

**St. Helens School District #502  
Board of Directors Meeting  
February 8, 2012**

Following a 5:30 p.m. Executive Session in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (d) and ORS 192.660 (2) (i), the St. Helens School District Board of School District #502, Columbia County, Oregon convened in a Work Session at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Helens High School Loo Wit Room of the District, County and State on February 8, 2012.

Those present were:

Alan King, Board Chair  
Marshall Porter, Board Vice Chair  
Nathan Helwig, Board Member  
Matt Freeman, Board Member  
Raymond Biggs, Board Member  
Mark Davalos, Superintendent  
Janine Salisbury, Business Manager  
Amanda Stuber, Executive Assistant

**Call to Order**

The January 12, 2012 Board Work Session was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Agenda Approval**

Nathan Helwig entered a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Matt Freeman seconded.

The motion approving the agenda as presented unanimously carried.

**Visitors to Address the Board**

Rick Demings, Yankton resident and home school parent, questioned district intent to reach out to the home school population and asked the district to consider this if it has not been done.

**Reports and Discussion**

**Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Davalos reported on community organizational meetings he has been attending and announced the new SSAC will meet in grade level cluster of K-6 and 7-12 starting tomorrow morning. February 15<sup>th</sup> is the next SCORE Award Ceremony at SHC where students will be recognized for creativity, artistic ability and innovation. Superintendent Davalos recognized SHHS athletics and SHHS student Steven Robinson who recently earned a spot as a National Merit Finalist, and in shared information and observations during visits to the schools during early release time on Wednesdays.

**District Configuration Update**

Superintendent Davalos presented the Board with a presentation on the K-6 boundary process, boundary review committee makeup, timeline and criteria. Recommended criteria to guide the boundary review committee included:

- Equalization of numbers at each school to maximize building use and capacity,
- Assurance of ethnic and social-economic diversity,
- Preservation of transportation costs, and

- Minimization of student travel time/distance.

Superintendent Davalos asked the Board to review the criteria and requested Board input at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting prior to adoption.

#### SHSD School Configuration

Alan King noted there was no new information for the Board to discuss and explained the Board would discuss the agenda item under action.

#### House Bill 3681 – Admission of Nonresident Students

Superintendent Davalos shared information on House Bill 3681 that was enacted by the 2011 legislature as an additional method of voluntary school choice for Oregon students effective September 2012. The bill does not remove the traditional method of inter-district transfer, tuition and mutual district agreement.

To meet the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline requiring Board's to establish the number of students a district will accept, Superintendent Davalos recommended accepting a total of 6 students as follows: two students at grade K, two students at grade 1 and two students at grade 2. Superintendent Davalos noted there has been discussion with local superintendents and they are in agreement to recommend the same, however, the decision is up to the board.

Mr. Helwig questioned the ability to accept from certain geographic locations such as six from Columbia County but an unlimited number from outside of Columbia County.

Superintendent Davalos did not have the response to Mr. Helwig's question, but will report back at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

#### 2012-2013 Budget Calendar

Janine Salisbury reviewed the budget process for SHSD, dates of budget committee meetings, and information that will be provided at the meetings. The full calendar will be available online by end of the business day Friday, February 10, 2012.

#### Graduation Exercises Policy Revision Request Overview

SHHS Principal Andy Croley provided a review of current board policy IKFB which allows for student participation in graduation exercises is a student is within one half credit of the required number of credits to receive a diploma and requested a revision that will require students to have all credit requirements to participate in graduation exercises. Other information provided by Mr. Croley included the explanation of students not following through with receiving the credit which impacts the district's graduation on time rating and policies from a number of other district's that require all credits for graduation exercise participation.

Follow minor discussion with the Board, the Board was in favor of the revision. The revision will be communicated accordingly after adoption.

#### First Reading of Proposed New, Revised or Rescinded Board Policies

First reading of revised policy IGBAB/JO – Education Records/Records of Students with Disabilities no questions were presented.

First reading of revised optional new policy JFCHA – Use of Alcohol for Cooking included the removal of the new policy for no further action since the SHHS curriculum for the culinary class does not include cooking with alcohol.

### Second Reading of Proposed New, Revised or Rescinded Board Policies

The second reading of new, revised or rescinded board policies included revisions as requested at the January 25<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting:

- AE – District Goals: As presented at the 1-25-12 reading, no additional comments provided
- BDDH – Public Participation in Board Meetings: Revisions requested at 1-25-12 reading included, no additional comments provided
- EB - Safety Program: Required rescind, no comments provided
- EB – AR - Regulations Regarding the Application of Pesticides: Required rescind, no comments provided
- EBB – Accident Prevention & Safety Procedures: Revisions by Superintendent as requested at 1-25-12 reading included
- EFAA – District Nutrition & Food Services: No revisions requested at 1-25-12 reading
- ECAB – Vandalism/Malicious Mischief/Theft: Revisions requested at 1-25-12 reading included, no additional comments provided
- IGBHE – Expanded Options Program: Required revisions, tabled to the February 22<sup>nd</sup> Regular Board Meeting
- IKA – Grading System: No revisions requested at 1-25-12 reading
- IKF – Graduation Requirements: Required revisions, revisions by Superintendent as requested at 1-25-12 reading included
- IKFB – Graduation Exercises: Required and requested revisions as requested at 1-25-12 reading & option with Superintendent requested revisions included
- JE – Attendance: No revisions requested at 1-25- 12 reading
- Admission of Nonresident Students: Required and requested revisions by Superintendent as requested at 1-25-12 reading included. Mr. Freeman questioned how the expulsion language applied to HB3681 students. This item will be reviewed further with OSBA and reported on at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> Regular Board Meeting.
- JED – Student Absences & Excuses: Required revisions, no revisions requested at 1-25-12 reading
- JGAA – Use of Restraint & : Required revisions, no revisions requested at 1-25-12 reading
- JHFE - Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse: Required revisions, no revisions requested at 1-25-12 reading
- JN – Student Fees, Fines & Charges: Required revisions, no revisions requested at 1-25-12 reading
- JO/IGBAB - Education Records/Records of Students with Disabilities: Required revisions, no revisions requested at 1-25-12 reading
- KBA – Public Records Education Records/Records of Students with Disabilities: Required revisions, no revisions requested at 1-25-12 reading

## **Public Participation Regarding Agenda Items**

Columbia City resident Kelly Niles addressed the Board regarding the last meeting where closing Columbia City School would save \$150,000. After review of the district's budget, looking at funding lost because of Yankton Arthur Academy and increasing PERS costs, a non-renewal of the YAA contract would return the revenue to the district.

SHSD resident and daycare provider Melody Killens spoke to the survey results where a majority of completions were done by people without students in the districts. Mrs. Killens asked if the survey went home with students to have parents complete and return, how many of the board members came from the area, how many have students in the district, and if the board considered how many parents will have daycare hardships that could result in a loss of their jobs which means they will not be able to pay their property taxes.

SHSD parent Jan Volynski expressed concern with irresponsibility making such a quick decision with a new and first time superintendent and new Board. Mrs. Volynski encouraged the board to focus on other priorities such as improvements to the middle and high school and settling of the teacher contract first. Mrs. Volynski acknowledged the need to close Columbia City School because of the savings and recommended moving 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to McBride and 6<sup>th</sup> to Lewis & Clark.

## **Action Items**

### SHSD School Configuration

Nathan Helwig entered a motion to approve 6.1 to accept Supt. Davalos recommendation to move the district to two K-6 elementary schools and close Columbia City School. Matt Freeman seconded.

Mr. Helwig commented the survey, disappointment with the low number of responses, and expressed concern on the lack of parent involvement. Mr. Helwig also responded to one of Mrs. Killen's questions where he noted he no longer has students in the district but had two.

Mr. Porter explained his student is in another district due to personal reasons and shared his reasons for supporting the reconfiguration.

Mr. King explained:

- The charge of the Board to provide the best education for the students of the district with the resources they have.
- He considers all the students of the district his children.
- His preference is a K-12 configuration like the district his granddaughter attends school in.
- It is a fiscal savings that will save in the reduction of staff.

Mr. Freeman explained:

- His student attends Yankton Arthur Academy because the curriculum fits his son.
- He volunteers as a soccer coach, Boy Scout leader and will be a little league coach this year.
- During his review of the survey he found the main reasons to not reconfigure were financial concerns and facility improvement needs. The financial concern is not valid due to projected savings and facility improvements are not in the budget at this time.

Mr. Biggs spoke in favor of the motion and his reconfiguration preference of a K-8.

The motion carried unanimously.

#### 2012-2013 Budget Calendar

Matt Freeman entered a motion to approve the 2012-2013 budget calendar. Raymond Biggs seconded. The motion unanimously carried.

#### Approval of New, Revised or Rescinded Board Policies

Raymond Biggs entered a motion to table revised policies:

- IGBHE – Expanded Options Program
- JECB – Admission of Nonresident Students

Nathan Helwig seconded. The motion unanimously carried.

Nathan Helwig entered a motion to approve:

- AE – District Goals (Revised)
- BDDH – Public Participation in Board Meetings (Revised)
- EB – Safety Program (Rescinded)
- EB – AR – Regulations Regarding the Application of Pesticides (Rescinded)
- EBB – Accident Prevention & Safety Procedures (New)
- EFAA – District Nutrition & Food Services (Revised)
- ECAB – Vandalism/Malicious Mischief/Theft (Revised)
- IKA – Grading System (Revised)
- IKF – Graduation Requirements (Revised)
- IKFB – Graduation Exercises (Revised)
- JE – Attendance (Revised)
- JED – Student Absences & Excuses (Revised)
- JGAA – Use of Restraint & Seclusion (Revised)
- JHFE - Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse (Revised)
- JN – Student Fees, Fines & Charges (Revised)
- JO/IGBAB - Education Records/Records of Students with Disabilities (Revised)
- KBA – Public Records Education Records/Records of Students with Disabilities (Revised)

Matt Freeman seconded. The motion unanimously carried.

#### **Upcoming Meeting Agenda Input**

Upcoming agenda item for the February 22, 2012 Regular Meeting included:

Superintendent Evaluation  
Licensed/Administrative Staff Renewals/Non-Renewals  
2012-2013 School Year Calendar  
2012-2013 District Revenue Forecast & Budget Priorities  
Open Enrollment Recommendation Action

Other items requested at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting included:

Arthur Academy contract renewal information

Outreach to home schooled families  
St. Helens Middle School Improvement Discussion

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned for recess at 8:07 p.m. and reconvened in Executive Session in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (d). The Executive Session adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

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Board Chair

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Superintendent