for the "Run for the Arts". Scappoose and St. Helens will meet with Administrators to see how we can partner with this program. We will work with this organization to assist with staff development and creating new opportunities for our students in the area of the arts.

Mr. Morrisson discussed the idea of a bond proposal and suggested that this be postponed for discussion until the spring.

Special Education

Jeri Deady reviewed special education background and history. She told some interesting stories of special needs adults who were not offered an education while they were growing up. By the year 2000 most special education children were being educated in schools and now higher standards for these students is being addressed. Ms. Deady then presented St. Helens School District's Special Education Overview, Successes, Challenges, and Initiatives.

Data Collections

- Adequate yearly Progress
- System Performance Review and Improvement
- Special Education Report
- Special Education Census

Ms. Deady explained the review process and the participation requirements for state testing.

Successes

- Autism Training Site at St. Helens High School is known throughout the area
- SHINE program for social integration
- High School Learning Center is set up on a model you would see at some colleges for resource centers. Technology improvements are continually being made in this program.
- CCMH Partnership for K-12 mental health services directly in the schools

Challenges

- Essential Learning Skills tied to diploma
- Increase in students with behavior difficulties
- Secondary Students with Disabilities in the area of Math research based programs

Initiatives

- Key Train (Work Keys) - more industry based testing
- Oregon Intervention System (OIS) – Teaching for deescalating behaviors. We now have two district trainers.
- Easy Curriculum Based Measures (CBM's) –. Aligning standards
- District Literacy/ Math/ Data Coaching

Mr. Crist asked about teaching for the test instead of teaching for content and understanding. Ms. Deady explained the process and how there are always other things learned through teaching. The reason that the new math requirement isn't implemented until 2014 is because the state recognizes the difficulty and lack of data in this area.

K-12 Mathematics Plan

Superintendent Adams invited the building principals forward to present the math initiatives in school improvement. These administrators worked with staff and site councils to determine

the areas to implement initiatives which will assist with growth in the areas needing improvement.

Jerry Meadows, McBride Elementary Interim Principal, discussed how his staff is motivated and excited to build this plan and put it in place. Mr. Meadows then reviewed the plan. The challenge at this level is how math improvements will be measured. McBride Elementary has developed a measurement tool to align with state standards. In the last month 700 students have been assessed. McBride will assess again in the spring and would like to use this same measurement for the next 3-5 years to allow for consistent measurements. This will allow solid data from year to year.

Cathy Carson, Lewis & Clark Intermediate Principal, presented the current plan and explained that this plan is not drastically different from last year's plan because what Lewis & Clark Intermediate is doing is working but there are some changes as staff continually strive to improve. Ms Carson explained the teacher design of assessments common to the current 3rd grade assessment for our 4th and 5th grade students. She shared how this helps determine in what areas to spend the time educating students. The other new piece is the new differentiation curriculum which has the different level of each student built right in the teachers materials. Ms Carson answered questions regarding how the differentiation data helps in the classroom and questions about math grouping.

Lisa Rawlings, Columbia City Principal, presented the plan and explained, that though exciting, there is difficulty of reaching the goal of a 5% increase because the students coming to Columbia City are already at such a high level of achievement. Columbia City now offers Advanced Level Math Classes, Regular Level Classes and Title 1 Classes starting next week. The Title 1 Class is in addition to the regular math class. Students now have 86 minutes of math daily vs. approximately 50 minutes in the past. This provides time for a much more complete package. All Title Math is using the same core curriculum from K-6 providing continuity. Mr. King asked where the 36 minutes came from. Ms. Rawlings explained that there was some time taken from silent sustained reading, homeroom, science and social studies.

Joanna Tobin, St. Helens Middle School Principal, presented and reviewed the Middle School improvement plan. One of the authors of the text of the new curriculum was able to come to the Middle School to assist with the implementation. The new curriculum encourages staff to work with each other's strengths and has generated much excitement amongst teachers. The goal is to have all students ready for algebra by high school this year. Our goal eventually will be that our students will already have completed Algebra 1 by the time they move to high school. Ms. Tobin also explained there may be some grant funds available for after school Community Schools which will allow us to offer a math club. Linda D'Amario is prepared to build a web page for parents and offer parent/student math nights.

Nanette Hagen, St. Helens High School Principal, presented the High School plan and all of the opportunities for students. The St. Helens High School is continuing with efforts to support students who were not at the level needed when arriving to high school. The Math Workshop need has declined over last year because students are showing improvement. The Math Workshop intervention is exciting and working. This allows teachers to even do daily assessments to know where to concentrate efforts. The High School added interactive boards in some of the classrooms which helped provide some needed technology. Professional Learning Communities allowed implementing effective strategies in all subject areas. The math program has shown much improvement over the last three years. Ms. Hagen also discussed the CCEC school improvement plans. Ms. Grogan and Ms. Hagen are working on similar plans and have included the Key Train (Work Keys).

Mr. Crist commented on the innovation, flexibility and creativity for improving math district-wide. Mr. King commented on challenging all students and not stratifying students. Patricia announced the testing may be moved to 11th grade as soon as one year from now and how impressively these plans align. She also discussed all the work and commitment from all these teams and the challenges ahead. The budget is and will continue to be a challenge. Class sizes, technology support purchases, adoptions, and support staff will also be challenging. Mr. Morrisson requested from the principals that they continually ask Superintendent Adams to inform the Board and the Budget Committee of the math needs. Mr. King commented on the upcoming vote in January and our shared responsibility to communicate the needs to everyone.

Policy Revisions

First Reading

AD – Educational Philosophy

AE – District Goals

BBF – Board Member Standards of Conduct

BD/BDA – Board Meetings/Regular Board Meetings

GCDA/GDDA – Criminal Records Check/Fingerprinting

GCDA/GDDA-AR – Criminal Records Check/Fingerprinting

GCPB/GDPB – Resignation of Staff

IA – Instructional Goals

IGAI – Human Sexuality, AIDS/HIV Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Health Education

IKF – Graduation Requirements

IKF-AR – Graduation Requirements

IKFB – Graduation Exercises

JAA – Student Policy Objectives

JFCEB – Personal Communication Devices and Social Media

JFCEB-AR – Personal Communication Devices and Social Media

JFCF/GBNA – Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/ Bullying/ Menacing

JFCF/GBNA-AR – Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/ Menacing Complaint

Procedures

JHC – Student Health Services and Requirements

JB-AR – General Personnel Policies – Hiring Procedures

New Policy – First Reading

JHFF – Reporting Requirements Regarding Sexual Conduct with Students

GCAB – Personal Communication Devices

Policy Revisions Second Reading

JEBA – Early Entrance

The School Board reviewed and requested revisions for the following policies:

JHFF – Reporting Requirements Regarding Sexual Conduct with Students – In paragraph 3 keep the word “volunteer” and add “and/or the superintendent” after “notifying his/her immediate supervisor.” In the 5th paragraph add “or in the case where a person is not covered under the collective bargaining agreement the person will follow the districts regular appeal process” after “The employee may appeal the district’s decision through the appeal process provided by the district’s collective bargaining agreement.”

GCDA/GDDA – Criminal Records Checks/Fingerprinting (Version 2)- In paragraph 3 OSBA will be contacted to check on replacing the word “shall” with “may.”

IKF – Graduation Requirements (Version 2) – Remove the second to the last paragraph.

JFCF/GBNA – Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing (Version 2)

Action Items

Approval of September 28, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes

Nathan Helwig reminded us that he was not in attendance and that the date of August 10, 2009 needs to be changed to September 28, 2009. Mr. King moved to approve the September 28, 2009 minutes as amended. Bill seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Upcoming Meeting Input

Ms. Adams reminded the Board members of the OSBA Regional Meeting. Ms. Adams suggested the policy reads be done during a work session outside the regularly scheduled meetings to avoid extending these board meetings or canceling presentations that the Board members have requested. Board members are open to this idea. Ms. Adams stated that Marleen Zytniowski will coordinate this.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Board Chair

Superintendent