St. Helens School District #502
Regular Board Meeting
January 24, 2024

The St. Helens School District Board of School District #502 convened in a Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on January 24, 2024. This public meeting was observable at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_sJEo8WoYSSyHJ9fzRQ5oHg.

Members of the community interested in addressing the Board were invited to do so during the meeting or by emailing the Board of Directors at: sb502@sthelens.k12.or.us with a summary of the topic they wish to address and to request the Zoom meeting link prior to 5:00 on Wednesday, January 24, 2024.

PRESENT

Those present were:

Melody Killens, Board Chair
Ryan Scholl, Vice Chair
Trinity Monahan, Board Member
Kellie Smith, Board Member
Bill Amos, Board Member
Lucie Polvogt, Student Board Representative
Scot Stockwell, Superintendent
Jessica Seay, Director of Fiscal Services
Kristi Ward, Executive Assistant

Not Present:

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Killens called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:30. Bill Amos entered a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Kellie Smith seconded; the motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

- No requests to address the board were received.

COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

- The Board recognized:
  - Hayley VanWinkle, PHS student, for her exemplary dedication and professionalism while serving as a student intern.
  - Scott Pieper, teacher at St. Helens Middle School, for his dedication and passion for supporting the success and development of his students.
  - Shanna Duggan, for her unwavering commitment to ensuring affordable and accessible programming for the St. Helens community.

CONSENT AGENDA

Kellie Smith entered a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Ryan Scholl seconded; the motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- Luci Polvogt provided members with an update about the things going on SHHS to include a makeup Chor Leonis concert, Senior Night, and the upcoming Winter Ball festivities.
- The District Principals and Directors informed members about the work, activities and planning taking place at each school:
  - Dani Boylan reported that in the Early Learning Program:
    - The Ready Freddy events will begin in February at each of the schools.
    - The preschoolers have field trips to OMSI this week and next.
    - The first Family Engagement Night took place last night and was very successful.
  - Allyson Dubuque reported that at McBride Elementary:
    - As part of their connection and belonging work, the school has focused on the character trait "honesty" this month, and are conducting a friendship campaign.
    - McBride will host a Read Aloud Day on February 9th for the community, and some high school students will come read aloud the following week.
    - They are continuing their RTI work, and on February 7th an AVID trainer will come with some PD for staff.
    - We are working on improving tardiness.
  - Cheri Martin reported that at Lewis & Clark Elementary:
    - Great work is being done in the PLT's, and she is receiving feedback that the teachers would like to dig in more often than the current once a month schedule.
    - The improvements to the playground are very exciting.
    - Planning is in progress for a Family Reading Night, the details will be available soon.
  - Heidi Green and Melissa Dueck reported that at Columbia City School:
    - There was a Grand Lodge for the whole school today, which occurs every other Wednesday.
    - They are grateful to the Kiwanis Daybreakers for their gift of a thesaurus for every third-grade student.
    - Fifth grade students are now in charge of morning announcements.
    - The PTO is currently conducting a "Penny War" amongst grades to raise funds for the building.
    - An after school program has been started, in partnership with St. Helens Parks and Recreation.
  - Mark Janke reported that at SHMS:
    - The Leadership Team, with the help of Lucie Polvogt from the high school, is planning an evening dance event, which takes place once annually.

- Staff is preparing for Outdoor School in March.
- We hired a RTI coach, and some great work is being done around Tier I classroom interventions and supports.
- A tier III math class has been opened up for students,

- Ron Hernley reported that at Plymouth High School:
  - Eighteen new prospective students attended the orientation last night.
  - There are 5 seniors graduating next week, and 3 of those are graduating early.
  - A Special Education Case Manager has been hired, she started this week.
  - Nicole Edwards continues to expand the GearUp program. Several post-secondary representatives will visit campus in the next few months.
  - We have hired a full time Science teacher, and she will start soon.
- Martin Hehman reported that at the St. Helens Virtual Academy:
  - A Virtual Academy student, Justin Johnson, was the first from the academy to receive a Rotary Student of the Month award.
  - They hosted an Open House to provide information to the community about the academy,
  - Additional electives will be offered during the second semester, including a hands-on Art course.
  - The team has been working on the website, which now provides more information about the academy.
  - Forecasting for second semester is taking place now.
  - A homeroom will be introduced to increase student connections, engagement and SEL.
- Nicole Hilton reported that at SHHS:
  - Intercessions were held last Saturday to give students extra support, and 77 students were in attendance.
  - We have started rolling out our efficiency program, which allows students to choose a classroom to go over selected work during the intercession and enrichment period, during the middle of the day.
  - We continue to recruit for and expand the AVID program.
  - We have shifted schedules due to the weather, but are remaining on track with standards and not penalizing students for the missed school days.

- Superintendent Stockwell announced that January is School Board Appreciation Month. He noted that this board is a very strong one, and that due to the trust they have garnered, some great things have been accomplished, like passing three bonds to improve schools in our district. He thanked them for all of their hard work.
- Superintendent Stockwell reported that during the Board Work Session on the 10th, members again discussed the 2024-25 bell schedule, with representatives from Durham School Services arrived at a consensus to present to the community:
  - Elementary Schools: 7:45-2:15
  - SHMS: 8:30-3:00
  - SHHS: 8:20-3:20

  Superintendent Stockwell invited principals from each school to talk about the pros and cons of the proposed schedule as it compares to the current one. Sleep

schedules, rates of tardiness, before and after school activities, bussing, commuter schedules and other factors were considered and discussed. The Board agreed that they would open the topic for discussion at another meeting in February, so that the community has another opportunity to provide input.

VISITORS ADDRESS THE BOARD

- No requests to address the board were received.

ACTION ITEMS

- Superintendent Stockwell read the 2024 Board Appreciation Proclamation.

UPCOMING MEETING INPUT

- February 14, 2024 – Board Work Session, 6:30 p.m., District Office
  - School Start Times
  - 2023-24 SIA Grant Agreement

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Killens adjourned the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Melody Killens, Board Chair

Scot Stockwell, Superintendent