

**Meeting of the School Board  
David Douglas School District No. 40  
June 3, 2010**

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, June 3, 2010, at 7:00pm in the Board Room of the David Douglas School District Administration Building, located at 1500 SE 130<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97233.

School Board Members present were:

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

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**

**Superintendent's Report** – Superintendent Rommel said she was pleased to honor some of the district's best spellers. She introduced Brooke O'Neill, who reviewed the process from the building to state level. Katy Chase, Community Involvement Coordinator, presented building winners of the district spelling competition. Each received a certificate and pin in honor of their achievement. Amber Smith, Division 3, took first place at the county contest and will compete at the state level. Eric Larson took second place in Division 2.

Superintendent Rommel announced that Katy Chase organized a phenomenal book fair on May 25 at the Clackamas Barnes & Noble. More than \$4,000 in sales during the event yielded a gift card of nearly \$900 to the district. Katy expressed her appreciation to many staff members who assisted with the very successful event. The gift card will be used to purchase books for the Parent Resource Center. David Douglas High School teacher Eric Johnson has been selected by the US Department of Education and the Department of State to participate in the Tour of Economic Education in South Africa this summer.

The superintendent was pleased to announce that the district has benefited from the support of a number of business partners. We have been notified that Fred Meyer will be presenting the district with a check for more than \$3,000 as the result of their fundraiser to support schools. Boeing has awarded David Douglas High School with \$7,000 to help with the expense of the "Ninth Grade Counts" program, the transition program for eighth graders coming to the high school. The gift was awarded through involvement with the Portland Schools Foundation. Office Depot has delivered a number of backpacks filled with school supplies for distribution next fall.

**Board Member Reports** – On May 27, Annette Mattson attended the 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Pilot Study workshop. Study recommendations for 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue from Division to Foster were presented to the public, after which the group of about 40 citizens discussed those recommendations in focus groups. Ms. Mattson was pleased that two Ron Russell Middle School students from the REAP program participated in discussions and presented their ideas. She announced that Senator Jeff Merkley will hold a Town Hall meeting at 11:20am this Saturday, June 5, in the Parkrose High School Student Center. The Portland Mercury did an online article on the music award the district recently received for the second year. Superintendent Rommel reported that the First Octave Foundation, through the

Portland Schools Foundation, awarded \$986 to Floyd Light Middle School for classroom percussion materials, as well as \$900 to the district to support private music instruction. Frieda Christopher announced that the Educational Foundation met last week to select staff member grant proposals which will be funded for use next school year. The Foundation will also award four scholarships to graduating seniors, one to a Fir Ridge graduate, and three to David Douglas High School grads. Ms. Christopher said the East Portland Action Plan meeting last week featured a presentation from Alice Ott Middle School students. An executive assistant from the Mayor's office discussed the City's budget, noting that if citizens want to be involved in the budgeting process, they should serve on the bureau budget committees. Lore Wintergreen's goal is to have East Portland represented there.

**Election of Board Leadership for 2010-11** – Chair Barberis opened the nominations for Board Chair for the 2010-11 school year. Mr. Gardner expressed his appreciation for Ms. Barberis' dedication and commitment to education, in her career as well as her work on the board. He said the transition to the new superintendent would be served well with someone of her skills and leadership, and nominated Dawn Barberis to serve another term as Board Chair. Mr. Centoni concurred, saying that her leadership has been valuable in bringing the board to consensus and building a cohesive team, as well as in the work undertaken this year, including the revision of board policy, the major initiative of selecting the new superintendent, collective bargaining and budget issues. Ms. Mattson moved that nominations be closed. Ms. Barberis was elected Board Chair for the 2010-11 school year in a unanimous vote.

Nominations were opened for Vice Chair. Mr. Centoni nominated Annette Mattson as Vice Chair for 2010-11, noting that her skills will be a real asset in the coming year. Mr. Gardner said that nobody has contributed more energy to her work on the board than Ms. Mattson, citing her involvement with OSBA as well as various community issues such as the 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Pilot Project. He said it is essential to select a person with that energy to the board leadership team. Ms. Christopher moved that nominations be closed. Ms. Mattson was elected Vice Chair for 2010-11 in a unanimous vote.

**Revision of Board Policy IKF – Graduation Requirements: Second Reading** – Mr. Gardner moved approval of the policy revision as presented, seconded by Mr. Centoni. The motion carried in a vote of 6-0.

**Approval of Administrative Regulation IIBGA – Electronic Communication** – This is an administrative regulation which requires board approval. Mr. Stout served on the committee which developed this document, and said it meets all requirements. Mr. Centoni moved approval, seconded by Mr. Price. The motion carried in a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta joined the meeting.

**Consent Agenda** – Mr. Centoni moved to approve the following Consent Agenda items, seconded by Mr. Price. The motion carried in a vote of 7-0.

- **Resolution to Increase General Fund Transfer to Capital Projects Fund for the Year 2009-2010**
- **Resolution to Increase Grant Fund Appropriations for the Year 2009-10**
- **Resolution Selecting Pauly, Rogers & Co., PC as Independent Auditor for Fiscal Year 2010/2011**
- **Resolution to Appoint Budget Officer for Fiscal Year 2010-11**
- **Resolution Appointing Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Designating Depositories for School Funds for Fiscal Year 2010-11**

- **Resolution to Temporarily Borrow from General Fund Reserves for Grant Purposes for Fiscal Year 2010-11**
- **Resolution for Facsimile Signatures for US Bank for Fiscal Year 2010-11**
- **Resolution to Participate in the Local Government Investment Pool with Amounts Up to the Limit Allowed by the Oregon State Treasury for Fiscal Year 2010-11**
- **Resolution Setting Tuition for School Year 2010-11**
- **Resolution to Select a Property and Liability Insurance Carrier for the 2010-11 School Year**
- **Resolution to Select a Student Accident Insurance Carrier for K-12 Students for the 2010-11 School Year**
- **Resolution to Select a Workers' Compensation Insurance Carrier for the 2010-11 School Year**
- **Resolution to Authorize the Superintendent to be the Authorized Representative to Apply for Federal Funds for the 2010-11 School Year**
- **Personnel Recommendation**
- **Approval of May Board Meeting Minutes**

**TSCC Hearing** – The board chair declared a brief recess in order for the Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission to conduct a hearing on the David Douglas 2010-11 Budget. Following the hearing, the board meeting was reconvened.

**Break / Audience Participation** – Chair Barberis declared a brief recess, after which she reconvened the meeting. She opened the meeting for public comment.

John May, district parent and employee, read a prepared statement advocating that the board maintain its current commitment to the primary mission of educating our students through a “whole child” philosophy, and expressing his concern that unknown implications of new district leadership, funding constraints, and the very narrow scope of federal accountability systems, threaten that mission. He said that the growing availability of data is changing the way educators and policy makers look at schools, and that a narrow focus on reading and math test scores as the sole measurement of success is not compatible with the district’s stated mission. He said test scores should be considered only in the larger context of a more comprehensive success model. He expressed his hope that under all these pressure points, the board will not be swayed from their primary mission. He thanked the board for providing the circumstances that have allowed his son to flourish under their care. Mr. May’s written statement is appended to these minutes.

Mike Ewald, district patron, thanked Superintendent Rommel and Deputy Superintendent Stout for their many years of outstanding service to David Douglas. He said it will be everyone’s job - staff, students, parents and patrons - to assist the new district leadership.

**Resolution Adopting Budget, Making Appropriations and Levying Taxes for Fiscal Year 2010-11** – Mr. Gardner made a motion to adopt the 2010-11 David Douglas School District Budget, seconded by Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta. Mr. Centoni asked for clarification regarding average daily enrollment for 2009-10 and 2010-11 on the TSCC document. Ms. Essenberg will research and follow up with him. Ms. Mattson said it seems very odd to approve a budget that we know will require further cuts. She has asked a TSCC representative whether this is a fiscally valid thing to do. She said they acknowledged that this is unusual, but these are unusual times. Following the discussion, the 2010-11 Budget was adopted in a vote of 7-0.

There was further discussion on whether or when to reconvene either the full budget committee or the budget and finance subcommittee. Superintendent Rommel recommended initially convening the budget and finance subcommittee to draft a list of priorities to carry into future discussion with the full budget committee. She said that with cuts we've already made, the board will have few choices left as we look for more reductions. MESD also received a reduction and passed that on to us through our resolution services allocation, so we will also need to pare those services further. Mr. Centoni said transparency is extremely important; he said the board also needs input from the new superintendent. Ms. Mattson said the budget committee should be invited back to the table since the assumptions under which they made their recommendations have changed. Superintendent Rommel said that starting now with a small group to develop some recommendations would make the process more efficient. It would be very difficult to make reductions after the school year starts. Mr. Gardner recommended that the superintendent proceed during the next weeks exactly as she would if she would be continuing beyond June 30. It was suggested that the budget committee be notified that there will likely be meetings during the summer. It would be helpful to have their vacation schedules so we know when they will be available.

**Other Business / Future Agenda Items** – Mr. Centoni remarked that this is the final board meeting for three of our administrators. He said Superintendent Barbara Rommel, Deputy Superintendent Mike Stout, and Assistant Superintendent Candy Wallace are certainly going to be missed, as they have made great contributions to this school district. He thanked them for their service, and commented that moving forward will be challenging but exciting as well, as challenges can present opportunities.

**Adjournment** – There being no other business, Board Chair Barberis announced that she would be convening an executive session immediately following the regular meeting, in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2)(d) Collective Bargaining; and (2)(e) Property. The regular session was adjourned.



---

Dawn Barberis, Board Chair



---

Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk