

St. Helens School District #502  
Board of Directors Meeting  
April 25, 2011

The District School Board of School District #502, Columbia County, Oregon convened in a Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Office of the District, County and State on April 25, 2011.

Those present were:

Nathan Helwig, Board Chair  
Benita Saatvedt, Vice Chair  
Bill Crist, Board Member  
Alan King, Board Member  
David Morrisson, Board Member  
Patricia Adams, Superintendent  
Marleen Zytniowski, Secretary

Guest:

Tim Olietti	Lori Thompson	Andy Croley
Bruce Carvalho	Karla Thompson	Cathy Carson
Marshall Porter	Jamie Kingery	Gail Martyn
Keith Meeuwsen	Rebecca Fosaas	Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Esquivel
Giselle Esquivel	Tyler Graff	Ray Biggs

**Call to Order**

Nathan Helwig called the regular session to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

**Agenda Approval**

Bill Crist entered a motion to approve the agenda. David Morrisson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment**

No public comment on agenda or non agenda items was provided.

**Consent Agenda**

David Morrisson entered a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

March 2011 Enrollment  
Minutes of March 14, 2011 Regular Meeting  
Minutes of April 11, 2011 Work Session

Bill Crist seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Special Recognition**

Andy Croley recognized Cyndy Miller in her absence. Ms. Miller just earned the OADA Rookie Athletic Director of the Year Award for her efforts in promoting sportsmanship, implementation of concussion training, networking, work ethic and so much more.

Superintendent Adams recognized Giselle Esquivel for her Students Can Often Reach Excellence (SCORE) award for her tolerance, cultural awareness and diversity. Superintendent Adams read Giselle's staff nomination, thanked her for her efforts, and presented her with her medallion.

Superintendent Adams recognized Rebecca Fosaas, exchange student from Norway who has given much to St. Helens School District. Rebecca will be returning to Norway this summer after a brief visit to New York. She also had the opportunity to travel to Hawaii over spring break. Ms. Saatvedt asked how many years of English classes are required in Norway. Rebecca said she has taken English since the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Her favorite experiences here have been the food and her host family. In the summer Rebecca works for a camp for special needs students where her mom is a teacher. Rebecca also stated she loves it here and was well received by all the students at the high school who were very friendly and a bit curious.

## **Reports and Discussion**

### **Professional Learning Teams**

Superintendent Adams began the discussion by talking about the process and timeline of implementing the Professional Learning Teams at each building. She then turned it over to the administrators to share where their building is in the process and their accomplishments and challenges.

McBride Principal Karla Thompson shared the progress and gave an overview of how this program looks at McBride Elementary in year two. Next year they will implement a rotation system through the PLT teams and provide an agenda to be even more effective in making data driven decisions. Mr. Helwig asked if each team has a facilitator. Ms. Thompson explained there is a trained facilitator for each team. Ms. Saatvedt voiced concern for the lack of communication between each team. Ms. Thompson explained the teams are each focused on different students but that the criteria used is universal.

Lewis & Clark Principal Carson discussed the PLT teams and process in her building. The program started as a volunteer situation and now has six professional learning teams for each grade level. The recent Dufour Conference attendees would like to focus on answering specific questions directed to the learning of each child. This will be a focus for next year. Ms. Saatvedt commented on the success Lewis & Clark has had implementing the Professional Learning Community.

St. Helens Middle School Principal Tim Olietti explained the differences between Interdisciplinary Teams and Professional Learning Teams. He attributed difficulty of implementation at the middle school to not being able to get enough people trained for each group. The math department and social studies department have all been trained. In addition, the language arts department and science department

both have recently received training and can now put some school-wide systems in place. Mr. Olietti also explained the school-wide college essay project that has been put in place through collaborative PLC work. Mr. Morrisson asked about reducing the impact of personnel change on the PTL program and Mr. Olietti felt once they have had time to get this program fully in place minimal turnover shouldn't have a detrimental impact. Superintendent Adams reminded the Board that this is a district-wide initiative so this will help with consistency and continuity.

St. Helens High School Principal Andy Croley shared the PLT program is half way through the second year in his building and provided examples of how the high school plans to move forward with the PLC. He also noted the excitement for this program is growing. The group is in the process of finishing up the first common formative assessment. Next year's goal is to complete two assessments per semester. A real positive direction they are hearing is the increased parent contact opportunities for the identified students.

#### Budget Reductions

Superintendent Adams reviewed the Public Budget Forum held last week and recent staff meetings, and noted that most suggestions were the same as the first round of discussions. Many people voiced dissatisfaction in losing any programs. Ms. Adams also thanked Mr. King for his thoughtful comments at the recent forum. She also mentioned that the district needs to concentrate on high impact reductions to meet the reduction target. Unfortunately, salary has the largest impact.

#### IICA-AR Review

Discussion regarding the policy revision for out of state travel, all field trips beyond 100 miles of the school, began with Mr. King suggesting the elimination of the reference to vans and short busses. It was pointed out that the district does have access to both. So that this policy wouldn't require changes in the future it was recommended to leave it as stated. The consensus was that this revised AR is acceptable and as long as it meets the approval of the administrators it doesn't require Board approval.

#### Action Items

##### Approval of Policy Revision IICA

Mr. King asked for an addition to the policy following the third sentence in the final paragraph which states "A request for out of the USA, travel must include the above as well a financial contingency plan for that travel" to include "and valid medical insurance." Much discussion followed regarding the legality of this change. Mr. Helwig tabled this decision until legal council can provide clarification. Mr. Morrisson made a motion to postpone this decision. Mr. King seconded. The motion was tabled until legal review.

##### Renaming of St. Helens Middle School Petition

Mr. Helwig discussed the efforts of the Board and citizens over this petition and asked for a motion to approve the renaming of the middle school. For lack of a motion the request did not move forward.

Mr. King entered a motion to rename the piece of property occupied by St. Helens Middle School, Columbia County Education Campus and District Office to the Don Hogan Education Campus. With no second to the motion, the motion failed.

**Public Comment Regarding Agenda Items**

No public comment on regular agenda items was provided.

**Upcoming Meeting Input**

Agenda items for the May 9, 2011 Regular Meeting include:

Budget Update

Levy

Superintendent Search

New Board Member training schedule with OSBA

**Superintendent and Board Communication and Correspondence**

The Board acknowledged receiving the Site Council meeting minutes.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. for executive session in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (i) for the purpose of evaluating the Superintendent.

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Board Chair

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Superintendent