

**St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Meeting
October 11, 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 October 11, 2010.

Those present were:

Nathan Helwig, Board Chair
David Morrisson, Board Member
Bill Crist, Board Member
Alan King, Board Member
Patricia Adams, Superintendent
Terri Burns, Director of Finance & Operations
Amanda Stuber, Executive Assistant

Guests:

Andy Croley	Diana Peterson	Telka Peterson
Michelle Johnson	Tyler Graf, The Spotlight	Josey Bartlett, The Chronicle

Call To Order

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

Agenda Approval

Superintendent Adams requested agenda item 3.4 be moved to 3.2 and move previously numbered item 3.2 to 3.3 and 3.3 to 3.4. David Morrisson seconded. Alan King seconded. The motion approving the agenda as amended carried unanimously.

Reports and Discussion

Honors Diploma

Andy Croley provided an update on the Board's request to review the high school's Honors Diploma policy. Mr. Croley explained the Honors Diploma was discussed at the September site council meeting where the consensus reflected change needs to be made. After site council input Mr. Croley met with the History/Government teachers Professional Learning Team, AP European History teacher Keith Meeuwesen, and high school Department Chairs. The Department Chairs are gathering feedback and previewing Honors Diploma requirements from other districts. Their findings will be reported back to Mr. Croley by October 18.

Following Board input on the pros and cons of retaining an Honors Diploma and discussion on possible revisions, the Board requested Mr. Croley to continue his work and provide the Board a recommendation that will meet all students' interest of study. Mr. Corley will proceed and provide a proposal at the November Work Session.

Columbia City Street Improvement

Terri Burns explained in 1999 Columbia City School was remodeled through Bond funds and an agreement between SHSD and City of Columbia City to postpone street improvement for five years was formed. The five year extension expired September 2009 and, at the request of the district, a one year

extension was granted by the City of Columbia City to allow engineering drawing completion to assist with a project estimate and the district has been asked to begin the project as the extension has expired. The project is estimated at \$63,151 plus the possible additional cost of \$10,000 to \$12,000 for improvements or replacement of the existing catch basins. Mrs. Burns also added it was recently learned that DEQ is evaluating all municipality sanitary sewers and storm water systems but this has not been done to the Columbia City area yet. Columbia City has a levy on the November 2010 ballot where they plan to assist with the financial implications of the future changes from DEQ's evaluation and offered to loan the district the money to complete the project if it is a financial hardship for the district at this time.

The Board requested Mrs. Burns consult with legal counsel on further implications if DEQ comes in with more work and to proceed with the lowest cost to the District.

District Four Year Revenue Trend

Terri Burns provided the district with revenue data from 2007-2009 Biennium through the 2013-2015 Biennium. The 2010-2011 revenue and expenditure estimate reflects a \$2.5 million difference assuming there is no decline in enrollment and property tax assessment values stay at current value. It was noted that even though the economists are seeing signs of the economy recovering, the recession hit Oregon later and Oregon will experience a later recovery.

District Operating Levy

Following the review of the revenue data the Board recognized a levy would mean an additional cost to local taxpayers, but the Board found no other option than to pursue Operating Levy in the maximum amount of \$2.1 million to retain services as close to what they currently are. The district will still experience some reductions but the passing of a levy would make those reductions fewer.

Superintendent Adams added she is extremely cautious, but the need to keep the level of services for the students as they are is vital. It is the hope the community will see the need to keep the district's mission and goals moving forward, and not lose sight of how far the district has come and the academic accomplishments they've made. The campaign will need to be very specific and clearly spell out what the levy will support and not support.

Mr. Morrisson entered a motion to add an action item to pass a resolution for an option levy. Mr. King seconded. The motion failed as follows: Mr. King, yes; Mr. Morrisson, yes; Mr. Crist, no; and Mr. Helwig, no. It was requested a resolution in the amount of \$2.1 million over a five year period be available for Board action at the October 25, 2010 Board Meeting.

Policy Updates, New Policies and Rescinded Policy Announcement

The Board received the following policies for updates: AC, ACA, BBFA, BBFB, DBK, GAB, GB, GBA, GBC, GDCA and JHDC. Policies GC, GCC, GD, GDA, GDC and JHCDA are new policies the Board received for consideration and policy and administrative rule EBBCC is listed for rescinding under the recommendation of OSBA. All policies will be on the October 25, 2010 meeting agenda for discussion.

Upcoming Meeting Agenda Input

Upcoming meeting agenda items included: Facility Renaming Petition; Operating Levy; Counselor Evaluation Form; Instructional Improvement Committee; and First Reading of New, Updated and Deleted Policies.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Board Chair

Superintendent