

St. Helens School District #502
Regular Board Meeting
September 25, 2024

The St. Helens School District Board of School District #502 convened in a Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on September 25, 2024. This public meeting was observable at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZsHUaTMjSZGaiEJQwA72Vg.

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, September 25, 2024.

PRESENT

Those present were:

Ryan Scholl, Board Chair
Trinity Monahan, Vice Chair
Melody Killens, Board Member
Kellie Smith, Board Member
Bill Amos, Board Member
Lucie Polvogt, Student Board Representative
Scot Stockwell, Superintendent
Christy Woodard, Chief Financial Officer
Kristi Ward, Executive Assistant
Keely Scoville, Student Board Representative

CALL TO ORDER

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

COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

- The Board recognized:
 - **(0:1:20)** Nicole Edwards, GEAR UP Coordinator, for tirelessly supporting student success, and fostering a culture of postsecondary options within the St. Helens School District.
 - **(0:3:24)** SHHS student Payton Mauldin, for her outstanding leadership, dedication to athletics, and significant contributions to enhancing school spirit.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

- **(0:5:39)** Cosette Rogers, student, asked the Board about trust and safety in the District, particularly in response to the recent allegations made on a social media platform. She cited an incident that she witnessed. Chair Scholl directed

Superintendent Stockwell to investigate the incident, and directed listeners to policy KL if they are witness to any misconduct. This policy includes the process for and form to accompany complaints.

CONSENT AGENDA

(0:10:29) Melody Killens entered a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Kellie Smith seconded; the motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- The District Principals and Directors informed members about the work, activities and planning taking place at each school:
 - **(0:11:30)** Allyson Dubuque, Martine Barnette and Dani Boylan, reported that in the Early Learning department and elementary schools:
 - The Walk-to-Read program has been extended to all grades at Lewis and Clark Elementary.
 - Support Core Teams are meeting on a weekly basis for Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS) reviews in each elementary school on a weekly basis, and grade level teachers rotate through to meet with the team.
 - The three elementary principals brought their Guiding Coalition teams together to plan and collaborate about the PLT work for their schools.
 - Columbia City had their first Lodge today, in which students are grouped across grade level with a staff member that they will meet with throughout the year, and it was fun and positive.
 - There is now a preschool located at each of the elementary schools, which was part of our Strategic Plan.
 - **(0:18:11)** Cris Gwilliam reported that at SHMS:
 - They have had an excellent turn out for fall sports. There are approximately 150 students already registered.
 - This week is College and Career Readiness Week, and Nicole Edwards has done an excellent job of bringing awareness and opportunities to SHMS. Each teacher has decorated their door with their college colors, there was a military day, and a number of lessons about career readiness and college opportunities.
 - The Back to School Night at the MS will be on October 10th, and the Board was invited to attend.
 - **(0:20:19)** Nicole Hilton reported that at SHH:
 - The entire Math Department all attended a Professional Development session hosted by the Instructional Coaches, deepening their work on best practices with a focus on student discourse.
 - We are working on inclusive practices and eliminating barriers for students who qualify for Special Education.
 - We are focusing on attendance. We're reaching out to students and families and setting meetings to help identify barriers.

- **(0:21:50)** Martin Hehman reported that at the St. Helens Virtual Academy:
 - This was the smoothest start of the year to date.
 - Current enrollment is already greater than the ending number last year.
 - There are now 13 students that have chosen the District homeschool option, which is more than double the number last year.
 - Homerooms were rolled out right from the start, and although they are being attended, it is not at the level we would like to see. SHVA teachers are using their PLT time to plan ways to increase engagement.
 - The elementary teacher is currently working with L&C Elementary to plan the first Family Engagement event. It will take place over two evenings, and will include a ceramics project.
- **(0:24:01)** Matt Lacy reported that at PHS:
 - The current enrollment is 69 students. Fourteen (14) of those are new and there has already been 2 that graduated this year.
 - He has observed all of the teachers at least 3 time, and is pleased with the level of rigor being provided.
 - The students take part in a “Circle-Up” activity, which includes a focus on perseverance, ownership, work ethic and respect. This time spent results in community building in our school.
 - It is Spirit Week at PHS, and thanks to the efforts of Nicole Edwards, we have had many community members and college and career representatives in our school.
 - We have developed a design for the Panther mascot that this board voted for last year, and are excited to use that throughout our school.
 - We are working as a team to improve attendance, and are implementing family meetings and home visits.
- **(0:27:57)** Superintendent Stockwell reported that enrollment numbers will be emailed to the board, per a member request.
- **(0:28:53)** Superintendent Stockwell reported that a tentative contract settlement was reached with the OSEA team, and feels it supports staff well.
- **(0:29:13)** Superintendent Stockwell led member in a continued conversation about cell phone use in schools. He played an audio segment from NPR about the topic, then reviewed the draft of survey questions that will go to students, staff, families and community partners soon to gather input. Board policy JFCEB, “Personal Electronic Devices and Social Media” was reviewed, and members shared their thoughts about considerations for any changes to the policy.
- Superintendent Stockwell invited members to join the Leadership Team for the CEL training on Tuesday, at 8:45 a.m.

VISITORS ADDRESS THE BOARD

- No requests to address the board were received.

UPCOMING MEETING INPUT


- October 03, 2024, Board ASCD Zoom Meeting, 5 - 6:15 p.m.
- October 9, 2024 – Board Work Session, 6:30 p.m., District Office
 - 2022-23 Annual English Learners in Oregon Report

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Scholl adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.



Ryan Scholl, Board Chair



Scot Stockwell, Superintendent