

St. Helens School District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
May 24, 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 May 24, 2010.

Those present were:

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

Guests present were:

Nanette Hagen	Joanna Tobin	Keith Meeuwsen
Karla Thompson	Jeri Deady	Jamie Kingery
Bruce Carvalho	Karla Thompson	James Sager
Jordan Jensen	Gail Martyn	Mike Arthur
Joanna Tobin	Jill Carlson	Jon Sickler
Marleen Zytrowski	Lisa Rawlings	Dalton Plumer
Julia Plumer	Lacey Plumer	Annie Plumer
Telka Peterson	Diana Peterson	Janice Gonzales
Madison Dreyer	Haylee Crawford	Ben Crawford
Chelsea Lewis	Scott Pieper	

**Call to Order**

Following an Executive Session in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (i) to conduct an evaluation of the Superintendent, David Morrisson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

**Agenda Approval**

Alan King entered a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Nathan Helwig seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

No public comment on non-agenda items was given.

**Consent Agenda**

Benita Saatvedt moved to approve the consent agenda as follows:

General Fund Revenue & Expenditure Report  
General Fund Revenue & Expenditure Projection  
May 2010 Human Resources Report – Revised 5/24/10  
April 2010 Enrollment

Bill Crist seconded. The motion approving the consent agenda unanimously carried.

**Special Recognitions**

St. Helens High School Principal Nanette Hagen recognized long time citizen and SHHS athletics supporter Jack Cooper. Since 1957 Mr. Cooper has attended all but four home football and basketball

games and, as a token of appreciation, was presented with a certificate of recognition and a St. Helens High School ball cap.

## **Reports & Discussion**

### **SHHS ASB Report**

St. Helens High School Assistant Principal Bruce Carvalho reported on prom at the World Trade Center. Mr. Carvalho complimented the students for their behavior considering the cold conditions of the outdoor setting and announced Kayla Sullivan was crowned prom queen and Chris Semling as king.

### **Columbia City School Showcase - Outdoor School**

Principal Lisa Rawlings introduced Columbia City School students Lacey Plumer, Madison Dryer, Baylee Crawford who shared their personal and educational learning experiences received during their 2009-10 6<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Outdoor School. A video from Outdoor School made by students and Scott Pieper was also shown. In closing of the Outdoor School report Principal Rawlings thanked the district for the opportunity and explained the 2009-10 trip was funded through a \$15,000 grant received last summer, fundraised monies, and ESD service credits. There was not out of pocket cost to families this year. Superintendent Adams added the majority of the cost for Outdoor School is covered from ESD service credits and the cost out of general fund is very minimal, and in closing her gratitude for the district being able to provide the educational experience another year was expressed.

### **Yankton Arthur Academy**

Yankton Arthur Academy Director Michael Arthur provided the annual presentation on the Yankton Arthur Academy. The Arthur Academy has a total of six schools in Oregon and will not be adding anymore. The schools are academically focused schools with Direct Instruction as the method of instruction. Yankton Arthur Academy serves grades K-8 with a projected enrollment of 230, mostly from St. Helens. Applications are taken online and slots are chosen through a lottery with in-district families having first priority. Students not selected in the lottery are placed on a waiting list. Staffing for the 2010-11 school year include nine and a half full time teachers, four and a half full time teaching assistants, two part time music and PE teachers, one part time administrative assistant, and one full time administrator.

Academic results at YAA are measured three ways: OAKS State Testing, Stanford Achievement Testing, and Curriculum Based Assessment. All show significant gains in Reading, Math, Writing, and Science.

The parent community is extremely active. The past three years the YAA Parent Organization (YAAPO) has raised over \$30,000 through massive fundraising; organized special events such as the spring carnival, back to school barbeque, holiday parties, movie nights, and tween dances; and volunteering of time through lawn maintenance, site improvements, and helping in the classroom, lunch and office. YAAPO President Jill Carlson was introduced and shared some YAAPO highlights.

Improvements during the 2009-10 school year include new bathrooms, a new science/computer lab, new science curriculum, the 7<sup>th</sup> grade class, puberty education course, and YAA was one of 392 Oregon schools to receive an overall rating of "Outstanding" on the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Oregon School Report Card. Goals for 2010-11 include high level Math and Science, a building expansion and building purchase, achievement of 90% or higher on OAKS, gym and cafeteria improvements, and participation in the Arthur Academy Dissemination Grant.

Mrs. Saatvedt questioned the access of online learning.

Mr. Arthur explained they do not participate in online learning but would be interested in looking into this.

Mrs. Saatvedt questioned how YAA meets the needs of high end learners.

Mr. Arthur explained they have added this to their 2010-11 goals and look forward to seeing what that will bring.

Mr. Arthur thanked the district for their support and acknowledged Donna Rethati, Terri Burns, and Jeri Deady for their assistance when needed.

#### Science Facilities

Superintendent Adams reported in January she invited science staff to participate in the development of a science facilities improvement plan to meet the curriculum standard. The team consisted of secondary and middle school teachers and they identified areas of priority that included facility improvement, equipment, materials, curriculum, and safety. The work of the team resulted in a three year plan that will be met as the budget allows or through a bond if the district pursues and passes one.

Mrs. Saatvedt questioned grant funding options.

Superintendent Adams explained grant writing requires a lot of time teachers are often already stretched for.

Mrs. Saatvedt encouraged the seeking of grant funding.

Mr. Helwig requested to see the plan.

Superintendent Adams explained it is available and Mrs. Burns added she is adding costs. The plan will be formalized and the group will be invited in to share their work with the board at a later meeting.

#### Budget

Director of Finance and Operations Terri Burns provided a summary of the May 19 budget committee meeting. Jana Mann was voted as budget committee chair and the committee received the 2010-11 budget message and proposed budget. The committee was asked to e-mail questions before the June 2 meeting and the entire committee will be e-mailed the answer.

#### Second Reading New Policy - IGAL

Nathan Helwig entered a motion to approve new policy IGAL – Optional Full Day Kindergarten. Benita Saatvedt seconded.

Alan King entered a motion to amend the agenda adding the approval of new policy IGAL to action items as item 7.1. Nathan Helwig seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Second Reading Revised Administrative Rule

IKF-AR Graduation Requirements: At the start of the meeting the board received an additional correction to the revised administrative rule received in their board packets.

Benita Saatvedt requested additional discussion on the Honors Diploma. Nathan Helwig seconded. The chair agreed to add Honors Diploma discussion to an upcoming meeting agenda.

Alan King expressed his disagreement with reducing graduation requirements and requested further discussion on the item.

The board agreed to hold discussion on the Honors Diploma and graduation requirements at the June 14 Work Session.

**Action Items**

**Approval of new policy IGAL – Optional Full Day Kindergarten**

Nathan Helwig entered a motion to approve 7.1. Bill Crist seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items**

No public comments regarding agenda items were provided.

**Upcoming Meeting Input**

In addition to the already scheduled McBride Elementary School Showcase and budget, the board added Honors Diploma discussion to the agenda.

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