


St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Work Session
May 8, 2013

Following a 6:25 p.m. adjournment of an Executive Session in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (h), (f) and (d), the St. Helens School District Board of School District #502 convened in a Work Session at 6:30 p.m. in the District Office Board Room of the District, County and State on May 8, 2013.

Members Present:

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



**Unofficial
Meeting
Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER

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

AGENDA APPROVAL

Nathan Helwig entered a motion to approve the agenda. Raymond Biggs seconded.

The motion approving the agenda unanimously carried.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No visitors addressed the Board.

REPORTS & DISCUSSION

Teacher Appreciation Week Proclamation

Marshall Porter read a resolution declaring the week of May 6, 2013 as Teacher Appreciation Week in St. Helens School District. The Board extended a thank you to SHSD teachers.

CRYC Program Report

SHHS Assistant Principal and CRYC Administrator Bruce Carvalho provided an overview of the CRYC Program that operates with one certified and one classified employee, and 15 students. Due to the nature of the work performed by CRYC students, the strict yet critical attendance policy has resulted in a current attendance rate of 93.25%. Mr. Carvalho also provided a summary of CRYC student academic achievement and student placement process then introduced Kevin Staley who serves as the program's Crew Leader.

Mr. Staley shared photos of various CRYC projects made possible through program sponsors BLM, Scappoose Bay and Upper Nehalem Watershed Council, CC Soil and Water Conservative District, Port of St. Helens, Cal Portland, and North Coast Land Conservancy. In addition to earning a St. Helens High School diploma, CRYC students learn public speaking, technical report writing, teamwork, safety, leadership and job skills through the hands on alternative classroom setting.

Deer Island Property Sale

Janine Salisbury announced the sale of Deer Island property is final. No additional information on the sale was reported.

SHSD Portables

Janine Salisbury introduced Jared Plahn who provided information on district owned portables. The count and locations of district owned portables included four at McBride, one at Columbia City, one at St. Helens High School, three that make the district office, four to five which house CCEC, and seven at St. Helens Middle School. Besides one in condemned condition, all district portables are in use. Mr. Plahn also reported repairs and upkeep of the district portables is included in the maintenance department's schedule of work.

Enrollment Decline Report

Superintendent Davalos provided an overview of district ADMr and ADMw thus far in the 2012-13 school year and 15 year ADMw history. To address the specific question from the April Regular Board Meeting, 11th grade has received 11 out of district record requests and experienced 17 10 day drops for non-attendance. The 12th grade has received seven out of district requests and experienced 18 10 day drops for non-attendance, and two withdrawals for GED obtainment.

In response to board inquiry into truancy enforcement, Mr. Carvalho explained the high school's half time intervention specialist works closely with families and truancy services are highly utilized, but staff time and truancy services funding is limited. In response to board question if increased counseling services at the secondary level could better assist the students who are dropping, Mr. Carvalho commented current staff time committed to assisting students and families is exhausted. Superintendent Davalos stressed need to wait until a student is ready to engage in learning and to find what works for that student.

The connection with homelessness and student drop figures was questioned and a count of SHSD homeless students was requested. Response to the connection and counts was not available at the time of the Work Session but will be provided at a later meeting.

Common Core State Standards Introduction

Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Lisa Rawlings, introduced the state led initiative Common Core State Standards. The introduction report included a summary on who led the effort; features of the standards; the development process; and importance of the standards for students, teachers, and parents. In regard to what CCSS define, it was explained the standards define what is most essential and what students are expected to know and be able to do, grade level expectations, and cross-disciplinary literacy skills. The CCSS do not define how teachers should teach, all that can or should be taught, the nature of advanced work, intervention methods or materials, and the full range of supports for ELL and students with special needs. For SHSD, CCSS replace the current Oregon standards after transition period for full implementation 2014-15.

Mr. Helwig questioned the next statewide evaluation period of kindergarten. This was unknown at this time, but thought to be scheduled in the future after CCSS implementation.

Mr. Biggs questioned federal involvement, dictation of what is taught and expressed concern with manuals he has seen that show movement from literature to government pamphlets. Mrs. Rawlings responded the initiative is state led without defining how or what should be taught, and evidence of federal involvement has been absent in materials she has been provided.

Other concern and question raised was from Mr. Porter related to not knowing who developed the standards and nationwide dictation of teaching.

Superintendent Davalos concluded the CCSS report with focusing attention to the district website CCSS area with links to informational videos and various toolkits.

UPCOMING MEETING INPUT

May 22, 2013 meeting agenda items requested:

Reports & Discussion

- SHHS ASB report –
 - Choir, Band Updates
- Superintendent report
- CCEC report
- McBride PTO playground structure grant
- SHHS bleachers
- Auto & Metals report

Recognition

- Les Schwab donation
- Lathe donation
- Band student

Superintendent Davalos requested permission to move the SB290 & Achievement Compact reports from the May 22nd meeting to the June 12th meeting with action on the June 26th meeting agenda. Permission was granted.

ADJOURNMENT

The May 8, 2013 Work Session adjourned at 8:35 p.m. into Executive Session in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (h), (f) and (d). The board reconvened in open session at 8:45 p.m. and adjourned the Work Session at 8:47 p.m.

Board Chair

Superintendent