

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
April 9, 2015**

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, April 9, 2015, 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:

	Frieda Christopher, Board Chair	
Bryce Anderson		Shannon Raybold
Donn Gardner		Kyle Riggs
Christine Larsen		Cheryl Scarcelli Ancheta

Also present were Don Grotting, Superintendent/Clerk; Ken Richardson, Assistant Superintendent; and Gail Hunter, Board Secretary.

The agenda included consideration of the following:

Call to Order / Flag Salute

Student Body President's Report / Recognitions – ASB President Kyra Conway reported that the Scots Sparrow Club is selling raffle tickets for one more week and are near their fundraising goal. Senior members of Student Council will award grants to selected nonprofits on May 1 as the culminating event of the Community 101 project. The high school hosted a group of Central American students for a campus visit earlier this year. A second group will visit in June. The prom will be held on April 25 at the Oregon Zoo.

Visiting Delegations / Audience Input

- **Bond Oversight Committee / Construction Manager's Report** – Mike Ewald reported that the Bond Oversight Committee met last Monday. Rick Rainone reported that 2015 projects have all gone to bid, and they are now in the process of getting all work under contract. Final permitting details for Cherry Park are being determined. Mr. Ewald said that their committee will make one more report to the board in June, and then resume monthly reports in September.
- Mike Ewald shared that Scots boys basketball player Charles Jones, a junior, was named most valuable player in the Mt. Hood Conference and was nominated for the all-state team. He also remarked that Superintendent Grotting's son, Josh Grotting, was named Oregon's 4A Girls Basketball Coach of the Year. The Sutherlin girls won the 4A state title.
- Bryce Anderson, speaking as a member of the community, read recent remarks from Pope Francis reflecting on the importance of marriage in the lives of children. He said he was in Little Rock, Arkansas recently and presented board members with a token from Central High School, which is now a national landmark for the historic desegregation which occurred there. He said both reflect the fact that our children are our most valuable resource.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Grotting reported that Cabinet is developing the district budget proposal for 2015-16. The legislature passed a \$7.255 million budget. The superintendent said he will ask the board to consider allowing the district to reduce the budget contingency to 3% in order to avoid a reduction in staff. Interviews for elementary principal openings will be held on Tuesday. The district had a great response and many interested applicants at the Educator Fair. Superintendent Grotting said the district has also been inundated with folks wanting to visit our schools. A dozen districts with 50 visitors are visiting our ELL program, as is the US Department of Education. We will also have a visitor from a national think tank. We have been selected as a

laboratory district for the US Department of Education. A May 11 visit may include Education Secretary Arne Duncan. Earl Boyles has had 97 visits. The Smarter Balanced Assessment is underway. Only fifteen district students have opted out. The superintendent thanked Derek Edens and his team for their efforts in rolling out the assessment. A recent article on Beverly Fischer by the Mid-County Memo was nice recognition for her. The superintendent and Brooke O'Neill will present to the City Club on April 30. Deputy Superintendent Ken Richardson said David Douglas is among a group of about 20 districts selected to participate in a program called Lead to Learn, which focuses on evaluating and coaching principals. Following a large group meeting in Salem, David Douglas hosted one of the regional sessions. The group broke into teams to visit high school classrooms, then Ken and Brooke received feedback about what folks saw and didn't see. Every visitor had glowing remarks regarding our facilities, student behavior, and the classroom instruction they witnessed. Ms. O'Neill said it was wonderful to hear so much positive feedback regarding the high school's atmosphere of respect, and the management of our large numbers which facilitates great learning opportunities. They heard some really powerful statements, a real testament to the work of our high school staff. Superintendent Grotting announced that he has been appointed to the bond oversight committee for Portland Parks, a good opportunity to advocate for East Portland. The district's mission and visioning work is wrapping up. The group met multiple times for full day sessions to formalize a new statement about our beliefs. The final draft has been sent to staff and board members with a survey attached to gather feedback. Ms. O'Neill said the work considered the questions of what really binds us, and what we value. A great team of stakeholders participated representing all levels, from early childhood through high school. Derek Edens presented a video of this work and the process undertaken, which was edited by Josh Gray.

Financial Report – Patt Komar reviewed this month's report. She projected an ending fund balance of \$5.7 million. The technology fund will be rolled forward to next year. The district is still waiting to hear from the Department of Energy regarding some of last year's projects. She reviewed the Early Childhood Capital Fund summary, noting that \$2.9 million is projected to be collected from pledges. A couple of grant applications remain pending. Board and Budget Committee members have been invited to a Budget 101 session on April 14, 6pm. The budget meeting will be held on April 27.

Consent Agenda – Mr. Gardner moved approval of the following consent agenda items, seconded by Ms. Larsen. The motion carried in a vote of 7-0.

- Approval of March Board Meeting Minutes
- Personnel Recommendations
- Purchase Order Approvals for Fiscal Year 2015-16: Nutrition Services
- Approval of GMP Increase for LGC Pence Construction – Halsey Building
- Approval for Modification of Alice Ott GMP

Open Enrollment Update – Ken Richardson reported that the board earlier approved 192 slots for Open Enrollment. The application period has now closed, and 136 students were approved for fall admission. Mr. Richardson reviewed how those numbers broke out among the buildings, as well as the number of new and returning students approved through this process.

Inter-District Transfer Determination for 2015-16 – Mr. Richardson recommended that the board approve 50 incoming and 50 outgoing inter-district transfer openings for the 2015-16 school year. He reviewed the rationale for the request, as well as lessons learned from the roll out of changes last year. Priority will be given to continuing students and their siblings. Mr. Riggs so moved, seconded by Ms. Raybold. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

Contract Approvals – Ms. Komar reviewed three proposed items for the board's action. Mr. Gardner moved approval of the following contracts as presented, seconded by Mr. Anderson. The motion carried in a vote of 7-0.

- GMP Award to EC Company for Security Access, Cameras, ADA Door Upgrades
- Bid Award to Brandsen Hardwood Floors – Floyd Light MS Gym Floor
- GMP Award for Cherry Park Construction

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta made a motion to amend the board meeting calendar by moving the May board meeting from May 14 to May 7, in order to allow interested folks to attend the district track meet. The motion carried in a unanimous vote. Ms. Raybold updated board members on the status of outdoor education bills working their way through the legislature. Both are currently stuck in committee and no recommendations from the board are needed at this point. Bryce Anderson forwarded a Parks and Recreation survey to fellow board members and encouraged folks to review it. He said this is a great opportunity to shape how the Parks Bureau decides to make improvements, as many of their facilities are adjacent to our schools. Ms. Larsen said she attended a session about new rules and regulations regarding nutrition services at the National School Boards Conference. She requested a report from Nutrition Services about how they plan to respond, as well as information about the processed foods served and the services provided by our central kitchen. Chair Christopher said there are some funding options available for fresh fruit and vegetable programs.

Board Member Reports – Ms. Larsen reported that the National School Boards Conference was very worthwhile. She said she attended some excellent sessions and learned a lot. She said Floyd Light Middle School's International Night was a nice event. Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta said she got some good ideas about nutrition services as well as information on technology offerings at the national conference. She said it was valuable to learn about what folks across the country are doing. Mr. Gardner said the conference rekindled items of interest from prior years for him. He suggested having a future discussion about dress codes and uniforms, and how we might implement the idea on a trial basis. Ms. Raybold said she had a fabulous time at the conference and met folks from all over the country. She said the best session she attended was presented by Ruby Payne on cultural poverty and its relation to education. She found the information really relevant to our district's experience. Ms. Raybold said Gilbert Park's "egg grab" was great fun with a good turnout. She also attended the Town Hall discussion presented by Reps. Monroe and Reardon. Mr. Anderson said he enjoyed the conference and appreciated the time to get to better know his fellow board members. He attended a session on the board's role in finance, and a most interesting session on 3-D printing. Chair Christopher attended sessions on nutrition, poverty, community and family engagement. She reported that the Educational Foundation has set up a memorial fund in Mark Gaulke's name, and is also seeking donation of musical instruments to the district music program. They would like to make that an annual effort. Mr. Riggs reported that later this month he'll visit the school-based health center with Commissioner Shiprack. He invited other interested board members to join them. Mr. Riggs said he has been disappointed in some of the staff reactions to the Smarter Balanced tests. He said some comments have been so far removed from what the tests are about that he thinks a larger conversation may be needed. He remarked that our counselors at elementary and middle school levels are primarily social counselors. He suggested possibly expanding their roles in academic counseling with families to help bolster outcomes for students. Superintendent Grotting said he'll be recommending hiring behavior specialists to support schools and allow counselors to focus on those issues.

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



Frieda Christopher, Board Chair



Don Grotting, Superintendent / Clerk

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