

St. Helens School District #502
Board of Directors
Regular Board Meeting
January 22, 2014

The St. Helens School District Board of School District #502 convened in a Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the District Office Board Room of the District, County and State on January 22, 2014.

PRESENT

Those present were:

Marshall Porter, Board Chair
Gordon Jarman, Board Vice Chair
Kellie Smith, Board Member
Ray 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 Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

AGENDA

APPROVAL

Ray Biggs entered a motion to amend the agenda as follows:

- Change agenda item 6.6 to SHHS ASB Report
- Add agenda item 6.7 for Troy Leach offer to staff
- Delete Action Item 8.5

Jeff Howell seconded. The motion approving the agenda as revised unanimously carried.

**VISITORS
ADDRESS THE
BOARD**

Visitors Address the Board

No visitors addressed the board.

School Board Recognition

Superintendent Davalos read a statement recognizing school boards and invited the audience to join in board appreciation later in the meeting.

**CONSENT
AGENDA**

Consent Agenda

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

January 2014 Human Resources Report
Revenue & Expenditures Report
Revenue & Expenditures Projection
December 2013 Enrollment Report
Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2013 Regular Meeting
Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2014 Work Session

Kellie Smith seconded. The motion approving the consent agenda unanimously carried.

REPORTS & DISCUSSION

Reports and Discussion

Superintendent Report

The Superintendent Report began with SHMS Principal Carol Dowsett announcing recent notification that a SHMS technology team from Maia Fastabend's technology class won the 2014 Verizon Innovative App Challenge as Best in State. Principal Dowsett explained the challenge for Maia's technology class teams was to design a computer application with a number of parameters that needed to address a clear need or problem, be creative, and use visual and multimedia enhancements to engage the user. SHMS's winning team members Tyler Lyman, Joe Elliot, Cody Leanna, Kyle Harris and David Parks designed the Periodic Table of Interactive Elements application that teaches users how to access and learn about the Periodic Table members. The school will receive a plaque and the students will receive a certificate and will be eligible to participate in a virtual STEM event at the end of February. The Best in Region judging will be announced February 4 and the regional competition will be against the best in state with 13 states represented.

Superintendent Davalos announced the district is a partner in a STEM HUB Grant the NWRESD applied for and, if the state accepts the proposal, the board will receive information on the amount and plans for fund use. The district also held a STEM Grant writing session for a separate STEM Grant with a deadline at the end of the month.

Superintendent Davalos commended the board and SHMS Principal Carol Dowsett for giving up a Sunday to meet for a Special Work Session to discuss budget priorities and a variety of other items.

2013-14 Instructional Hours & Calendar

Superintendent Davalos reviewed the January 8^h Work Session discussion about instructional hours and his recommendation to reinstate one of the three inclement weather lost instructional days. Calendar change options in the recommendation included changing Friday, March 21st from a budget reduction/no school day to a K-12 school day or adding a school day to the end of the school year.

The board presented no comments and no questions.

2014-15 Budget Priorities

Mr. Porter referenced the unfinished budget priority discussion from the January 19 Special Work Session. Mr. Porter expressed preference to address class size.

Superintendent Davalos requested specifics on Mr. Porter's class size preference and referenced the ratio process he explained at previous meetings.

Mr. Porter acknowledged understanding the ratio concept used then explained the large class size averages in core and needed classes at the high school does not make sense. Superintendent Davalos explained Principal Aguirre plans to present a SHHS class size report that will explain this at a future meeting. At elementary levels Mr. Porter stated 34 is too large for a third grade class. Superintendent Davalos reminded Mr. Porter about the IA assigned to that class.

Jeff Howell reminded Mr. Porter of the building decision on how to use the allocated teaching staff.

Ray Biggs expressed concern with class sizes in language arts, writing or other classes that require a large amount of time to study and grade individual student assignments. Mr. Biggs asked for input from Gordon and Jeff who have been in the classroom as a teacher.

Gordon Jarman responded that learning is better in smaller classes but, on the budget side of it, small class sizes are not always possible.

Kellie Smith stated her preference is to cap 1st – 6th grade classes at 26 and 22 at kindergarten, and assignment of a full time IA to classes above the cap.

Mr. Jarman expressed interest in knowing the cost of Mrs. Smith's preference.

Jeff Howell expressed preference for a full calendar.

Mr. Porter explained that even though there is a budget reduction day the district is meeting the state required hours and expressed desire for staff training days.

NWRES D 2014-15 Local Service Plan

Superintendent Davalos referenced the NWRES D Local Service Plan for 2014-15 in the board packet then explained how the plan is developed and highlighted support SHSD receives from the NWRES D. Superintendent Davalos recommended board approval of the resolution under action.

Mr. Howell asked what service the district lost through the \$170,000 reduction to the school improvement area. Superintendent Davalos explained there was a reduction to the overall ESD budget and the regional superintendents agreed to reduce the school improvement budget since much of the work is occurring in district.

Policy Updates – Third Reading

The board had no additional questions or input during the third reading of school board policies:

BBB: Board Elections,

BBFA: Board Member Ethics & Conflicts of Interest,

BBFB: Board Member Ethics & Nepotism,

DJC: Bidding Requirements,

EBBB: Injury/Illness Reports,

GBC: Staff Ethics, and

GCBDC/GDBDC: Domestic Violence/Harassment/Sexual Assault/Stalking Leave.

Optional new language about tsunami drills in policy EBCB: Emergency Drills was not recommended for addition.

SHHS ASB Report

Gavin Capelle & Buddy Terry reported on the many Winter Festival events and competitions that occurred prior to Winter Break. The senior class collected the most cans and coins, the junior class took first place decorating the commons, and the sophomore class painted the best mural and took first in the Winter Festival Assembly skit. Overall results included the seniors taking first place, sophomores taking second,

juniors taking third, and freshman taking last place. Gavin and Buddy also announced the Winter Ball theme is Winter Wonderland and the Winter Ball Court as Madison Kaplan and Eric Aldridge, Megan Barnes and Shane Cooke, Lauren Chambers and Kamron Ebrahimi, Stevie Strawn and Gavin Capelle, and Alyna Habel and Corey West. Winter Ball is this Saturday at the fairgrounds.

The high school ASB report concluded with Gavin and Buddy reporting, on behalf of SHHS Leadership, that they are compiling a binder of documents and information they find may be helpful to the next Leadership Advisor. They asked administration to take selection extremely serious.

Troy Leach Information Distribution Request

Ray Biggs admitted to not following up and providing Mr. Leach's information to Superintendent Davalos for review. Mr. Biggs asked the board to direct Superintendent Davalos to waive the policy and distribute Mr. Leach's information to staff.

Superintendent Davalos asked the board to postpone waiving policy to allow time to review policy for a report at the next meeting.

VISITOR COMMENTS

Visitors to Address the Board

No visitor comment cards were provided for public comment.

Melody Killens recommended reminding the audience to submit a comment card if they wish to make comment.

ACTION ITEMS

Action Items

2013-14 Instructional Hours and Calendar

Kellie Smith entered a motion to retain March 21st as a Budget Reduction Day. Ray Biggs seconded.

After explaining that no board action on Superintendent Davalos' calendar recommendation results in the calendar staying as is, the motion failed due to no submitted votes on the motion.

NWRESD 2014-2015 Local Service Plan

Ray Biggs entered a motion to approve the NWRESD 2014-2015 Local Service Plan. Jeff Howell seconded. The motion unanimously carried.

Policy Updates

Ray Biggs entered a motion to approve updates to board policies:

- BBB: Board Elections
- BBFA: Board Member Ethics & Conflicts of Interest
- BBFB: Board Member Ethics & Nepotism
- DJC: Bidding Requirements
- EBBB: Injury/Illness Reports
- GBC: Staff Ethics
- GCBDC/GDBDC: Domestic Violence/Harassment/Sexual Assault/Stalking Leave

Jeff Howell seconded. The motion unanimously carried.

Kellie Smith entered a motion to approve updated policy EBCB: Emergency Drills with elimination of tsunami drill language. Jeff Howell seconded. The motion unanimously carried.

BOARD EMAILS School Board Correspondence

Marshall Porter acknowledged the school board emails received during the month of January.

UPCOMING Upcoming Meeting Input

MEETING INPUT

February 12, 2014 Work Session agenda items will include

Superintendent review of:

Goal 1 (b) – Interventions to Mastery Learning (K-12) Proficiency Based Reporting

Goal 2 (a) – Communications & Community Engagement

Goal 2 (b) – Strategic Plan

Goal 3 (a) – Professional Development/Conference Attendance

Goal 3 (b) – Evaluation Process & Feedback

2014-15 budget priorities

Budget Committee applicant interviews

ADJOURN Adjourn

Adjournment of the January 22 Regular Board Meeting was 7:20 p.m.

Marshall Porter, Board Chair

Mark Davalos, Superintendent