

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
February 1, 2007**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, February 1, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the David Douglas School District Administration Building, located at 1500 SE 130, Portland, Oregon 97233.

School Board Members present were:

Donn Gardner, Board Chair	
Dawn Barberis	Frieda Christopher
Bruce Burton	Carl Clinton
Mike Centoni	Annette Mattson

Also present were Barbara Rommel, Superintendent/Clerk; Mike Stout, Assistant Superintendent; Courtney Wilton, Director of Administrative Services/Deputy Clerk; Sherrie Barger, Director of Curriculum; Susan Summers, Director of Human Resources; Barbara Kienle, Director of Student Services; and Gail Hunter, Board Secretary.

The agenda included consideration of the following:

Call to Order / Flag Salute

Board Member Reports – Frieda Christopher said this year's foundation dinner/auction will feature a new auctioneer full of enthusiasm and ideas. Auction items are being requested for the April 21st event. The Prunedale task force of Opportunity Gateway will host an open house on February 20, 6:30pm at Floyd Light Middle School to invite public input on their development plan. Annette Mattson recently returned from NSBA's Federal Relations Network Conference in Washington, DC. 1,000 board members from around the country attended, meeting with their elected representatives to discuss concerns related to education. Congressmen have been invited to sign the "Pledge to America's School Children". NSBA's forty points for revision of NCLB have all been included in a bill under discussion in the House. Ms. Mattson thanked administrators for providing district statistics to illustrate the impact of current legislation. She reported that the bill for a mandatory statewide insurance pool has passed out of committee in Salem, and thanked Dan McCue for composing letters to our legislators explaining the district's position on this issue.

Student Body President's Report – Elyn Ward reported that last Saturday's winter formal was a successful event. The unique decorations received many compliments. In preparation for Rose Festival, finalists for Rose Corps have been selected. Interested girls attended an orientation with representatives from the Rose Festival Association on Tuesday. Interviews and speeches will follow. This year's Valentine's dance will benefit Celtic Heart. The annual Father-Daughter Banquet will be held on Wednesday, February 28 at 6pm.

Superintendent's Report – Mike Stout reported that Gilbert Heights and Cherry Park schools were among only 12 schools honored statewide this week by Oregon Department of Education, for demonstrated progress in student achievement in math and reading, and for academic improvement for minority and low income students. Gilbert Heights was one of six winners of the State's "Celebrating Student Success" award. Cherry Park was selected as one of another six finalists. Gilbert Heights was earlier named a distinguished Title I school by the US Department of Education.

Students at Alice Ott Middle School are participating in a service learning project with the Oregon Food Bank. Governor Kulongoski will be invited to take part in a related assembly at the school this spring. A team from David Douglas had the honor of making the opening presentation at the state PBS coaches' conference in Corvallis on January 29. Alice Ott team leader Florence Protopapas, PBS coach Erica Guynes, and Assistant Superintendent Mike Stout reported on implementation of Positive Behavior Supports at our elementary and middle schools.

Superintendent Rommel announced that the online staff newsletter, "The Piper" made its debut today. Staff members will receive the newsletter twice monthly. The superintendent shared a copy of the newspaper "NEA Today" which featured an article written by Tim Smart, Floyd Light Middle School teacher, currently serving with the National Guard in Afghanistan. She also reported that 11th grader Kelsey Mattsen is currently 6th in the state in average scoring for girls basketball. David Douglas High School has been invited to present at a national Urban Secondary School Showcase in Chicago as one of 25 middle and high schools from across the country. The high school was also notified that two David Douglas staff members have been inducted into the National Honor Roll of Outstanding American Teachers, Joe Talley and Denise Schoer. They were honored upon being nominated by former students as having had the greatest influence on their lives.

English as a Second Language Report – Barbara Kienle introduced ESL Coordinator Pam Bejerano, who provided an update on ESL enrollment, program highlights, and challenges. The district's ESL enrollment has been declining in the last couple of years, reflecting a similar trend statewide. Current enrollment is 2,339. Forty three languages are spoken within the ESL population. The largest number represented here are Spanish speakers. We still have the highest percentage of ESL students of the 15 largest districts in Oregon. Title III grant funding supports ESL parent nights in all of our schools. Many elementary schools are hosting family literacy nights as well, with ESL parents reading to students in their native languages. The district has established an ESL/Special Education partnership with Oregon PTI to support families and address their special needs.

Ms. Bejerano described our current program offerings and proficiency levels at the elementary, middle, and high schools. New NCLB regulations require that all students receive a minimum of 30 minutes per day of English Language Development (ELD). ESL also now has its own English language proficiency standards, along with an assessment. All district ESL teachers have now been trained in Focused Approach, a targeted language development program. The district must also adopt an ELD curriculum by Fall 2007. Teachers will work in ongoing teams at each level to implement the new curriculum by next fall. Ms. Bejerano reviewed impact of the new regulations, saying schedules will need to be adjusted so every ESL student gets the required 30 minutes of daily explicit English instruction. At the middle and high schools, students will need an ELD class separate from Language Arts, as well as a program for current tutorial students.

Summer Projects Planning – Mr. Wilton reported that the construction committee met earlier this evening to review and discuss the list of summer projects. The plan is less ambitious than prior years as we do not have bond funds available. The largest project is the high school expansion, which will be completed this summer. The remaining cost of roughly \$1.5 million has been funded from reserves. Other summer projects include roofing, tile replacement, plumbing, and basic maintenance. The construction committee recommends replacing the Cherry Park breezeway this summer, as it is much used and the school does not have a covered play structure. The board will need to approve the bids for each project as those are received. Mr. Clinton made a motion to approve the list of summer projects as presented, seconded by Mr. Centoni. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda – Mr. Burton made a motion to approve the following consent agenda items, seconded by Ms. Christopher. The motion carried in a vote of 7-0.

- **Budget Committee Appointment**
- **Budget Calendar Approval**
- **Personnel Recommendations**
- **Approval of January Board Meeting Minutes**

Audience Participation – Board Chair Gardner opened the meeting for public comment. DDEA officers Bob Gray and Luan Nguyen presented token of thanks to board members from the association in recognition of school board appreciation month. Mr. Gray presented copies of articles from “NEA Today” featuring Mr. Smart’s piece, and one discussing higher expectations for middle school students, commenting that high school teachers are concerned about middle schoolers being adequately prepared for high school courses. He reported that DDEA shares the board’s position on SB 426 (mandatory insurance pooling). He said there is growing concern among high school staff members that new students are not understanding David Douglas expectations and that conflicts are a result.

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – Mr. Centoni requested an update from the high school on their visioning work, and a report on the effects of changing state requirements on our sex education curriculum. Barbara Kienle said staff members will be reviewing curriculum materials next spring in preparation for next year’s health adoption. Superintendent Rommel requested that board members let Mr. Burton and Ms. Christopher know if anyone expresses interest in serving on the district’s budget committee.

Adjournment – There being no other business, Board Chair Gardner declared the meeting adjourned.



Donn Gardner, Board Chair



Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk

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