

St. Helens School District #502  
Board of Directors Meeting  
April 11, 2012

The St. Helens School District Board of School District #502 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 April 11, 2012.

Those present were:

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

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Alan King called the Work Session to order at 6:35 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

#### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Matt Freeman entered a motion to amend the agenda to move agenda item 5.5 to 5.1 with 6.0 to follow. Raymond Biggs seconded. The motion approving the agenda as amended unanimously carried.

#### **RECOGNITION**

Superintendent Mark Davalos and SHHS Principal Andy Croley recognized SHHS automotive technology instructor Mike Herdrich and SHHS automotive students for their generous vehicle donation to Hillsboro High School to aid in saving their program. During the recognition instructor and Mike Herdrich explained how SHHS students learned of the program's danger during a meeting that prompted the students plan to make the donation. The vehicle, a 1986 Oldsmobile Delta 88, was purchased during a fundraiser for \$35,000 which saved the teacher from being reduced to half time and the loss of the program. Each student and Mr. Herdrich was presented with a certificate of appreciation.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Genet Smiens from Columbia County Christian School addressed the Board and expressed interest in leasing Columbia City School.

#### **REPORTS & DISCUSSION**

##### Yankton Arthur Academy Contract Recommendation

Superintendent Mark Davalos provided an overview of Oregon Administrative Rules outlining charter contract renewal, the district's option to renew or non-renew the charter school contract, and shared specific timelines for doing such. Based off of reports review and discussions with Yankton Arthur Academy administration, Superintendent Davalos presented the Board with a recommendation to renew the charter for five years with the intent to negotiate language in the contract and requested input or questions from the Board.

No questions or input was provided by the Board.

### **Public Hearing: Yankton Arthur Academy Contract Renewal**

Michael Arthur began the public hearing with a presentation that provided:

- overview of Arthur Academy,
- introduced the YAA team and staff,
- professional development information,
- innovative teaching methods,
- demographics,
- assessment result data,
- financial information,
- enrollment, and
- parents and community highlights.

In closing of the presentation, Mr. Arthur expressed his appreciation for the district's sponsorship and assistance by district office personnel.

Heather Ebert expressed what a privilege it has been to have students in YAA since kindergarten. The mastery and teacher engagement is what makes it special to her. YAA parents are very involved in their child's education and Ms. Ebert asked the Board to continue sponsorship.

Erin and Robert Salisbury reviewed their role in bringing the Arthur Academy option to St. Helens families. Mrs. Salisbury thanked the Board for the support five years ago, for the partnership and assistance to YAA administration, and asked for the Board to consider YAA their students since they will one day be returned to SHSD schooling after 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Mary Carlton, SHSD resident with three children, spoke on the excitement her children have about going to school at YAA, shared favorable input on the direct instruction the students receive, and encouraged renewal of the charter.

Victoria Roberts, YAA student, shared her positive experience at YAA where she has always received high concern when she has been out for health reasons.

Public hearing closed at 7:17 p.m. with a short break.

### **REPORTS & DISCUSSION**

#### **Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Mark Davalos updated the Board on:

- recent budget staffing meetings held with principals,
- district support on a grant St. Helens Public Library applied for that would allow non-resident students to obtain a student pass to use SH public library services,
- SSAC grade group 2 – 6 last week where they held good discussion on reconfiguration and positive feedback on their grades,
- the Chamber of Commerce Koffee Klatsch hosted by St. Helens School District,

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- and the recently attended Common Core State Standards training session in Portland with other SHSD administration.

Detailed information on the Common Core State Standards will be provided to the Board at the Board Retreat.

Rachel’s Challenge

SHHS Principal Andy Croley provided a review of his introduction to Rachel’s Challenge last year at an event at Nike Headquarters where Rachel Scott’s father presented. After attending the event Principal Croley knew this is a program the district and community could benefit from so he made it happen. On the day of the event on Wednesday, April 18 a presenter will meet with grades 9 – 10, 11-12, then 8<sup>th</sup> grade from St. Helens Middle School and YAA. Later in the day the presenter will meet with leadership for training and a community event is scheduled at 7:00 p.m. The program is a yearlong program that includes support from the organization.

More information on the event can be found at [www.kgw.com](http://www.kgw.com) through the lifestyles page or [www.rachelschallenge.org](http://www.rachelschallenge.org).

K-6 Boundary Recommendation

Superintendent Mark Davalos provided an overview of the configuration of schools timeline and various committees thus far in the reconfiguration process. The approved recommendation of two K-6 schools, one 7-8, and one 9-12 school launched a 12 week school attendance boundary process by committee members Ed Leader, Amanda Stuber, Marshall Porter, Janine Salisbury, Karla Thompson, Cathy Carson, Michelle Tullock, Sheri Lee, Kris Fincher, Joe Strandjord, Gail Martyn, Kendra Griffin, Michelle Aberle, Mike Cornell and Donna Rethati.

Data shared on the attendance boundary recommendation presented includes:

<b>School</b>	<b>Capacity</b>	<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>Utilization</b>	<b>Avg. Dist</b>	<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>SES</b>
Lewis & Clark	950	846	89.7%	2.28	19%	60%
McBride	768	687	88.7%	0.87	18%	47%

<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>PK</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>K-6</b>								
Lewis & Clark	0	102	113	117	119	116	133	146
McBride	0	78	98	94	100	101	108	108
<b>Total:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>254</b>

The proposed boundary recommendation submitted by the Committee and Superintendent Davalos includes Highway 30, because of safety concerns, and Pittsburg Road as the dividing attendance boundary.

Following no questions from the Board, the Board thanked the committee for their work.

#### Maintenance Department Reorganization

Mr. King expressed concern with the creation of lead positions with limited budgetary funds and expressed his desire to see addition to the classroom. The current maintenance department reorganization proposal includes dissolution of two custodial positions, two maintenance positions, and the addition of grounds positions.

Janine Salisbury explained the maintenance lead position was originally a confidential position and was moved to a union position which hinders effective management and supervision of maintenance staff and maintenance projects. Plus with the new mandates on pesticide application there is a need for specialized training on use and oversight which should be done by a lead person. The change would not be effective until July 1, 2012.

Superintendent Davalos also explained the proposal was created to make more effective use of staff. Removal of grounds work from custodial staff would allow for more time on other areas of their job.

Mr. Biggs expressed concern with reduced maintenance and custodial staff and advocated for retention.

Mr. Freeman reviewed the proposal for clarification and expressed concern for lack of oversight on maintenance projects and evaluation of maintenance personnel since oversight can lead to more costs to the district.

Mr. Porter questioned splitting the position. This was not favorable and would be difficult to do.

The Board was in agreement of continuation with the reorganization plan.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

##### Yankton Arthur Academy Contract Renewal

Mr. King questioned Board interest in revising action to include approval of the YAA Contract.

Mr. Freeman requested clarification of the 10 day requirement in the renewal timeline. Superintendent Davalos explained the district was obligated to formally notify YAA of the intent to renew following the recommendation.

Mr. Biggs entered a motion to add approval of the YAA contract renewal to the agenda.

Mr. Helwig called point of order and expressed concern with amending action items at meetings when information and timelines have been published.

Mr. King seconded to the motion.

The motion adding approval of the YAA contract to the agenda failed as follows Marshall Porter, no; Nathan Helwig, no; Alan King, no; Ray Biggs, yes; and Matt Freeman, abstaining.

### Sacagawea Health Center Grant Remodel Project Contract

Mr. Helwig entered a motion to approve the Sacagawea Health Center grant remodel project.  
Mr. Freeman seconded.

Mr. Biggs requested a summary of the project.

Janine Salisbury provided a summary of the renovation project, explained the district is the contracting organization since the building is on district property and will receive the grant funds and process contractor payment for the project.

Marshall Porter questioned Public Health involvement and expressed concern with the Public Health's dissolution of assets.

Mrs. Salisbury explained the grant is a federal grant not a state funded grant and was confident with receiving the money.

The motion carried as follows Marshall Porter, no; Nathan Helwig, yes; Alan King, yes; Ray Biggs, yes; and Matt Freeman, yes.

### **SPECIAL REPORT & DISCUSSION**

#### Transportation Contract RFP

Janine Salisbury reported on the upcoming transportation contract expiration date of June 30, 2012 and introduced the RFP process and the RFP committee's recommendation to approve the offering of notice of intent to award to Mid Columbia which will authorize the committee to negotiate a contract for Superintendent and Board Chair signature.

An item of concern with the recommendation discussed by the Board included the committee statement that selection of Midco would eliminate the many problems experienced with bus breakdowns. It was explained breakdown records was not one of the items scored and Janine reviewed the scoring criteria used. Mr. Biggs expressed comfort with the RFP committee's extensive review of the proposals and didn't see Board need to evaluate the proposals.

Following lengthy Board discussion on the proposal scoring, cost comparison and proposed rates Mr. Freeman explained he began the process without having Midco in mind and he personally didn't rate Midco first, however, safety is number one for him. First Student had the home advantage, but didn't include any information on what they are currently providing SHSD in their proposal.

Mr. Helwig expressed the need to save the district money during difficult budget times, and entered a motion instructing Janine Salisbury to enter into contract negotiations with Durham. Marshall Porter seconded.

Mr. King expressed concern with Durham's scoring for the safety program, history and procedures.

Mr. Freeman added that Durham did express interest in hiring current transportation staff and would include a 401K plan with company match.

The motion carried as follows: Matt Freeman, yes; Nathan Helwig, yes; Marshall Porter, yes; Alan King; no; and Ray Biggs, abstained.

**UPCOMING MEETING INPUT**

Upcoming agenda items for the April 25<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting includes:

K-6 boundary approval

Yankton Arthur Academy

SHHS tabled travel request

Columbia City School

**ADJOURNMENT**

The special report and discussion meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

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Board Chair

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Superintendent