

St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors Meeting
August 28, 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 August 28, 2013.

Those present were:

Marshall Porter, Board Chair
Gordon Jarman, Board Vice Chair
Jeff Howell, Board Member
Raymond Biggs, Board Member
Kellie Smith, Board Member
Mark Davalos, Superintendent
Amanda Stuber, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Marshall Porter called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Kellie Smith entered a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ray Biggs seconded. The motion approving the agenda unanimously carried.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Prior to accepting public comment, Mr. Porter requested input on including public comment at the start and end of the meeting, before action. Board comments reflected preference to have the item in both areas of the meeting with a completed comment card.

SHSD community member and St. Helens Youth Soccer coach Matt Freeman expressed concern with the lack of grounds upkeep of shuttered Columbia City School. Mr. Freeman noted the tall, unmanaged grass and weeds is a safety hazard to public accessing the property.

Gordon Jarman asked if there was a governing body of St. Helens Youth Soccer and if the organization had their own property. Mr. Freeman explained the SHYS association is a non-profit organization with a governing body, and the association does not own its own property for student athlete use. The association completes a facility use application for use of SHSD property and Grace Baptist Church property use.

Mr. Freeman also expressed favoritism of holding public comment on non-agenda items and public comment on agenda items prior to action. Mr. Freeman explained the practice of accepting public comment in two areas began to increase public participation when he was a board member.

CONSENT AGENDA

SHSD Regular Meeting – August 28, 2013

Kellie Smith entered a motion to approve the consent agenda Human Resources Report for August 2013. Jeff Howell seconded. Approval of the consent agenda unanimously carried.

REPORTS & DISCUSSION

SHSD Administrative Staff Introductions

Superintendent Mark Davalos provided introductions of the SHSD administrative and other district staff in attendance of the meeting.

Board Policy Updates/Deletions – First Reading

The first reading of school board policies distributed for revisions, etc. included:

- CBA – Qualifications and Duties of the Superintendent (Revisions)
- DH – Bonded Employees (Optional Revisions)
- EGAC – Cell Phones (Optional & Required Revisions)
- GBDA – Mother Friendly Workplace (Required Revisions)
- IK – Academic Achievement (Required Revisions)
- IKA – Grading System (Required Revisions)
- IKAB - Student Progress Reports to Parents (Required Revisions)
- JEA – Compulsory Attendance (Required and Highly Recommended Revisions)
- JECA – Admissions of Resident Students (Highly Recommended Revisions)
- JHCCA – Students – HIV, HBV and AIDS (Required Revisions)
- JECCB – Students – HIV, AIDS (Delete)
- JHCCF – Pediculosis (Required Revision)
- JHFF – Reporting Requirements Regarding Sexual Conduct with Students (Required Revisions)
- JOB – Personally Identifiable Information (Required Revisions)

Superintendent Davalos referenced policies IK, IKA and IKAB and explained the policy changes are due to HB2220. Other policies connected to grading will come forward for revision or deletion after district office staff finishes reviewing current policies.

STEM Proposal

As follow-up to the STEM report and proposal at the August 14th School Board Work Session, Superintendent Davalos presented a vision and committee plan to launch a STEM program at Columbia City School. Superintendent Davalos reminded the board of needed action to proceed with committee development and requested the STEM program work be part of his goals if the Board provides direction to proceed.

Youth Football Subsidy

Kellie Smith requested Board consideration to absorb the cost of the SHMS football field watering cost incurred during the month of July for youth football use. During discussion, information on the cost to water the field in 2011-12 and use of the field by students during school hours was requested, concern with delegating water control to a non-district employee was expressed, and better communication with organizations before use begins was recommended.

Mr. Porter reminded the School Board of Board policy on facility use and was not in favor of making exceptions to the policy.

SHSD Regular Meeting – August 28, 2013

Board Online Trainings

Marshall Porter drew attention to OSBA online trainings and sought input on recommended courses. The board was in favor of moving forward with trainings but not in agreement of dates. This will be looked at closer by Superintendent Davalos and the School Board's Executive Assistant.

Goals: Board & Superintendent

The Board received a copy of the district 2009-2013 goals and Superintendent Davalos' 2012-2013 goals, which were noted as excessive by Mr. Jarman, and Superintendent Davalos provided input on possible goals for 2013-2014. Two possible goals referenced included identification of at risk students and intervention (attendance), the achievement compact, and increased education opportunity through STEM education.

Superintendent Davalos' acknowledged the August 30th goal setting deadline and provided verbal waiver of the deadline to allow discussion at the September 11th Board Work Session. Goal setting will occur in more detail at the September 11th Work Session with action at the September 25th Regular Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Public comment regarding agenda items was not provided by public in attendance.

ACTION ITEMS

STEM Committee Establishment

Ray Biggs entered a motion to proceed with STEM Committee establishment. Kellie Smith seconded.

Discussion included the board unanimously in support of the project if funding is through grants, no general fund money use at this time.

Superintendent Davalos expressed interest with community committee members establishing entry criteria.

The motion unanimously carried.

District Subsidy of SH Youth Football

Ray Biggs entered a motion to suspend SHYF watering charges at this time. Kellie Smith seconded. Following minor discussion on the intent of the motion, the motion failed due to two only two board members voting (Kellie Smith, yes and Jeff Howell, no).

Gordon Jarman entered a motion to table action pending more information from district personnel. Jeff Howell seconded.

The motion tabling action unanimously carried.

UPCOMING MEETING INPUT

September 11, 2013 Work Session meeting agenda items will include:

SHSD Regular Meeting – August 28, 2013

Superintendent Report
SHSF Annual Report
Board Policy Updates – Second Reading
Goals (Board/Superintendent)
Long Range Facilities Plan
SHHS Parking Lot Project
St. Helens Youth Football Subsidy

Mr. Jarman requested future conversation on district office staffing. More specifically requested information included district office staff with budget reduced work calendars without a reduced workload and other district office staff who have had increased workloads to pick up work from other district office positions reduced.

Mr. Porter agreed to discuss but cautioned against micromanaging staffing.

Superintendent Davalos referenced monitoring class sizes the first 10 days of staff and expressed desire to relieve the school staff first. Mr. Jarman requested information on the cost to return one workday per week to the district office Human Resources Specialist.

Ray Biggs entered a motion to add action to a Goal Setting Meeting. Kellie Smith seconded.

The motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Porter opened discussion on goal setting. Following discussion on this item, the board agreed to delay the second board policy update reading until the September 25th Regular Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The August 28, 2013 Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Board Chair

Superintendent