

St. Helens School District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
December 14, 2009

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 December 14, 2009.

Those present were:

David Morrisson, Board Chair  
Benita Saatvedt, Board Vice Chair  
Bill Crist, Board Member  
Alan King, Board Member  
Nathan Helwig, Board Member  
Patricia Adams, Superintendent  
Amanda Stuber, Executive Assistant

Guests present were:

Joanna Tobin	Bruce Carvalho	Nanette Hagen
Misty Crawford	Lisa Rawlings	Jerry Meadows
Diana Peterson	Keith Meeuwsen	Jeri Deady
Lori Thompson	DiAnne Fentress-Rowe	Erica Ryberg, The Spotlight
Spencer Gordon	Laura Bracke	Rosalie Sumsion
Karla Thompson	LeeAnn Holcomb	Cindy Coughlin
Laura Sharp	Christi Paylor	Mary Beatley
Sheri Lee	Spencer Gordon	

**Call to Order**

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

**Agenda Approval**

Nathan Helwig moved to approve the agenda as presented. Benita Saatvedt seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

St. Helens resident and parent, Laura Bracke, provided a summary of what lead to her filing a complaint with the Oregon Department of Education against the district's TAG program and read ODE's letter of findings to the complaint. At the conclusion of Ms. Bracke's public comment she encouraged others to visit The Oregonian and The Spotlight website to read recent articles on the matter and offered copies of the letter to any interested meeting attendees.

**Consent Agenda**

Nathan Helwig moved to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Human Resources Report – December 2009  
General Fund Revenue & Expenditure Report  
General Fund Revenue & Expenditure Projection  
Student Enrollment/Attendance Information – November 2009  
Minutes of November 9, 2009 Work Session  
Minutes of November 17, 2009 Special Work Session  
Minutes of November 23, 2009 Regular Board Meeting

Benita Saatvedt seconded. The motion to approve the consent agenda carried unanimously.

### **Special Recognitions**

Lisa Rawlings recognized McBride Elementary title staff Rosalie Sumsion, Cathy Lambert, Kathy Blackburn, Teresa Katz and Martha Stangland for their representation of the district at the local Kiwanis Children's Fair on October 31<sup>st</sup> at the St. Helens High School.

Karla Thompson recognized McBride Elementary Intervention Assistants Mary Beatley, Laura Sharp, Christi Paylor, Janice Gonzales, Cindy Coughlin, Dawn Robillard, Analisa Howard, Adrian Hester and LeeAnn Holcomb for their patience, understanding and creativity while assisting their students each and every school day.

### **Reports & Discussion**

St. Helens High School ASB Report: Spencer Gordon reported Winter Festival started this week. Today was Sweater day, Tuesday is Argyle and Plaid Day, Wednesday is Spotlight Day to reflect availability for the dance, Thursday is Paradise Day, and Friday is Whiteout Day. Winter Festival class competitions include coin, canned food, clothes, and coat drives. Winter break starts at the end of the school day Friday.

HS Physics Out of State Travel Request: On behalf of St. Helens High School physics teacher Jay Groom, St. Helens High School Principal Nanette Hagen reviewed details of the physics classes annual travel request to San Francisco May 12 – 17.

Alan King questioned the group having a reserve fund in the event of an emergency and expressed a strong interest in having this established before the trip occurs.

Accident Reports: David Morrisson brought attention to the lack of the accident report on the consent agenda and explained that after receiving legal counsel it is in the district's best interest to not receive and review detailed accident information during public meetings.

Alan King questioned what prompted the change.

Mr. Morrisson explained some of the information being requested and provided in the monthly report could be teetering on a HIPPA violation.

Following board discussion on what information the board would like versus what can be provided in a public meeting it was determined the board would be notified directly of any serious injuries upon them being reported to the district office. A tally of accidents and the plan of action to prevent reoccurrence of such accidents will be provided from the district safety committee after their monthly meeting.

Columbia City School Roof: Terri Burns provided an update on the Columbia City School roof's defective work that lead to litigation. Although the original contractor who completed the project has gone out of business, the district did receive \$20,000 through the litigation. The funds will be used to make necessary repairs when the weather improves.

Food Service Task Force: Terri Burns reported on the district's recently developed food service task force. The task force was established to assess how to turn the district's cafeteria into a financially productive service. Information provided included a count of free, reduced, and paid breakfast and lunches by building and the current cost of meal assembly by building. Ideas from other districts that

have successfully turned their food service program around were briefly shared and the idea of a senior project that would include a cafeteria beautification project was discussed.

Mrs. Burns noted a March timeframe for a recommendation to the Superintendent and the Board.

#### Policy Revisions – Second Reading:

Policies IGBB – Talented and Gifted and IGBBC – Programs and Services – Talented and Gifted were on the agenda for a second reading and adoption. Superintendent Adams explained it was brought to the district’s attention by ODE through a recent complaint that language was missing on board policy IGBB, and IGBB-AR did not include language “academically talented” in item one and did not include a third testing option, the use of the Woodcock-Johnson Test, for identification of students in grades K-1. ODE also reported the district non-compliant with OAR 581-022-1330 but the district is not. Board policy IGBBC addressing this item has been adopted and in place since 1999, but it did require the update of “Credit by Examination” to “Credit by Proficiency”.

Superintendent Adams also reported that based on the information received in the complaint materials from ODE, the complaint appeal process outlined in OAR was not followed. ODE will be contacted regarding this and the inaccurate finding of non-compliance with OAR 581-022-1220. All of the necessary revisions to IGBB-AR have been done and the revisions to IGBB and IGBBC are due for board approval under action items.

#### **Action Items**

Nathan Helwig entered a motion to add agenda item 7.3 for action on the St. Helens High School Physics class out of state travel request. Benita Saatvedt seconded. The motion carried unanimously

#### **Resolution 2009-10 No. 10 – St. Helens High School 2010-11 Fees**

Bill Crist moved to approve resolution 2009-10 No. 10 St. Helens High School 2010-11 Fees.  
Benita Saatvedt seconded.

The motion to approve resolution 2009-10 No. 10 approving St. Helens High School’s 2010-11 fees carried unanimously.

#### **Revised Policies IGBB and IGBBC**

Benita Saatvedt entered a motion to approve revised policy IGBB – Talented and Gifted Program and revised policy IGBBC – Programs and Services – Talented and Gifted. Alan King seconded.

Mrs. Saatvedt requested future discussion on the policy AR to identify clarifying language establishing a timeline for evaluation when a referral is made.

The motion carried unanimously.

#### **St. Helens High School Physics Out of State Travel Request**

Nathan Helwig entered a motion to approve the St. Helens High School physics class out of state travel request. Benita Saatvedt seconded.

Alan King requested the group have a reserve fund in the event of an emergency.

Following discussion on what a reserve fund could contain and the current responsibility of the family in the event of an emergency during the trip, Mrs. Saatvedt recommended the request be honored to allow the students to move forward with reservations and fundraising.

With the intent to revisit a reserve fund requirement for out of state travel, the motion carried as follows: David Morrisson, yes; Benita Saatvedt, yes; Bill Crist, yes; Nathan Helwig, yes; Alan King, no without conditions.

**Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items**

No public comments regarding agenda items was provided.

**Upcoming Meeting Input**

Benita Saatvedt requested TAG discussion regarding what exams are used to identify TAG eligibility. Alan King requested an Executive Session regarding negotiations.

**Superintendent and Board Communication & Correspondence**

The board acknowledged the December newsletters and site council meeting minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Board Chair

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Superintendent