

**St. Helens School District #502
Budget Hearing and Regular Board Meeting
February 28, 2024**

The St. Helens School District Board of School District #502 convened in a Budget Hearing and Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on February 28, 2024. These public meetings were observable at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_f63x-hOETqabLSFjgdT3oA.

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, February 28, 2024.

PRESENT

Those present were:

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

CALL TO ORDER BUDGET HEARING

Chair Killens called the Budget Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Trinity Monahan entered a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Bill Amos seconded; the motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously.

BUDGET HEARING

Resolution 2023-24 #9 – Supplemental Budget No. 1 Special Revenue Fund was provided to members in advance of the meeting for review. Jessica Seay reviewed the updates to the budget. There were no questions or comments presented by visitors or by members.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Killens adjourned the Budget Hearing at 6:34 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Killens called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:39. 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 AWARDS

- Chair Killens presented an award to:
 - Bay Scholl, SHHS student, in recognition of their unwavering commitment to the Early Learning Programs.
 - Chris Hawkins, Lewis & Clark staff member, in recognition of his life-saving intervention and his dedication to the well-being and safety of students.
 - Stan Girard, in recognition of his endless commitment to the St. Helens Booster Club, St. Helens athletes and the entire St. Helens community.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

NEW BUSINESS

- Brooke Oliver provided members with an update about the things going on SHHS to include an OMEA District 3 Jazz Festival in Clatskanie, Love and Kindness week, and a 4th place win for the Color Guard at Rythmfest2024.
- SHHS student Kelley Cagle read her contest winning speech. Members complimented her excellent work and presentation.
- NWRESD Superintendent Dan Goldman, Board member Tony Erickson, and Service Center Administrator Matt Doyle outlined the proposed 2024-25 Local Service Plan (LSP). The plan in its entirety was presented to the board in advance of the meeting. Members thanked the team for the supports they provide for the district.
- 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 toddlers have been invited to participate in the McBride Honey Bee Reading Night.
 - Preschool students at McBride will start their buddy program soon with students in the Intermediate Learning Center (ILC).

- The Ready Freddy events are ongoing to prepare students for Kindergarten in the buildings in which they will attend.
- The team is working on independent connections by adding Conscious Discipline instruction, and will be rolling out AVID strategies going forward.
- Allyson Dubuque reported that at McBride Elementary:
 - They continue to focus on increasing rigor.
 - She is taking a team of teachers to Reynolds School District tomorrow for a leadership training.
 - They will host a family reading night next Tuesday as part of the Read Across America activities.
 - After Spring Break, there will be an after-school program offered to students and will provide homework support to participants.
- Cheri Martin reported that at Lewis & Clark Elementary:
 - They are celebrating Read Across America one week early, so held their Family Reading Night yesterday. It was very well attended and a successful event all around.
 - Reading teachers were given five days with the T&L team to dig into the new reading curriculum, and found it to be a collaborative and productive time.
 - The school team is working with the city to improve the traffic flow around drop off and pick up at Lewis & Clark.
- Cris Gwilliam reported that at SHMS:
 - The wrestling program has been very successful this year. Thirty-one students qualified for Districts, and 24 of those placed. The girls took 1st place at Districts.
 - The AVID program is growing across the whole school. There has been a shift towards district alignment, and there are many teachers at the MS who are eager to lead the team into next steps.
 - The first of the Becoming a Lion events for 8th graders will take place tomorrow. Students will get to tour the HS and learn about elective options, get exposure to the new Course Guide and Career Planner, and there will be a parent night to provide the information, as well.
- Ron Hernley reported that at Plymouth High School:
 - The GearUp Coordinator took eighteen students to PSU, and the trip resulted in several students deciding to submit college applications.
 - The team is focusing on students struggling with attendance. They have hosted placement agreement meetings with parents, and conducting home visits, when needed.
 - They will soon offer an after-school opportunity for students who wish to do some homework.
- Martin Hehman reported that at the St. Helens Virtual Academy:
 - It is exciting to have our Social Studies teacher back from Parental Leave.
 - We have hired some additional associative staff, due to growth. There are now 285 students being served by the academy.

- Academy teachers are scheduled for training in SEL standards, GearUp offerings, and AVID strategies that will all be implemented going forward.
- Dr. Katy Wagner reported that at SHHS:
 - The new Course Guide and Career Planner is now complete. Rather than just having a list of classes, this includes a 4-year educational plan worksheet. She demonstrated how students and parents can negotiate the SchoolLinks website, a college and career readiness software program now available to SHHS students.
 - The on-track-to-graduate rate improved by 8% last year, which is 3% over the state average. Attendance rates fell. College going numbers increased by 6%, and 4-year cohort graduation rates increased 5% from 2017 to 2020. The
- Jessica Seay described the decision they will make later in the meeting, acting as the local LCRB board, regarding using the cooperative purchasing process to procure seating in the renovated HS auditorium.
- Jessica Seay provided details about the proposed general fund supplemental budget, which was provided to members in advance of the meeting in Resolution 2023-24 #11. She explained that the update is well below the 10% threshold, thus can be discussed during the regular meeting rather than in a budget hearing.
- Jessica Seay led the Board in a discussion about 2024-25 budget priorities. Members provided input, and it was determined that Ms. Seay and Superintendent Stockwell will compile a list of those ideas and provide them during a future Board meeting for continued discussion.
- Superintendent Stockwell provided a description of the Early Literacy Success School District Grant, including how the funds could be used to provide opportunities to actualize the idea, practices and concepts in Oregon's Early Literacy Framework. The application has been submitted and some edits required. A portion of the application included a requirement for the District's plan for professional development and coaching, extended learning programs and high-dosage tutoring. Members were provided a copy of the grant application in advance of the meeting, and were supportive of the application.
- Superintendent Stockwell reviewed the 2023-24 SIA Agreement and longitudinal targets. ODE and NWRESA assisted us with these targets, and members received a copy of the application in advance of the meeting.
- Superintendent Stockwell reported that following the closures due to inclement weather, the elementary schools are short the number of required instructional time by 2.5 hours. It is Superintendent Stockwell's recommendation that the time is recouped by changing two early-release Wednesdays to full instructional days. Members discussed which Wednesdays would work best for students, teachers and families. Superintendent Stockwell agreed to take their ideas and recommendations to the District Leadership Team.

- Superintendent Stockwell provided members and the community another opportunity to weigh in on the proposed 2024-25 Bell Schedule:

- Elementary schools: 7:45-2:15
- SHMS: 8:30-3:00
- SHHS 8:20-3:20

Members discussed the ways the scheduled compares to the schedule of an neighboring school district, instructional hours for each level, and how this schedule will work for families.

VISITORS ADDRESS THE BOARD

- No requests to address the board were received.

ACTION ITEMS

- Kellie Smith entered a motion to amend the agenda. Trinity Monahan seconded; the motion to amend carried unanimously.
- Kellie Smith entered a motion to amend 8.2 to reflect Auditorium Seating, rather than a HS field. Trinity Monahan seconded, the motion to so amend the agenda carried unanimously.
- Kellie Smith entered a motion to approve RESOLUTION 2023-24 #9 – SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET No. 1 SPECIAL REVENUE FUND. Ryan Scholl seconded; the vote to approve the resolution carried unanimously.

Item#	Motion	Board Member	Yes	No	Notes
8.1		Bill Amos	X		
8.1		Melody Killens	X		
8.1	Seconded the motion	Ryan Scholl	X		
8.1		Trinity Monahan	X		
8.1	Entered a motion to approve	Kellie Smith	X		

- Kellie Smith entered a motion to approve cooperative purchasing for SHHS auditorium seating. Ryan Scholl seconded; the vote to approve carried unanimously.

Item#	Motion	Board Member	Yes	No	Notes
8.2		Bill Amos	X		
8.2		Melody Killens	X		
8.2	Seconded the motion	Ryan Scholl	X		
8.2		Trinity Monahan	X		
8.2	Entered a motion to approve	Kellie Smith	X		

- Kellie Smith entered a motion to approve RESOLUTION 2023-24 #10 – AUTHORIZING NWRES D LOCAL SERVICE PLAN FOR 2024-25. Bill Amos seconded; the vote to approve the resolution carried unanimously.

Item#	Motion	Board Member	Yes	No	Notes
8.3	Seconded the motion	Bill Amos	X		
8.3		Melody Killens	X		
8.3		Ryan Scholl	X		
8.3		Trinity Monahan	X		
8.3	Entered a motion to approve	Kellie Smith	X		

- Kellie Smith entered a motion to approve RESOLUTION 2023-24 #11 – SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET No. 2 GENERAL FUND. Bill Amos seconded; the vote to approve the resolution carried unanimously.


Item#	Motion	Board Member	Yes	No	Notes
8.4	Seconded the motion	Bill Amos	X		
8.4		Melody Killens	X		
8.4		Ryan Scholl	X		
8.4		Trinity Monahan	X		
8.4	Entered a motion to approve	Kellie Smith	X		

UPCOMING MEETING INPUT

- March 13, 2024 – Regular Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., District Office

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Killens adjourned the meeting at 8:59 p.m.


Melody Killens, Board Chair
Scot Stockwell, Superintendent

