

**Meeting of the School Board  
David Douglas School District No. 40  
July 20, 2006**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, July 20, 2006, 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; 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** – Board Chair Gardner presented Dawn Barberis with a plaque and the board's thanks for her service as board chair during 2005-06. Frieda Christopher attended Opportunity Gateway's summer meeting, where discussion centered on the City Council's move to dedicate a portion of urban renewal TIP money to affordable housing. Leah Greenwood, head of housing for PDC, is seeking input to city council; Opportunity Gateway will present a position statement during public testimony. The Prunedale strategy committee is looking into kickoff business development that will cause a ripple effect. Their goal is to have a strategic plan by February. Annette Mattson said she had the opportunity to meet with Kenny Asher, formerly of PDC, who said that he appreciated the efforts of Frieda Christopher and Dick Cooley on behalf of the Gateway area.

**Superintendent's Report** – Superintendent Rommel introduced Dan McCue, the district's new Communications Specialist. Mr. McCue held that role in Beaverton School District for the past ten years, and previously worked for Clackamas Community College. She also introduced John Bier, newly promoted to Assistant Principal of David Douglas High School. John has worked at the high school for many years as a science teacher, where he developed the Scottish Garden, and most recently has been the attendance coordinator as well as the current summer school principal. Mike Stout presented a list of some of the housing projects under development in the district. He plans to provide the board regular updates during the year. Superintendent Rommel announced that the district has been awarded a \$75,000 grant to support school-based tobacco prevention education, thanks to the efforts of Mark Haner and Cheryl Bland. Barbara Kienle gave a brief summary of summer school participation. Nearly 600 elementary students were enrolled at Earl Boyles and Mill Park. 172 middle school students took part in academic and enrichment activities, and 960 high school students worked on credit retrieval. A full report on summer school will be presented in the fall.

**Resolution to Submit a General Obligation Bond Measure** – Superintendent Rommel requested the board's approval of a resolution to submit a general obligation bond measure to the voters, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000,000. The most recent bond was passed in November 2000. At that point the district anticipated growth of about 1,600 students over the next 10 years; current enrollment has increased by 2,100 over the past six years. Courtney Wilton presented general information about several debt service options. Current cost to taxpayers of outstanding general obligation debt totals \$2.20 per thousand (1993 = \$.75; 2001 = \$1.45). The current annual cost for the average homeowner is \$275 or \$23 per month. He reviewed comparative bond costs for Multnomah County districts, noting that David Douglas is in the middle, although our assessed value per student is the lowest in the county. He recapped upcoming items expected to appear on the November ballot within our taxing jurisdiction. Mr. Wilton will present more specifics regarding debt service for action at the August meeting. The board chair entertained a motion to approve Resolution No. 1, calling a measure election to submit to district voters the question of contracting general obligation bonded indebtedness not to exceed \$45,000,000 to finance the costs of capital construction and capital improvements. Bruce Burton so moved, seconded by Mike Centoni. The motion carried in a vote of 7-0.

**High School Expansion Guaranteed Maximum Price Approval** – Mr. Wilton said the approval of a GMP for high school expansion will be deferred to the next meeting as options are still being reviewed by the construction committee. He reported that work is in progress on repairs to the Mill Park gymnasium, which occurred when the exterior stucco surfacing failed, resulting in water damage. Joints were improperly flashed but there has been no sign of water damage to ceiling or walls inside the building.

**Medical Benefit Plan Overview 2006-07** – Mr. Wilton announced that due to a 20% rate increase proposed by HealthNet, the district has approved the insurance committee's recommendation to move to OSBA's Regence Blue Cross insurance coverage for 2006-07. Kaiser coverage will remain in effect. Remaining with HealthNet would have resulted in a substantial out of pocket increase for enrolled employees. With the help of the district's broker, committee members from both employee associations and the administration surveyed the market and reviewed coverage before recommending the OSBA plan. OSBA's coverage will have tiered rates but the composite rate will remain with Kaiser. The Human Resources department will communicate with employees and retirees about the change, will become effective on October 1. Every effort will be made to ensure a smooth transition to the new coverage.

**Resolution to Approve Alternative Programs** – Barbara Kienle presented a list of state-approved alternative educational options for students who need service outside the district's regular program. She requested the board's approval of the selections for 2006-07, noting that Academy of Alternatives is not being recommended due to this year's experience. She said east county districts are involved in discussion with two, and possibly three, other programs which believe they can meet the needs of those students. All alternative programs are evaluated annually. The question of background checks was asked of all providers earlier this year, and all, including Academy of Alternatives, reported that they were in full compliance. ODE has updated OAR's requiring that background check verification be supplied when providers apply for state approval. Mr. Centoni made a motion to approve the recommended alternative programs for 2006-07 as presented, with a second from Mr. Burton. The recommendations were approved in a unanimous vote of the board.

**High School Assistant Principal Staffing** – Superintendent Rommel said that one of the issues of concern discussed during the high school staff workshop in June was the staff perception, especially among the newer staff members, that more administrative visibility and support were desirable. The last time the high school was as large as it is now there were eight administrators. She recommended that an additional assistant principal position for the high school be added to the budget. With interviews for the Ford vacancy just completed, Mr. Hutchinson has a viable candidate to fill the position immediately. Mr. Hutchinson said adding an administrator should provide more classroom interaction and staff support, ease the supervision assignments during the new two lunch schedule, and assist with addressing drop-out and attendance concerns. Ms. Christopher made a motion to amend the budget to provide one additional assistant principal for David Douglas High School, seconded by Ms. Mattson. The motion was approved in a unanimous vote of 7-0.

**Superintendent's Evaluation** – Board Chair Gardner said that Superintendent Rommel has received a copy of the board's evaluation for 2005-06. Dawn Barberis made a motion to approve the evaluation, seconded by Bruce Burton. The evaluation was approved in a vote of 7-0. Chair Gardner and the committee will meet to work further on the evaluation instrument for 2006-07 before bringing it to the full board for approval. The development of the goals for 2006-07 will be postponed until the August meeting.

**Board Standing Committees for 2006-07** – The board chair requested that board members communicate their preferences for committee assignments for the coming year, noting that Citizens for Schools has been added to the list. In particular he requested new representatives for the CAC committee. A list of assignments will be presented at the next meeting.

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

- **Personnel Recommendations**
- **Approval of June Board Meeting Minutes**

**Audience Participation** – DDEA President Bob Gray introduced Vice President Luan Nguyen, Gilbert Park 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, saying they will represent the Association at board meetings this year. He thanked the board for approving additional administrative staffing for the high school, noting that teachers are seeing an interesting mix of students coming in from other districts, without the skills of our students who have been enrolled in the district K-8.

**Discussion of District Vision and Goals** – Board Chair Gardner asked board members to describe their vision and goals for the district in the future, to identify commonalities and high priorities for both immediate and long range planning. Ideas were expressed regarding student achievement, staff support, accommodation of growth, fiscal planning, community involvement, and school safety. Mr. Gardner said that, over the course of the year, he plans to handle regular business during the first board meeting of the month, then take some time during the second monthly meeting to discuss some of these issues in depth.

**Other Business / Future Agenda Items** – Mr. Centoni congratulated the new board leadership team. Ms. Mattson said she appreciated tonight's discussion as a good opportunity to really listen to one another.

**Adjournment** – There being no other business, Board Chair Gardner announced that the board would meet in executive session immediately following the regular meeting, in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2)(e) Property. He then declared the regular meeting adjourned.



Donn Gardner, Board Chair



Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk

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