

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
February 18, 2010**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, February 18, 2010, at 7:00pm in the Board Room of the David Douglas School District Administration Building, located at 1500 SE 130th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97233.

School Board Members present were:

	Dawn Barberis, Board Chair	
Mike Centoni		Annette Mattson
Frieda Christopher		Mike Price
Donn Gardner		Cheryl Scarcelli Ancheta

Also present were Barbara Rommel, Superintendent/Clerk; Mike Stout, Deputy Superintendent; and Gail Hunter, Board Secretary.

The agenda included consideration of the following:

Call to Order / Flag Salute

Board Member Reports – Board Chair Barberis welcomed members of Boy Scout Troop 49 to the meeting. Annette Mattson participated in the fourth annual transportation summit held by the City of Portland, where Safe Routes the Schools was one of the topics. A meeting regarding the 122nd Avenue pilot project will be held next Tuesday, February 23, 6:30pm at Ron Russell Middle School. She encouraged members of this community to attend and have their opinions heard, as the study area expands beyond either side of 122nd Avenue and the decisions made will have a lasting impact on our neighborhood. Cheryl Scarcelli Ancheta requested donations of bottles of wine for the 50th anniversary fundraiser. The celebration dinner will be held April 24. Candy Wallace reported that invitations for the event are currently being printed, and should go out next week.

Student Body President's Report – Nick Anderson, ASB President, reported that the student body will hear speeches by Rose Festival candidates today. The David Douglas representative will be announced at a school-wide assembly on March 1. Spring sports begin next Monday. Eleven athletes have qualified for this weekend's state swimming tournament. ASB officer applications will be made available next Wednesday for students interested in running for office.

Superintendent's Report – Ms. Wallace announced that as part of their ongoing work with Mill Park School, Friends of the Children will soon begin a six week observation to identify kindergarten students most in need of additional support to succeed in school. Identified students will be paired with professional mentors who will work with them from Kindergarten through high school graduation for a minimum of four hours per week. The program's goals are for supported students to graduate, to avoid the juvenile justice system, and to avoid teen parenthood. Barbara Kienle announced that Vocational Transition Assistant Sally DeFord has been named "Outstanding Direct Support Person for 2010" by the Oregon Association of Vocational School Needs Personnel. She will be honored at a special awards ceremony tomorrow. Janice Essenberg was pleased to announce that the district has been awarded a \$1.49million grant from Oregon Emergency Management for a seismic upgrade and roof replacement at Floyd Light Middle School. Paul Arzt wrote the successful grant application, with assistance from Terry Rommel and Blaine Grover. The superintendent congratulated Ms. Mattson for being named by OSBA to be Oregon's representative to the Michelle Obama childhood obesity initiative, promoting school projects which improve nutrition and increase physical activity.

Approval of Budget Committee Member – Superintendent Rommel announced that Ken Hutchins is willing to serve another term on the District Budget Committee. Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve the appointment of Ken Hutchins to the budget committee for a new four year term, seconded by Mr. Price. Mr. Hutchins' appointment was unanimously approved by the Board. One position remains to be filled.

Report on Human Solutions School-Community Liaison Project – Fran Weick, Coordinator of Resident Services, provided a brief review of the Human Solutions School-Community Liaison project. Human Solutions is a private non-profit providing anti-poverty programs in East Multnomah County and is a SUN schools program partner as well. Her agency works on building affordable housing in East Multnomah County, and offers resident services at each site to provide housing, rental, utility, food, and clothing assistance as well as summer lunch programs, financial education classes for parents, and homework clubs for children in order to help families maintain stable housing. The school liaison project was originally funded through the Portland Schools Foundation. It is now funded through a grant from United Way. As many Somali families moved into the area, there was awareness that there were not as many support services in place for them. Human Solutions hired a person to work directly with those families. Through the work of Amal Ahmed, a really great partnership with David Douglas School District has been established. She works two hours per week with the high school, and two hours with Ron Russell Middle School, helping students understand school culture, and helping staff to understand Somali culture. She takes the school culture to parents, sharing information and translating forms from the school. Last year she was also able to support Mill Park students and staff a couple of hours per week. This year, the high school staff has agreed to take part in bi-monthly meetings with Lincoln Woods, bringing staff to the residential site to make families more comfortable with the school. Parents are now able to access the district website to see grades and keep abreast of activities thanks to Ms. Ahmed's work. Human Solutions is in the process of hiring a Russian speaker to provide the same support to that population.

Audience Participation – The board chair opened the meeting for public comment. There were no remarks from the audience.

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – Chair Barberis requested feedback on board member use of district email accounts. It was the Board's consensus to have any messages received forwarded to their personal accounts.

Ms. Mattson made a motion to amend the adopted superintendent search calendar, changing the opening dates of all events scheduled to begin between February 15 and March 10, to begin on February 19. Mr. Centoni seconded the motion. The change in the calendar was unanimously approved.

Chair Barberis cancelled the executive session previously scheduled to follow tonight's meeting.

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



Dawn Barberis, Board Chair



Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk