

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
September 17, 2009**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, September 17, 2009, 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

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 – Mr. Centoni announced that today is Constitution Day. He visited an elementary building, where he found a third grade class discussion interesting and inspiring. Ms. Mattson attended the REAP Challenge thank you reception, as did Mr. Stout, and presided over last weekend's OSBA Board of Directors meeting. This morning she was pleased to attend the ROSE Community Development Donor Breakfast along with Ms. Christopher and Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta. Superintendent Rommel was honored at the event. Ms. Mattson said that ROSE is a fine example of a community development organization which is focused on all elements of building community. Mr. Price attended Tuesday evening's TAG program open house, which he said was a very well organized event with outstanding attendance. He said everyone felt welcomed and the building looked great. Ms. Christopher said she was pleased to attend the ROSE breakfast, and it was nice to have Superintendent Rommel honored there. She also was pleased to hear more about the ROSE program. Ms. Christopher said there was heated discussion over low income vs market rate housing at a recent Gateway Urban Renewal meeting, which the manager of the Housing Bureau attended. Cleanup is underway at the old North's Chuck Wagon site on Halsey. An EPA grant was received for cleanup of what was formerly a dry cleaner's on part of the three acres. The acreage will be leveled and planted with grass seed, and will eventually become a city park. The Portland Development Commission has purchased a large parcel on NE Glisan from Human Solutions. The Gateway Urban Renewal committee will provide input regarding development of the site, which is expected to include housing / mixed use. The Street plan for central Gateway will go to the City Council on September 30. The Educational Foundation is continuing to plan for the district's 50th anniversary celebration. The committee selected 15 notable graduates to honor at the celebration dinner in April.

Student Body President's Report – ASB First Vice President Joey Peacock reported on back to school events at the high school. A Club Fair will be held September 25th on the breezeway. A pep assembly is planned for October 2 with a football game to follow that evening. Students will be encouraged to wear red to support the Scots. This year's Homecoming theme is "I ♥ the 80's". One of the spirit days will be devoted to Michael Jackson. Entertainment for the Homecoming dance will be outsourced in an effort to generate interest and boost attendance.

Superintendent's Report – Cherie Ann May, Coordinator of Music and Gifted Programs, was pleased to announce that a second violinist from the Oregon Symphony has been volunteering up to five hours per week with the elementary strings program. She also played for the students during recruiting assemblies. Candy Wallace reported that thanks to the initiative of Mill Park parent

Danette Flanagan, who manages the Albertson's bakery on SE 122nd Avenue, students at Mill Park took part in an incredible clothes closet giveaway at their open house. The Albertson's staff held a clothing drive for the school, and set up the entire cafeteria with clothing from infant size to adult. 236 children received clothing as well as a number of adults. Superintendent Rommel announced that David Douglas high school teachers helped DDHS graduate Sara Azar receive an Incight scholarship. Sara, who has severe visual impairment, received additional funding from the Kaiser Foundation to support her studies at Mt. Hood Community College.

Enrollment Update – Mr. Stout presented an update on enrollment, reporting a total of 10,565 enrolled as of today. Comparing Day #8 with the same day last year, this represents an increase of 226 students. These numbers are preliminary as schools are continuing to clear students who have withdrawn. Mr. Stout said this was the smoothest start the high school has seen in years. Incoming freshmen have benefited from three years of PBS and the high school is benefiting from that program as well as the Scots Pride program.

At the elementary level, 19 classrooms have 30 or more students. At Gilbert Park, first grades are at 30 and 31. Any additional first graders who enroll there will be transported to Earl Boyles, which can accommodate more students. The main hot spots are Menlo Park's kindergarten and first grades, and Mill Park's third and fourth grades. Superintendent Rommel requested an additional 1.0 FTE temporary teacher for each school to add a Grade 3/4 classroom at Mill Park and a Grade K/1 classroom at Menlo Park. Mr. Centoni moved approval of the superintendent's request for 2.0 FTE elementary teachers, with Ms. Mattson seconding the motion. The staffing addition passed in a vote of 5-0.

State Assessment Performance Report – Assessment Coordinator Derek Edens introduced a report on Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) data for the 2008-09 school year. He began by reviewing the district's demographic changes since the first AYP report in 2002. Over that period the district has experienced a 16.7% increase in enrollment, a 17% increase in the number of students representing minority groups, and an 18.3% increase in the number of students qualifying for free or reduced lunch. As a requirement of NCLB, students in Grades 3-8 and Grade 10 participate in the annual State Assessment. Tests are administered in Reading and Math, and the report focuses not only on how an individual school performed, but how that school's subgroups performed. If one subgroup doesn't meet defined targets, the whole school fails to meet AYP. AYP targets have increased over time. The District AYP report includes students attending charter schools within our boundaries as well as David Douglas students in outside placements.

There are two paths to meet AYP targets: Path I, the Academic Target, where each subgroup must meet the set targets on the state assessment; and Path II, Safe Harbor, where schools, districts, or subgroups must reduce the percentage of students who do not meet targets by 10% or more from the previous year's results. In reviewing AYP academic status, the elementary schools met targets in all subgroups except students with disabilities. Targets were met by all middle schools subgroups except black students and students with disabilities. High school tenth grade subgroups meeting reading targets were Asian, Hispanic, and White. Tenth grade subgroups meeting math targets were Limited English Proficient, Asian, and Hispanic. Mr. Edens reviewed growth at tenth grade for subgroups that did not meet targets, comparing the past two years, and noting that a greater number of tenth graders met targets last year in every subgroup except Economically Disadvantaged in Reading.

In looking at district scores since 2002-03 he noted good growth at the middle school level in particular. Floyd Light Middle School met AYP in both reading and math.

East County districts with similar demographics are experiencing similar results, with greater challenges at the middle and high school levels. The challenge remains bringing all subgroups to targets. In looking at test results for cohort/intact groups (students who were enrolled May 1, 2008 who were also enrolled May 1, 2009), those students generally performed better than non-cohort groups across the board in math and reading.

Brooke O'Neill reported that because our elementary and middle schools receive Title I funds, those repeatedly not meeting targets are subject to sanctions. Alice Ott did not meet AYP last year so is currently in monitor status. Mill Park did not meeting AYP for students with disabilities for two consecutive years. As a result, they were required to mail letters home to give all parents the option of attending four other David Douglas schools. Three students took that option. The Mill Park staff will revise their school improvement plan to include two years of activities that are specifically designed to ensure that schools will meet AYP. There also is a requirement for a professional development set aside of 10% of Title I funds. A state approved consultant, selected by the district, will be assigned to work along side the administration and staff to address issues that may be blocking schools from meeting targets.

Ron Russell Middle School is in the third year of not meeting AYP. Fourteen students elected to attend other schools as part of the school choice option. The staff went through their school improvement plan revision last year, and also have the requirement of a 10% professional development set aside. Supplemental educational services are part of NCLB: RRMS students qualifying for free/reduced lunch qualify for free academic tutoring before or after school from ODE approved providers. The district pays for tutoring out of Title I funds. Thirteen families have applied for tutoring. Families may choose either the school choice option or tutoring, but not both. The school hosted a tutoring provider fair in August for parents. The parent selects the provider and provides transportation.

Financial implications for a district in improvement status include a professional development set aside of 20% of the district's total Title 1 and ARRA allocation. School improvement fund grants are made available from the US Department of Education, which the state allocates to schools. The district is not yet in improvement status but is currently on the watch list.

Ms. O'Neill reviewed some of the professional development activities scheduled for 2009-10. A K-5 focus will be training on new math standards and curriculum. The school improvement process has been revised and staff members are working on a continuous improvement plan to include math, reading, parent involvement and PBS. Cultural competency training is being provided for administrators and teachers. Professional learning teams are being formed K-12 with focus on individual student progress. New lead mentor teachers will spend a minimum of 90 hours with each first and second year teacher. An instructional support coordinator and instructional coaches are supporting efforts at the middle school level. Building Title I allocations have been increased to support grade level collaboration and data teams. Two AVID classes have been added at the high school as well as the transition programs offered this summer.

There was a question about whether the effective strategies Floyd Light Middle School is using are being shared with the other middle schools. Ms. O'Neill said the Floyd Light staff has really embraced professional learning teams, and that will be a particular focus at the other middle schools this year. It was suggested that parents and students be asked what can be changed to best meet their educational needs. Superintendent Rommel said those discussions are taking place at various parent nights.

H1N1 Planning Report – Barbara Kienle reported that Multnomah County school districts are working very closely with local health agencies and Multnomah ESD’s School Health Services in planning what we will do to be preventative and proactive regarding the predicted flu outbreak. Parent information is being sent home in multiple languages. The School Messenger system will be utilized to send messages out regarding health precautions and upcoming vaccine clinics. Information is also being prepared for staff. We will host vaccination clinics in late October or early November when vaccines are available.

At the district level, the administration is working very closely with all departments to make contingency plans in case there would be excessive student or staff absences. The H1N1 flu is expected to affect younger children. Chair Barberis said that a drive-through clinic will be provided at Mt. Hood Community College. Superintendent Rommel said she was told by Gary Oxman from Multnomah County Health Department that there will be no charge for vaccination at the school clinics.

Audience Participation / Break – The Board Chair opened the meeting for public comment. As there were no remarks from the audience, she declared a brief recess. The meeting was reconvened.

Contract with OSBA Superintendent Search Services – Superintendent Rommel presented an Agreement for Services between OSBA and the District, recommending that the Board contract with OSBA for superintendent search services. Mr. Centoni remarked that board members had a lengthy discussion on this topic during their summer workshop, and heard a presentation from OSBA about the services they offer. He noted that this is the most important thing a school board can do, and that a solid administrative team is critical to the continued success of the district. He made a motion to approve entering into a contract with OSBA for superintendent search services. His motion was seconded by Mr. Price, and was approved in a vote of 5-0.

Purchase Plan for AED (Automated External Defibrillator) Units for District Facilities – Janice Essenberg reported that following last spring’s discussion regarding buying AEDs for district facilities, she got quotes from three vendors. She recommends purchase of Phillips Heart Smart units from Medic First. She said she saw this project as a good opportunity to solicit donations from the community, and received a donation from Adventist Health, which will present a unit to the high school tomorrow. Other donations are being pursued. The Dads Club has indicated an interest in participating, and Les Schwab Tires has been approached, as they made donations to schools in Clackamas County recently. The David Douglas Educational Foundation is also considering a request for support. Some of the proceeds from the Providence Bridge Pedal are earmarked for putting AED units in schools, so their help has been solicited. A dinner is being held tonight to benefit the Eddie Barnett, Jr. Foundation, formed in honor of a Grant High School student athlete who died of sudden cardiac arrest. The Portland Trailblazers are expected to support their efforts. We have requested nine units for our high school from that foundation.

Ms. Essenberg presented an implementation plan for AED units, recommending an initial purchase of 20 units from Medic First. The selected units are very easy to use, and purchase includes staff trainings which will be scheduled during October. She said the biggest benefit of the training is realizing that anyone can use these units. Optimal response time in a cardiac incident is three minutes, so the more units we have, the better. Ms. Essenberg said the units perform a ‘self check’ daily and will beep audibly to indicate need for a battery or any service. If a unit is used in an incident, the unit records information for the manufacturer as well as a printout for a physician.

Purchase of additional units in year #2 would be based on the response to our request for donations, and on identifying where additional units are needed. 60 people were trained during Stan Woodfill's fall meeting with coaches. Our plan would be to "train trainers" who can continue to provide training for new staff members. Chair Barberis noted that AED training is now part of all CPR training. Mr. Price made a motion to approve the AED purchase plan as presented, seconded by Ms. Mattson. The purchase plan was approved in a vote of 5-0.

Personnel Recommendations – Mr. Centoni made a motion to approve the Personnel Recommendations as presented, seconded by Mr. Price. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – School boards across the state are selecting representatives to serve on the OSBA Legislative Policy committee. Multnomah County school boards are represented by Positions 17, 18 and 19. Ms. Mattson made a motion to approve the nominees for Positions 17 and 18, who are both unopposed. Mr. Price seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Ms. Mattson said Position 19, which has no candidate, will be filled by appointment following the election. MHCC board member Dave Shields has indicated he is willing to serve.

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



Dawn Barberis, Board Chair



Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk