

**St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Meeting
September 13, 2010**

The District School Board of School District #502, Columbia County, Oregon convened in a Work Session at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Office of the District, County and State on September 13, 2010.

Those present were:

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

Guests:

Jeri Deady	Andy Croley	Cathy Barnett
Don Barnett	Adam Sommers	Pat Fery
Marleen Zytniowski	Misty Crawford	Henry Heimuller
Michelle Johnson		

Call To Order

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

Agenda Approval

Alan King entered a motion to approve the September 13, 2010 work session agenda as presented. Bill Crist seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports and Discussion

St. Helens Student Foundation Updates

St. Helens Student Foundation President Cathy Barnett, who has been involved with the district since 1962, presented the Board with a plate of cookies and provided a history on the Foundation that received 503c status in 1993.

SHSF Treasure Adam Sommers reported on the fiscal management of the Foundation. The Foundation oversees a fund in the amount of \$250,000 through I.P.S. and disbursed a total of \$22,500 in 2010. To donate to the Foundation they have a donor agreement and a recipient thank you letter that goes to the donor from the recipient. Mr. Sommers also reported on the Foundation's contribution to Columbia City School's 2009-10 Outdoor School and announced the new Lady J fund for student extracurricular expenses.

SHSF General Trustee Pat Fery reported on the Classroom Grant Projects that started when the district began experiencing budget shortfalls. Classroom grants are earned through projects and they have an average award of \$250-\$1000. During the 2009-10 school year ten projects were chosen.

In closing of the Foundation update Pat Fery recognized Cathy Barnett for her years of service to the Foundation and the district.

HS Campus Committee

Superintendent Adams introduced St. Helens School District's Director of Nutrition Misty Crawford and reminded the Board of student safety concerns raised the year before last that lead to the report they were going to receive.

Misty Crawford reviewed the May 2009 report to the board where there was an increase in shoplifting and a student safety concern during the high school lunch hour. The appointed group met throughout the 2009-2010 school year where a variety of items such as the elimination of paper tickets to increase free/reduced status anonymity was implemented. Oregon Department of Education representative Chris Facha conducted a review of the district's cafeterias where his strongest recommendation was to update the high school cafeteria. Updates projects included the installation of new flooring and lighting and painting during the 2010 summer. Menus have been revamped though input on student surveys and daily specials are offered. Upcoming changes for the high school cafeteria will include the opening of the Savannah Sandwich Station and a third cashier.

In June the Wellness Committee met in accordance with Board Policy where wellness of students was a major concern when the students are purchasing and returning to class with monster drinks, chips, candy, pop, etc. With the obesity and diabetes epidemic among today's youth being so high the committee was unanimously in support of lunch time campus closure. The committee's unanimous support led to the surveying of neighboring businesses that could experience financial impact of some kind with campus closure.

Henry Heimuller reviewed his involvement as a parent on the Wellness Committee the last five plus years and reviewed some of the wellness implemented things at the schools. Even with these changes in place it was found student wellness is still at risk because of their access to the supersize drinks and other non-nutritional menu items. Prior to surveying the neighboring businesses Mr. Heimuller observed the locations in immediate walking distance that students frequented the most and the results were reported as follows:

Dollar Tree – supportive

McDonalds – non-supportive due to a daily revenue loss of \$150, regular customers avoid the area during the student lunch time, have found a quick response of the district when it is needed, the safety of students getting into questionable vehicles was a concern though

Taco Bell – non-supportive due to a daily revenue loss of 5%, the trash during that comes from the students is a trade-off for the revenue during this time

Safeway – leave your backpack at the door policy and the district provides personnel to monitor the door, revenue loss would be insignificant, wouldn't miss the kids tearing up the shelves, felt the Board should do what they need to do

Rite –Aid – student smokers create a litter issue for Rite-Aid in-between the vehicles by the transit stop, financially no impact

Andy Croley, who had never experienced an open campus at lunch, reported on the recent implementation of lunch time automobile closure at the high school. The feedback so far has been positive. The students have done well with the change and there has been some student excitement

with the cafeteria update. Mr. Croley will be receiving student input from a student group on campus closure and is scheduled to meet with Student Council on Monday.

Mrs. Saatvedt questioned how the group would be able to accommodate and monitor the large number of students if there is a campus closure.

Mr. Croley noted the district could not house that large of a group in one lunch period. There would have to be bell schedule adjustments or a partial closure.

Mr. Morrisson questioned an implementation timeline if the Board were to support campus closure of some kind.

Mr. Croley explained there are a lot of unknowns at this time, but he would be interested in implementing for the 2011-2012 school year.

Superintendent Adams questioned the Board's direction to assist with future planning.

Mr. Helwig was fiscally in favor of a campus closure with the incentive to earn off campus privilege.

Mr. Crist was in favor of a campus closure through a delicate and gradual phasing out process.

Mrs. Saatvedt agreed with the incentive to earn off campus privilege, a gradual closure through implementation with the 2010-2011 freshman class, and a good offering of menu options.

Mr. Morrisson was in favor of the closure because of student safety reasons, not district or community financial reasons. Mr. Morrisson asked to hear more during the process.

Mr. King was in favor of a closure to freshman and sophomore classes and junior and senior students with behavior incidents. However, food choices have to be both nutritious and appealing to the students.

Mr. Heimuller added the committee has echoed the same concerns as the Board.

Mr. Croley added he would like to consult with legal counsel regarding district liability with an open campus.

District Levy

Superintendent Adams reported the May election date is May 17, 2010 with the filing date being 45 days before the election. If the Board was in favor of advancing with a Local Option Levy the Board action needs to occur and the calendar has to be established.

Mr. Helwig explained to the public the Board met for a retreat on Friday where discussion items included operating levy, superintendent search, honors diploma, and various other topics where no decisions were made. The discussion on levy at tonight's meeting is a continuation of their discussion.

Mrs. Saatvedt added the Board explored a January timeline for finalization of amounts and campaigning to keep the level of services as they are this year.

Mr. Helwig was in favor of a May election for an Operating Levy.

The Board requested a financial snap shot of the district for a five year period. A state budget forecasts will not be received until spring which is too late for campaigning. However, the message from the state level is clear that funding for education will not improve any time soon and, along with the unknowns of health insurance and contract increases, the district will unfortunately experience continued reductions.

Action Items

7-8 Health Textbook Adoption

David Morrisson entered a motion to approve agenda items 4.1 as follows:

Grade 7-8 Health Textbook Adoption

7th Grade

I'm in Charge of the FACTS Middle School Curriculum (Grade 7 curriculum)

Health Smart Abstinence and Reproductive Health & Pregnancy Prevention Teacher Materials and Workbooks

8th Grade

I'm in Charge of the FACTS Middle School Curriculum (grade 8 curriculum)

Health Smart Abstinence and Reproductive Health & Pregnancy Prevention Teacher Materials and Workbooks

Bill Crist seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Search Contract

Alan King entered a motion to approve the proposed Superintendent Search Contract with Oregon School Board Association in the amount of \$10,250. David Morrisson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m. into Executive Session in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (d) to conducted deliberations regarding negotiations.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Board Chair

Superintendent