

St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Meeting
March 20, 2013

The St. Helens School District Board of School District #502 convened in a Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the District Office Board Room of the District, County and State on March 20, 2013.

Those present were:

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

CALL TO ORDER

Marshall Porter called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Nathan Helwig entered a motion to approve the agenda. Alan King seconded.

The agenda as presented unanimously carried.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Patrick Birkle presented statement on behalf of the Governing Board of the ShoeString Community Players. The statement reviewed the thirty year relationship between the district and ShoeString Community Players and requested assignment of SHHS administration for assistance with inventory of the group's equipment at SHHS to move along disbanding of the relationship because of ongoing issuance of facility use fees.

Nathan Helwig responded the Board was not aware of concerns and requested a report from the Superintendent.

Mr. Birkle explained the recent change has been charges associated with the use and Mr. Birkle added the group has started partnership talks with Scappoose School District where they plan to hold their spring production.

The request for Superintendent review of the information was upheld by the Board and a report on the matter was requested.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ray Biggs entered a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Enrollment – February 2013
- Human Resources Report – March 2013
- Revenues & Expenditures Report – February 2013
- Year to Date Financial Report – February 2013
- Minutes – February 13, 2013 Work Session

Nathan Helwig seconded. The motion approving the consent agenda unanimously carried.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

South Columbia County Chamber Educator of the Year: Superintendent Davalos recognized St. Helens High School Principal Andy Croley as the 2013 South Columbia County Educator of the Year and presented him with a certificate of appreciation.

REPORTS & DISCUSSION

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Davalos reported on recent visitation at Lewis & Clark Elementary School where he experienced Leprechaun Traps and reading at the eight kindergarten classes. In response to Superintendent input on pending new policy GBJ – Weapons in Schools – Staff, Superintendent Davalos provided a statement supporting approval of the policy and explained the restriction does not pertain to board members, volunteers when they are outside the volunteer role, parents, and law enforcement.

SHHS Physics Out of State Travel Request

The board received and reviewed an application from the SHHS Physics group requesting permission to travel to San Jose, California May 2, 2013 through May 6, 2013. The annual trip request did not receive Board questions.

Deer Island Property

Janine Salisbury reported she showed Deer Island property approximately 10 times and recommended Board approval on the purchase offer presented during Executive Session prior to the Regular Meeting. The Board presented no additional questions or input.

SB290 Committee Recommendation

Superintendent Davalos reminded the Board of the recommendation received at the February 27th meeting and asked for questions from the Board.

Alan King questioned ramifications.

Lisa Rawlings explained the intent of SB290 is to promote growth and to create a partnership when an evaluation is substandard. The Committee is working on phase two of the process, which includes development of the implementation plan and a timeline. Adjustments can be made to the plan after the pilot year.

SHSD Regular Meeting – March 20, 2013 – Approved June 26, 2013

Board Requested Policy – Second Reading - GBJ – Weapons in Schools

Nathan Helwig began by addressing the recent newspaper article where it reported he is the wild card in the discussion and explained he is against weapons but only trying to determine if the policy is necessary.

Mr. Porter apologized for comments in the paper and for speaking on behalf of the Board.

Nathan Helwig amended proposed policy GBJ to add paragraphs two and three from Rainier School District's policy to the OSBA sample and supported the current language in the sample.

Mr. Freeman added the policy was never intended to address the general public. General public rights are protected under federal law.

Keith Meeuwsen added a poll of SHSD teachers resulted in approximately 70% being in favor of restricting employees from possessing weapons during their work time.

Mr. Freeman also spoke with Scappoose School District and law enforcement. Scappoose personnel has remained neutral on the matter and police commented they have no way of knowing if a person is a teacher or the shooter which is alarming to police. Mr. Freeman also presented his recently received licensed permit from the NRA which he received from watching a safety video and taking a test. His next step, even though he has not received hands on training, is the background check. Mr. Freeman stated he is in favor of second amendment rights, but was concerned with the district not being prepared to monitor legitimacy of CH and not knowing who is on campus with a handgun.

Mr. Biggs presented detailed information on Mr. King's comment regarding an overpass shooting in Woodburn; his extent of weapon training, use and the possibility of future training; and the second amendment and the district/government infringement on amendment rights. Mr. Biggs also discussed the ability to impeach a Judge and the Doe vs. Medford case that, if overturned, is a disagreement of judge interpretation of the law.

Mr. King recommended students in attendance read and research the second amendment then reviewed the court and court appeal process that means the current ruling is the standing ruling. Mr. King provided statistical information on shooting accuracy during trainings, recommended psychological testing and training on people who have weapons which is not part of the CHL testing.

Mr. Freeman clarified the federal gun free zone which does not apply to concealed weapon license holders or people residing within 1,000 feet of a school, reviewed a variety of other court cases and recommended others research the federal gun free zone act.

Mr. Biggs reviewed FBI statistics regarding an increase in school shootings in 1990 when the federal gun free zone act was put in place, the original definition of militia, and establishment of the Navy.

Mr. Porter read the second amendment, provided his interpretation of the amendment which supported keeping rights to the people not the government, reminded the board of their right to uphold the constitution of the state not the constituents, a person's right to protect themselves and encouraged people who do obtain a CWP to be properly trained.

Mr. Helwig commented allowing handguns will not deter a shooter from doing such. Mr. Helwig stressed on the right to protect self, not other students or staff which is not what he wants our teachers to be doing. Mr. Helwig stated he was elected to do what is right for our students and schools, and he is confident in the safety of our schools.

Due to disruptive public comments point of order was called but not upheld. Mr. King called questioned.

Mr. Porter called a five minute recess at 7:55 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

OSBA Policy Revisions – Third Reading

During a third reading, no additional input was input on the following policies:

EEA – Student Transportation Services

EEACC – Student Conduct on Buses

EEACD – Use of District Activity Vehicles for Student Transportation

GCDA/GDDA – Criminal Records Checks/Fingerprinting

GDDA/GCDA – Criminal Records Checks/Fingerprinting

IL – Assessment Programs

JECBB – Intra-district Transfer Students

JECC – Assignment of Students to Schools

JECF – Inter-district Transfer of Resident Students

PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ACTION ITEMS

SHHS student, Cedric Heaberlin, asked if the continuity of learning would be hindered if staff were able to have a weapon while teaching. Cedric recommended teaching how to get out of the situation, not fighting an armed person.

ACTION ITEMS

2013-2014 School Year Calendar

Nathan Helwig entered a motion to approve the 2013-2014 school year calendar as recommended at the February 27 Board Meeting. Ray Biggs seconded.

Alan King expressed disagreement with the proposed calendar because of the elimination of weekly professional development time with the new state mandates.

Marshall Porter also expressed disagreement with the proposed calendar because of the reduced professional development.

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

SHHS Physics Out of State Travel Request

Matt Freeman entered a motion to approve the SHHS physics out of state travel request. Nathan Helwig seconded. The motion unanimously carried.

Deer Island Property

Alan King entered a motion to accept the \$150,000 purchase offer of Deer Island Property. Nathan Helwig seconded. The motion unanimously carried.

SHSD & OSEA One-Year Contract Extension

Matt Freeman entered motion to approve the SHSD & OSEA one year contract extension. Ray Biggs seconded.

The board thanked the association for willingness to work with the district during such difficult financial times.

The motion unanimously carried.

Board Policy Updates

Matt Freeman entered a motion to approved agenda item 8.5 as a whole. Nathan Helwig seconded. The motion unanimously carried.

New Optional Board Policy: GBJ – Weapons in Schools - Staff

Nathan Hewlig entered a motion approve new policy GBJ – Weapons in Schools – Staff with the inclusion of paragraph two and three of the Rainier School District policy GBJ. Matt Freeman seconded.

Mr. Freeman clarified the policy pertains to staff during their work duties.

Mr. Porter commented on employee right to teach regardless of their sexual orientation and reminded the board to consider this when making their vote.

Mr. Helwig called question.

The motion to approve board policy GBJ – Weapons in School – Staff carried as follows: Matt Freeman, yes; Alan King, yes; Nathan Helwig, yes; Marshall Porter, no; and Ray Biggs, no.

UPCOMING MEETING INPUT

Agenda items scheduled at the April 10, 2013 meeting included:

- SHSD TAG Plan

SUPERINTENDENT & SCHOOL BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Items listed on the agenda were acknowledged as received.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Board Chair

Superintendent