

**St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Meeting
November 9, 2009**

Following the adjournment of an executive session in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (b), the School Board of School District #502, Columbia County, Oregon convened a work session at 6:43 p.m. in the Administration Office of the District, County and State on November 9, 2009.

Those present were:

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

Guests:

Lisa Rawlings	Jamie Kingery	Ed Leader
Nanette Hagen	Bruce Carvalho	Mary Wells
Weston Tanner	Tiara Williams	Bruce Carvalho
Diana Peterson	Cathy Carson	Erika Ryberg, The Spotlight
Dave Clark, The Chronicle		

Call to Order

David Morrisson called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

Agenda Approval

Benita Saatvedt moved to approve the agenda revised on November 5, 2009 as presented. Bill Crist seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports and Discussions

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Adams began the superintendent report with a reminder of the December 10th Community Safety Forum titled *Keeping our Kids Safe from Drugs & Alcohol*. The forum will include speakers from Columbia County Mental Health, St. Helens Police, Columbia County Juvenile Department, Jude Grant, and the school district. Scheduled topics of discussion include statistical information, signs and symptoms for parents and educators to be aware of, what is done as a community to help, and a question and answer session.

Additional upcoming communication venues include a Superintendent Dessert at 1:00 p.m. on November 18 at Columbia City School and a Board Lending an Ear Session at 6:45 p.m. on November 19 at the St. Helens Best Western. Board representation at the Lending an Ear Session will be Bill Crist and David Morrisson.

A new technology communication avenue the district has implemented is Twitter. Twitter is currently being used at the district level with Marleen Zytniowski serving as the district Twitter Master. A School Connects message announcing this is set to go out to households this evening.

Information was also provided on Insight School of Oregon online alternative school. Superintendent Adams explained she met with a representative from Insight and learned Insight is an alternative placement for high school and TAG identified 7th and 8th grade students not currently attending or enrolled in school. Thirty school districts in the state of Oregon,

three of which are Columbia County school districts, are participating. SHSD has three students who wish to enroll and Superintendent Adams expressed her support. Information will be presented to the administrative team at tomorrow's administrative team meeting and the high school will serve as registrars for student placement.

The final item in the Superintendent Report included the distribution of the district's 2008-2009 ODE Report Card. Report cards are scheduled for public release on Tuesday November 10. New or changed items on the 2008-09 report cards were explained and Superintendent Adams reported the district and ODE report cards will be distributed during parent teacher conferences on Thursday and Friday.

St. Helens High School Drop Out Rate

St. Helens High School assistant principal Bruce Carvalho presented the St. Helens High School's drop out trends and rates for the 2004-2009 school years. The information was broken down by gender, ethnicity and grade; reviewed various reasons why a student would leave school prior to graduation; and included what the St. Helens High School is doing to keep students in school.

Following board questions and comments Mr. Carvalho shared examples of situations the high school may encounter and steps the school has in place to intervene to assist with keeping students in school. Superintendent Adams praised the extraordinary work the high school counseling office and special education staff is doing to address this area of concern.

Technology Plan

Cathy Carson and Ed Leader presented the St. Helens School District's 2009-2011 Technology Plan approved by the state which makes the district eligible for e-rate reimbursements. Mrs. Carson reviewed the goals in the plan, steps developed to meet the goals within each grade level, what was established for technology staff development, and shared samples of ELL student's work for the upcoming ELL Cultural Night.

Mr. Leader provided the district's technology infrastructure information in the plan. Ten years ago the district had 125 computers, today the count is at 1,000 plus, the district went from 3 to 17 computer labs and 25 mini-labs district wide, document cameras and projectors are in many of the classrooms, upgrades have been done to the phone lines, and all staff and students with district access have an x-drive that eliminates the need for floppy disk back up.

The SHSD 2009-2011 Technology Plan was approved by the state in June.

TAG

Lisa Rawlings provided a presentation on TAG. The presentation reviewed legislature mandates before and after 1989, identification criteria and identification areas, the different testing to determine and monitor intellectually gifted and academically talented students, services associated with TAG identified students, successes, challenges in supporting TAG, initiatives, and the district's current statistics.

At the conclusion of the TAG report the board held a brief question and answer session. Not all of the questions were addressed so the board was asked to e-mail any unanswered questions to Mrs. Rawlings for answers.

Action Items

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes

Bill Crist moved to approve the October 26, 2009 regular meeting minutes. Alan King seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval to Pursue Learn to Serve ODE Grant

Prior to the board meeting the board reviewed an overview of the Oregon Department of Education Learn to Serve Grant and questioned what age group the grant would service. Amber Horn explained the grant is for the entire district and explained the grant requires the development and approval of a Learn to Serve policy within the next three years.

Benita Saatvedt entered a motion to pursue the ODE Learn to Serve Grant. Bill Crist seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Upcoming Meeting Agenda Input

Meeting input to the November 23, 2009 meeting agenda included: revision to the district's hiring administrative rule to clear any confusion to the area that addresses the interview timeline.

Adjournment

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

Board Chair

Superintendent