

St. Helens School District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
April 26, 2010

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 April 26, 2010.

Those present were:

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

Guests present were:

Nanette Hagen	Joanna Tobin	Keith Meeuwsen
Karla Thompson	Jeri Deady	Jamie Kingery
Erica Ryberg, The Spotlight	Brittany Scott	Kathleen Alexander
Landon Roberts	Jacob West	Topher Mood
Arthur Twong	Mark Erhardt	Rachel Bair
David Bair	Eli O'Driscoll-Jones	DiAnne Fentress-Rowe
Angie Christensen	Chris Christensen	Ken Bailey
Karla Thompson	Barbara Shriver	Bruce Carvalho
Brittany Richmond	Jared Larson	Ann Binum
Kristi Fenimore	Ethen Christensen	Carissa Talent
Brady Beckham	Tyson Singelstad	Jacob Richardson
David Bair		

**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. Mr. Helwig asked if there were any agenda items that could be tabled to another meeting due to the lengthy agenda. Superintendent Adams provided an overview of the agenda items and with no action to move the presented agenda items from the April 26 meeting agenda to the May 10 meeting, the motion to approve the April 26 meeting agenda as presented unanimously carried.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

As SHHS student Landon Roberts began to address the board regarding the Honors Diploma Mr. Helwig interrupted to point out Mr. Roberts' discussion topic was an agenda item and noted public comment on agenda items is a later agenda item. Mr. Morrisson allowed Mr. Roberts to continue. Mr. Roberts explained he is a senior at SHHS who is in favor of the AP Euro requirement. He felt the district would be cheating the students if they moved forward with the proposed requirement change.

SHHS student Eli O'Driscoll-Jones spoke in favor of the Honors Diploma revision. Eli explained the revision provides students the choice to select from courses that meet their career pathway. He understood the argument for the course but agreed with St. Helens High School administration and site council.

SHHS student Jared Larsen spoke in favor of the proposed non-requirement of AP Euro. Mr. Larsen explained students were notified they did not have to take the course and planned to not take the course then were later told they had to take the course. Students currently in the AP Euro course visited his language arts class arguing in favor of the course and explained how the course creates good work ethic, etc. but Mr. Larsen explained that if a student is in AP classes they already have good work ethic and are on track for college.

SHHS teacher Keith Meeuwsen spoke in favor of retaining AP Euro and expressed frustration with the process as he was not included in the discussion on retention or elimination of the course requirement. Mr. Meeuwsen wanted the board to make the best decision for the students and questioned how many students really know at 17 years old what career path they want to go into. Mr. Meeuwsen stressed how the course truly prepares students for college and teaches them how to be a better citizen.

SHHS student Spencer Gordon spoke as one of the four students who met with to the underclassmen in favor of AP Euro. Spencer explained he did not like the course in the beginning but later found he like it and found it has better prepared him for college.

### **Consent Agenda**

Nathan Helwig moved to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- General Fund Revenue & Expenditure Report
- General Fund Revenue & Expenditure Projection
- April 2010 Human Resources Report
- March 2010 Enrollment
- Minutes of March 15, 2010 Regular Meeting
- Minutes of April 7, 2010 Special Meeting

Benita Saatvedt seconded.

Mr. King requested “grand” be changed to “grant” in the March 15, 2010 meeting minutes.

The motion approving the consent agenda unanimously carried.

### **Special Recognitions**

St. Helens Middle School principal Joanna Tobin briefly explained a recent student medical situation that resulted in a number of middle school students stepping in and taking quick action to assist a student in need and in getting adult assistance. Students Ethen Christensen, Carissa Talent, Brady Beckham, Tyson Singelstad, Jacob Richardson and David Bair were provided a certificate of appreciation by both principal Tobin and student Taylor Heaton.

Superintendent Adams recognized Maria Heath, Barbara Shriver, Kathleen Alexander and Cathy Carson for the outstand work they undertook initiating and accomplishing the implementation of Professional Learning Teams. Their work was recently written about in the Education Northwest publication Leading Professional Learning Teams.

### **Reports & Discussion**

#### **SHHS ASB Report**

SHHS ASB Secretary Spencer Gordon reported the 2010-11 ASB officers were recently elected and announced them as follows: Eric Redding, President; Kevin Courtain, Vice President; Jared Larson, Secretary; Kaitlyn Stroda, Treasurer; and Joselin Stoneking, Public Relations. This week is Spring Fling Week and coronation of the 2010 prom court will occur at the assembly on Friday.

### 5A League Configuration & Budget

Ken Bailey reported on the recent revision to the athletic league configuration that will take effect September 2010. Next year the Northwest Oregon Conference will lose Hillsboro, Glencoe and Century High Schools and add Rex Putnam, Milwaukie and Sandy High Schools. The complete NWOC 5A league will include St. Helens, Liberty, Wilsonville, Sandy, Rex Putnam, Milwaukie, Parkrose, and Sherwood. There will be an estimated transportation increase of 27% with the new configuration and Mr. Bailey explained how the mileage increase will happen. St. Helens will also play Scappoose in football on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### SHHS Childcare, Preschool & Teen Parent Programs

St. Helens High School Principal Nanette Hagen introduced Kerry Marshall, Martin Von Ins, Ann Binum and Kristi Fenimore. Martin Von provided an introduction to the Early Childhood Education Program that includes Child Development, Human Development and Early Childhood Education courses; a Childhood Practicum; Child Care Internship; and Teen Parenting. The courses concentrate on theory and practices of child development; positive behavior management; experience with working with infants, toddlers and preschoolers; curriculum development skills; and confidence in working with children. The Child Development course requires students work with simulation babies that record how they cared for the child and the various simulation babies were shared. Graduation from the program provides students recognition in a Concentration of Student in Early Childhood Education. This can be transferred to Portland Community College for five credits.

Cub's Corner Child Care and Little Lion's Day School: Cub's Corner opened fall of 1992 to support teen parents and the program has progressed to the full time child care center Little Lion's Preschool. The child care center is open Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on school and teacher work days and is state certified. The infant room is a caring and safe environment for infants six weeks to 18 months old. The toddler room provides an enriching and compassionate environment for toddlers 18 months to three years old. The preschool room is an educational and nurturing environment for preschool children ages three through five and kindergarteners five through six years old.

Teen Parent Program: St. Helens High School teen parent Ann Binum shared her story on how she wondered how she would finish school and who would take care of her baby for her to finish school after becoming pregnant. Ann explained how the program taught her how to care for herself and her son, how to make better choices, educated her on finances, and helped ease her mind knowing her son would be taken care of during the school day to stay in high school. Ann plans to move on to medical school after high school graduation.

St. Helens High School teen parent Kristi Fenimore shared her story and explained what she learned in the courses she had taken before and after she became pregnant. Kristi credited her success in parenting and school to the Teen Parent and Child Care program. Kristi is placed with Apollo College for the Dental Assisting Program immediately following graduation.

St. Helens High School counselor Kerry Marshall explained how she meets with Teen Parents as they are identified and establishes a personalized plan for them before and after they deliver their baby to ensure academic success and graduation. This plan includes teen parenting classes that provides support and understanding for one another; addresses topics such as child birth preparation, child development, independent living skills, and health and nutrition; provides connections with Community Partners such as the Women's Resource Center, OSU Extension Education, Healthy Start, and the St. Helens Public Library; and teen parent intervention when an academic or attendance concern is raised.

### Oregon Diploma Options & Credit Recovery

St. Helens High School principal Nanette Hagen shared a presentation on the recently revised Oregon diploma options. New diploma options include a modified diploma, extended diploma, and an

alternative certificate. Except for the modified and extend diploma and the alternative certificate, essential skills and personalized learning is required. The current SHHS senior class has 198 students or 93% on track to graduate, 13 students or 7% not on track to graduate, and 43 students or 20% projected to receive an Honors Diploma.

Students in jeopardy of graduating have the option of Credit Recovery through BYU online courses. During the 2009-10 school year 129 sections of credit recovery have been signed up for and 18 sections have been successfully completed. Once enrolled in a BYU course it is available for one year. Other programs offered by the district include the Senate Bill 300 Program and PSU Challenge Program. SHHS currently has two students participating in SB300 for a total of 9 credits. PSU Challenge Program has 24 of 30 calculus students receiving PSU credit, 12 of the 16 Statistics students receiving PSU credit, and College Writing has 14 of the 20 students receiving PSU credit. Insight School of Oregon has not been successful.

#### Full Day Kindergarten

Superintendent Adams provided a recommendation to add Full Day Kindergarten to the 2010-11 school year at \$275 per month out of pocket cost for families. The cost would pay for the staffing, materials and curriculum needed for the classroom. There would be a number of scholarships available for free and reduced lunch qualifying families and following board approval community notification would include the local newspapers, school newsletters, and School Connects to the currently enrolled 2010-11 kindergarten students and the local daycares who have registered to receive calls. Two kindergarten teachers have offered to assume the positions and draft policy IGAL was presented to the Board.

#### Budget

Director of Finance and Operations Terri Burns reported on the 2010-11 budget that reflects \$370, 784 revenue increase that will be put in a reserve for the PERS cost in the 2011-12 year and an absorption of \$1.3 million. The \$1.3 absorption includes salary, health care, utilities, technology, and transportation increases; other payroll costs; and maintenance costs of old buildings.

Recommended options for budget savings include FTE reductions; a reduction in school days; the hope that health care comes in lower than projected; take full PERS increase hit of \$900,000 in 2012-13 instead of over the two year period; cover major maintenance costs through the Excise Tax; and, as a last resort, reduce the ending fund balance.

#### Construction Excise Tax

Director of Finance and Operations Terri Burns reported to the board the district currently brings in \$75,000 from the Construction Excise Tax that was voted in by the board in 2007 and questioned what information the board was seeking.

Mrs. Saatvedt explained the district was approached by local builders to waive the implemented Construction Excise Tax and requested options.

Superintendent Adams reviewed the option to waive or reduce a percentage of the fee with reevaluation of the item in one year.

Mr. Morrisson noted the board did not have hard figures to make a determination.

Mr. King reminded everyone that people choose where they buy and live and the fee is passed on to the buyers.

#### Second Reading Revised Policies

IIA – Instructional Resources/Instructional Materials: Since the policy revisions are required Mr. Helwig entered a motion to add IIA to Action Items as agenda item 7.7. Benita Saatvedt seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

IKF – Graduation Requirements: Benita Saatvedt entered a motion to move IKF to Action Items as agenda item 7.8. Nathan Helwig seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

IKF-AR Graduation Requirements: Benita Saatvedt commented on how the teacher has inspired the students who have taken AP Euro.

Mr. Helwig added that based on the testimony received, all SHHS AP courses need to be more rigorous.

Mr. King questioned how Language Arts 9H qualifies as an Honors course.

Mrs. Saatvedt asked if the board would be open to implementing the change just this school year since students have forecasts for not taking the course.

Mrs. Hagen offered a solution to do away with the recommended revision and leave as is for future discussion if needed. It was also pointed out there are a number of high schools who don't even offer the Honors Diploma.

Mr. King recommended revisiting the AR in the fall.

Mr. Crist entered a motion to withdraw the requested Administrative Rule revisions. Mr. Helwig seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Action Items**

#### **Key Club Out of State Travel Request**

Mr. Helwig entered a motion to approve the Key Club out of state travel request. Mr. Crist seconded. Mr. King declared a potential conflict of interest. The motion approving the Key Club's out of state travel request passed as follows: Mr. Helwig, yes; Mr. Morrisson, yes; Mrs. Saatvedt, yes; Mr. Crist, yes; and Mr. King abstaining.

#### **Resolution 2009-10 No. 13: Appropriating Special Revenue Funds**

Mr. Crist entered a motion to approve Resolution 2009-12 No. 13 Appropriating Special Revenue Funds. Mrs. Saatvedt seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Budget Committee Vacancy Appointment**

Mr. Helwig entered a motion to appoint Sally Norbom to a three year term on the St. Helens School District's Budget Committee. Mrs. Saatvedt seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Construction Excise Tax**

Mrs. Saatvedt entered a motion to retain the Construction Excise Tax as is. Mr. King seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Full Day Kindergarten**

Mr. King entered a motion to approve optional tuition based full day kindergarten. Mr. Crist seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Policy Revisions**

Mr. Helwig entered a motion to approve revised policies IIA – Instructional Resources/Instructional Materials and IKF – Graduation Requirements. Mrs. Saatvedt seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items**

No public comments regarding agenda items were provided.

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. into Executive Session in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (d) and (i) regarding negotiations and evaluation of the superintendent.

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Board Chair

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Superintendent