

St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Meeting
April 25, 2012

**Un-official
Minutes**

The St. Helens School District Board of School District #502 convened in a Work Session at 6:30 p.m. in the District Office of the District, County and State on April 25, 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 Regular Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Nathan Helwig entered a motion to approve the agenda. Ray Biggs seconded. The motion approving the agenda carried 4 – 1 as follows: Nathan Helwig, yes; Ray Biggs, yes; Alan King, yes; Matt Freeman; and Marshall Porter, no.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No visitor comments were provided.

CONSENT AGENDA

Nathan Helwig entered a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Minutes of February 29, 2012 Special Meeting
Minutes of March 21, 2012 Regular Meeting
Minutes of April 11, 2012 Work Session
Human Resources Report – March 2012
General Fund Revenue & Expenditure Report
Student Enrollment/Attendance Information

Ray Biggs seconded.

Marshall Porter entered a motion to remove the meeting minutes from the agenda since the items were not provided three days prior to the meeting. Raymond Biggs seconded.

The motion approving the consent agenda with the removal of the Minutes of February 29, 2012 Special Meeting, Minutes of March 21, 2012 Regular Meeting and Minutes of April 11, 2012 Work Session unanimously carried.

REPORTS & DISCUSSION

SHHS ASB Report

SHHS student Tiffany Naillon reported on 2012-13 leadership elections, the successful Rachel's Challenge Assembly last week, announced April 26th is City of St. Helens pay if forward week, next week is Spring Fling Week, and SHHS 2011-2012 Prom Court.

Superintendent Davalos shared a brief report on the well attended Rachel's Challenge public assembly and applauded Principal Croley for bringing the program to SHSD. Superintendent Davalos also announced he recently served as key note speaker at the April 23rd SHHS NHS Induction Ceremony where 16 SHHS students were inducted.

Yankton Arthur Academy Contract

Superintendent Mark Davalos provided a brief overview of the contract renewal process thus far and, and confidently submitted recommended of a five year contract renewal.

SHHS Costa Rica Travel Request

As requested by the Board at the March meeting, Superintendent Davalos researched policy and shared information from OSBA on district options to not district sponsor or have liability outside sponsored student trips.

Items questioned by the Board included teacher compensation by EF Tours and advertising options to eliminate the perception of district sponsorship and/or affiliation. Responses to the concerns did confirm the cost of teachers is often offered at a reduced rate or fully covered and non-taxable to ensure an adequate number of chaperones, teachers are medically trained by the tour company, and students also have the option to obtain credit from the travel agenda.

The Board was in favor of a policy and administrative rule addressing non-school-sponsored trips and eliminating district liability. A proposed policy will be brought to the Board at the May 9th Work Session.

SHHS Physics Travel Request

SHHS Teacher Neil Ford presented the annual out of state travel request for SHHS Physics to travel to San Francisco California in May.

Concerns shared by the Board included completion of volunteer background checks of all chaperones and proof of automobile insurance for any driver transporting students.

It was confirmed the chaperones noted on the travel application have completed and passes volunteer criminal history background checks. Mr. Ford will obtain the appropriate proof of auto liability form from SHHS office and submit as required.

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 proposed boundary recommendation submitted by the Committee and Superintendent Davalos includes Highway 30, because of safety concerns, and Pittsburg Road as the dividing attendance boundaries for McBride and Lewis & Clark Intermediate Schools.

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

Columbia City School

As follow-up to the Board's request on use of Columbia City Options, Janine Salisbury explained two requests to lease CC School have been received. However, the district has learned from Bond counsel that the district's obligation to taxpayers on the Bond required retention of the tax exempt status. Leasing the building to another public entity such as Portland Community College would keep the tax exemption but leasing to a private or for-profit entity would result in loss of the tax exempt status.

Janine recommended two motions on use of the Columbia City School. One motion was to direct the Superintendent to develop and present at timeline of the future of Columbia City School to the Bond company and the insurance carrier and the second motion to authorize the lease of the Columbia City portable to the Columbia City Public Library for the cost of utilities.

Matt Freeman questioned the ability to divide the utilities from the portable and the school. It was confirmed the two locations were on separate utility boxes so this could be done.

Merit Committee

Alan King opened discussion on the new article in the licensed bargaining agreement regarding Merit Committee. Following expressing his intent to serve on the committee, additional Board interest was sought.

Marshall Porter and Matt Freeman expressed interest in serving.

Mr. King recommended the committee convene in the next month and again in the summer. Mr. King also expressed interest in the committee having community and administrative representation.

During discussion on having two Board Members instead of three it was noted the Committee was required to follow public meeting law posting requirement since the Committee will serve as an advisory to the Board.

Alan King recommended Superintendent Davalos appoint administrative staff to the Committee.

ACTION ITEMS

Yankton Arthur Academy Contract Renewal

Mr. Helwig entered a motion approving Superintendent Davalos recommendation to renew the Yankton Arthur Academy contract. Mr. Biggs seconded.

Mr. Porter expressed his concern with YAA not excelling on testing at two grade levels which since they have the ideal class size and parental support.

Mr. Helwig requested in the negotiations to receive updates on academic progress from the group.

Mr. Freeman requested the same updates from all SHSD schools.

The motion approving renewal of the Yankton Arthur Academy Contract carried 4-1 as follows: Nathan Hewlig, yes; Ray Biggs, yes; Alan King, yes; Matt Freeman; and Marshall Porter, no.

Costa Rica Travel Request

Matt Freeman entered a motion to table the request until a policy is in place.

Superintendent Davalos requested the group be allowed to continue with promotion, fundraising and planning of the trip during policy is reviewed and adopted or remove the request from Board action since the trip is not going to be a district affiliated and sponsored trip.

Mr. Freeman entered a motion to remove the tabled Costa Rica Travel Request from Board action. Mr. Helwig seconded.

The motion unanimously carried.

SHHS Physics Travel Request

Marshall Porter entered a motion to approve the SHHS Physics out of State Travel Request. Ray Biggs seconded.

Matt Freeman amended the motion to approve with the condition the requirements of the Board and District is met. Mr. Porter seconded. The motion approving the amendment motion unanimously carried.

The motion approving the travel request subject to meeting Board policy unanimously carried.

K-6 Attendance Boundary

Ray Biggs entered a motion to approve the recommended K-6 attendance boundaries as recommended by Superintendent Davalos. Marshall Porter seconded.

Marshall Porter thanked the committee for their participation.

The K-6 attendance boundaries were unanimously carried.

Columbia City School

Nathan Helwig entered a motion granting Superintendent Davalos permission to explore the future of Columbia City School and to enter into lease contract negotiations with City of Columbia Library for use of the Columbia City School portable. Mr. Freeman seconded.

The motion unanimously carried.

Merit Committee

Board Members interested and available to participate on the Merit Committee include Matt Freeman, Marshall Porter and Alan King. Nathan Helwig raised concern with three Board Members participating on the Committee when the typical number of Board representation on committee's is two.

Nathan Helwig entered a motion to create a merit committee. Mr. Porter seconded.

Ray Biggs expressed interest in serving as an alternate.

The motion unanimously carried.

Alan King provided direction for Superintendent Davalos to appoint District Office personnel and directed district office staff to advertise the meeting in accordance with public meeting laws.

SHEA representative Michelle Johnson expressed concern with community members on the committee and requested time to meet with SHEA leadership for more input.

UPCOMING MEETING INPUT

Nathan Helwig requested Board Retreat items be discussed at the May 9th work session.

Mr. Porter reminded the Board of the meeting minutes removed from the Consent Agenda and noted some comments made by him were not included in the minutes. Following discussion of meeting minutes content and a request of what Mr. Porter would like included in the meeting minutes, Mr. Freeman entered a motion to table the minutes until the May Board Meeting. Nathan Helwig seconded. The motion tabling the minutes unanimously carried.

Upcoming retreat meeting agenda items requested included Superintendent goal setting and evaluation.

Point of order was called on the intent of the retreat and the current upcoming meeting input agenda item. Upcoming meeting agenda item request discussion concluded with first reading of a new policy on board travel request and tabled meeting minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Board Chair

Superintendent