

**St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Work Session
August 14, 2013**

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 August 14, 2013.

- PRESENT** Those present were:
Marshall Porter, Board Chair
Gordon Jarman, Board Vice Chair
Kelly Smith, Board Member
Raymond Biggs, Board Member
Jeff Howell, Board Member
Mark Davalos, Superintendent
Janine Salisbury, Business Manager
Amanda Stuber, Executive Assistant
- CALL TO ORDER** Marshall Porter called the Work Session to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the flag salute.
Ray Biggs entered a motion to approve the agenda. Gordon Jarman seconded. The motion approving the agenda unanimously carried.
- AGENDA APPROVAL**
- VISITORS ADDRESS THE BOARD** St. Helens School District parent Julie Ferrell provided an informational presentation regarding Inclusive Education of Special Education Students. Following conclusion of the presentation, a request for information on the district's current inclusion policy and how inclusion works for all student groups to eliminate discrimination was requested.
- REPORTS & DISCUSSION**
Superintendent Report
The first portion of the Superintendent Report included announcement of recent administrative, licensed and classified staff hires and introduction of St. Helens Middle School Principal Carol Dowsett. The second portion included sharing information on the Governor's signing of House Bill 3232 and House Bill 3233 which launched four Strategic Initiatives to improve student opportunity and outcomes in areas of early literacy, STEM, and a college-going culture, and to build a robust network of supports for educators. During Superintendent Davalos' information sharing, he introduced the STEM school model concept and requested Board support to proceed with the vision at the currently shuttered Columbia City School.

Inclusion of the Arts was questioned but cautioned against during the implementation phase since the Arts is not connected to the initiative at this time. After Board discussion and a question answer session, the Board was in full support to seek STEM grant funding with inclusion of the arts. Superintendent Davalos agreed to bring an implementation timeline forward at the August 28th Regular Board Meeting.

Five-Year Enrollment Report – Part I
During part one of a five-year enrollment report, Superintendent Davalos explained the difference between ADM and ADMw and district wide enrollment figures which reflect a decline in SHSD enrollment over the last five school years. Part two of the five-year report will include open enrollment and inter-district transfer information.

**REPORTS &
DISCUSSION
CONTINUED**

OSBA Summer Conference Report

Marshall Porter and Kellie Smith provided a brief report on the recently attended summer OSBA conference. A few of the workshops attended included hands on instructional session on STEM education, school safety measures, policy development, and Professional Learning Communities for Board Members.

PLC Focus Leadership

Marshall Porter shared his perception of Board responsibility to establish parameters of PLC time use and expressed desire to set the focus of PLC work on Board goals. Superintendent Davalos cautioned against requiring additional work hours to implement PLC work with the Board. The Board then discussed different options, such as site council meeting minutes and building staff meeting notes, to report a variety of information to the Board.

Staff Back to School Event

Gordon Jarman acknowledged the positive information provided in the Superintendent Report, expressed appreciation for receiving information that focuses on the future, and expressed a strong desire for a beginning of year district-wide staff gathering to share the same information with staff. Superintendent Davalos explained the district has several new initiatives to implement this year so time outside of the building level welcome-back staff meetings is scheduled with trainings and beginning of school preparation. During Board Member input on the matter, the Board was in favor of Superintendent Davalos holding a staff welcome back to school event before or shortly after the school year starts. Superintendent Davalos agreed to revisit the item with the SHSD Leadership team at their Leadership Retreat.

2013 Race to the Top Application

Kellie Smith provided a brief introduction of the Fiscal Year 2013 Race to the Top competitive grant and expressed strong desire to see the District apply. Superintendent Davalos explained he plans to speak with the NWRESD Superintendent group to see if others are applying and to see if the ESD would be applying as a consortium with local school district support.

2014-2015 Budget Process & Involvement

Superintendent Mark Davalos and Janine Salisbury provided the Board with a copy of the 2013-2014 Budget Process and Timeline. Input into the 2014-2015 budget cycle will be set with the Board later in the school year.

**UPCOMING
MEETING
INPUT**

August 28, 2013 Regular Meeting agenda items will include:
Administrative staff introductions
Five year enrollment report – part I
Board policy updates
Goals

ADJOURN

The September 12, 2012 Work Session adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Board Chair

Superintendent