

**Meeting of the School Board  
David Douglas School District No. 40  
September 11, 2014**

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, September 11, 2014, 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:

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

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**

**Visiting Delegations / Audience Input**

- **Bond Oversight Committee / Construction Manager's Report** – Mike Ewald reported that this has been the busiest summer ever, but bond projects have gone smoothly and are looking great. Rick Rainone said that the Earl Boyles Early Childhood Center looks wonderful. The four-classroom addition at Gilbert Park was completed on schedule. Mr. Rainone said that across the district the staff has been wonderful about the moving process. He noted that the decision to provide two extra days for staff to transition back and unpack was really valuable. A few details to improve finishes remain in isolated cases, but overall, summer crews did a great job. Mr. Gardner agreed, saying it was a great effort by all district staff, moving out and back in. He remarked that Patt Komar and David Callaway have seen their responsibilities greatly impacted by the bond and have done an outstanding job. He said there was one issue this summer with a neighbor, and that it would be good to remember that changes across the back fence are personal to our patrons. Mr. Rainone said a lot was learned on that project, and in the future when we build something that is going to look different to the neighbors, we should provide a preview for folks.

**Student Body President's Report** – Eva Wong, ASB First Vice President, reported that National Voter Registration Day will be observed on September 23, and students age 17 and older will have the opportunity to register to vote. The theme of this year's Homecoming will be "A Superhero Homecoming." Following Spirit Week, the homecoming king and queen will be announced on October 3 to be followed by the football game and a dance afterward. Student Council and Cheerleaders will work together to plan "Pink Week" October 6-9. A Club Fair will be held on October 9. Superintendent Grotting announced that in honor of Voter Registration Day, Oregon Secretary of State Kate Brown will address high school students at an assembly.

**Superintendent's Report** – Superintendent Grotting announced that OSBA's Fall Regional Dinner Meeting will be held Monday, September 29, 6pm at Embassy Suites at the airport. Board members should let Gail Hunter know if they plan to attend either the regional dinner meeting or the OSBA Conference, which will be held November 13-16. A breakfast meeting for district office staff will be held Monday, September 15. Building awards will be presented at that time, and board members are invited to attend. The superintendent said that this has been a great start of the school year, with morale high and folks appreciative of the many improvements in the buildings. Board members were invited to the Grand Opening of the Earl Boyles Early Childhood Center on September 18. The superintendent spoke on a panel at The City Club's Friday Forum last week, where he said it was interesting to hear about the challenges facing districts across the metro area.

Menlo Park has been named a national “Dispelling the Myth” award winner, being recognized as a school which has raised student achievement despite poverty and diversity. The award will be presented later this year, and includes an all expenses paid trip to the presentation and a \$4,000 award to the school. Chair Christopher announced that Superintendent Grotting was honored as Gateway Business Association’s 2014 Citizen of the Year at a luncheon held today. He was presented with a check for more than \$2,000 toward the district shoe drive, and a big box of new shoes for students.

**Financial Report** – Director of Administrative Services Patt Komar reviewed this month’s financial report. The current ending fund balance of the General Fund is expected to be \$12.7million, not including ERI balances. This year’s construction funds have been nearly expended. The auditors completed their work a day early, and Ms. Komar shared their exit conference remarks. The final report from the auditors will be presented in December.

**Consent Agenda** – Mr. Gardner moved approval of the following consent agenda items, seconded by Ms. Raybold. The motion carried in a vote of 6-0.

- Approval of August Board Meeting Minutes
- Personnel Recommendations
- Approval of Budget Meeting Calendar

**Enrollment Update** – Deputy Superintendent Ken Richardson presented a snapshot of today’s enrollment. He praised our staff, who he said handled some initially large classes with real professionalism as they welcomed students and their families. Fall staffing is always based on projections, and some adjustments may be needed after we confirm our enrollment numbers. Today’s numbers are up 210 students over same day last year, but that number includes 87 preschoolers who are now part of our enrolment count. K-12 numbers are up 128, with the majority of the increase coming at the elementary level. Some busing is helping to mitigate large elementary class sizes, but some classes remain larger than we would like. Conversations are occurring with principals as they advocate for their buildings and identify hot spots. Middle and high school numbers are flat. High school enrollment will be adjusted as no-shows are removed from the rolls. Earl Boyles Principal Ericka Guynes reported that there are three slots remaining for 4 year olds in their preschool program, with a waiting list for 3 year olds.

**Superintendent’s Goals 2014-17** – Superintendent Grotting presented his goals for 2014-17 for approval by the board. He said his goals remain consistent with last year’s, with the addition of aligning health curriculum to state standards. Ms. Larsen made a motion to approve the superintendent’s goals as presented, seconded by Mr. Anderson. The motion carried in a 6-0 vote.

**Contract Approvals** – Ms. Komar presented three contracts for physical, occupational and speech therapy services for the board’s approval:

- Top Echelon
- EBS Healthcare, Inc
- PT & ST On Call

Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta moved approval, seconded by Mr. Gardner. The motion carried in a vote of 6-0. Ms. Komar said that as the week progressed, additional costs were identified so a revision of these contracts will be presented for approval under Other Business.

**Achievement Compact Briefing** – Director of Curriculum Brooke O’Neill reported that Oregon school districts are required to submit annual achievement compacts to the Oregon Education Investment Board. This is the third year of this work, which is required of all school districts, colleges, universities and Education Service Districts. We are charged to set ambitious but achievable goals around key outcomes critical for student success. Ms. O’Neill reviewed guiding principals, noting that compact goals should drive budget priorities. She said the State is holding educational entities accountable for outcomes, but it is up to us how we get there. The State is looking for evidence-based outcomes which are highly predictive of whether a student will earn a diploma or degree. Achievement Compact goals align with OEIB strategic investments, with the overarching goal of working toward transformational change.

A district advisory committee develops the compact. Ms. O’Neill described membership of the committee, in which all schools are represented. Key components of the compact include a kindergarten transition program for each elementary school, focus on eighth grade math proficiency (Math 180), several key outcomes at the high school level which will include freshman academies, and STAMP/SLIP which give an opportunity for second language learners to meet outcomes in their own languages. Discussion continues about increasing AP offerings and allowing students to take e-assessments so they leave high school with college credit. The most difficult task is tracking post-secondary enrollment data, which can only be accomplished by contacting each former student individually. This year’s Achievement Compact will be submitted to the board for approval at the October board meeting.

**Secondary Health Curriculum Update** – Superintendent Grotting reported that each year he signs a document certifying that the district is meeting the State’s Division 22 content standards for instruction. In reviewing middle school and some high school health curriculum, we have found that we not teaching all of the state standards in Health. The requirements are adopted by the State Board of Education. Some of the content standards in health at the secondary level may be controversial with parents, and some teachers are uncomfortable teaching them. ODE has endorsed the “My Future, My Choice” curriculum which meets the new standards, and several districts have adopted it. Our district brought together middle school principals and teachers to review the standards and the proposed curriculum, and some folks are opposed to teaching it. Parents always have the opportunity to opt out if they don’t want their student to participate.

Brooke O’Neill reported that our team has been looking at this for more than a year. There isn’t an alternative as we are legally bound to the state’s standards. Current materials do not meet the new standards. The “My Future, My Choice” curriculum was developed for sixth grade and is designed to help students be informed decision makers. Ms. O’Neill proposed that we adopt the curriculum but move the instruction to 8<sup>th</sup> grade, as are permitted that flexibility. She introduced April Kayser from Multnomah County Health’s Adolescent Health Program, who is the county coordinator for “My Future, My Choice,” and Leah Haas from Oregon Department of Human Services, who is the curriculum trainer and program specialist. Ms. Haas presented a brief overview of the curriculum, which she said is a comprehensive, abstinence-based series of ten lessons which was initially developed for Grade 6 students. “My Future, My Choice” aligns with state standards for sexual health, in compliance with HB 2509. The curriculum was delivered in 17 counties and 29 school districts this past year. Abstinence is a core part of the program, with lessons on social and peer pressure, setting limits, learning how to assertively say no, puberty, sexually transmitted diseases, and healthy relationships. All materials are accessible online for review, and the curriculum and homework are designed to foster discussion in the home. All materials, training and technical support are provided at no cost. Ms. Haas said each community has different needs. As long as the

objectives of each lesson are met, and instruction is aligned with state law, there is flexibility in meeting lesson objectives in terms of when and how lessons are taught. In order to give board members an opportunity to review the materials, the recommendation to adopt the curriculum will be tabled until the next board meeting.

**Free & Reduced Lunch Program Update** – Ms. Komar presented information on a federal program under which an entire school's student body can qualify for free lunch, based on poverty levels. Lincoln Park and Mill Park are directly certifiable, with more than 62.5% of their families below the poverty line. The federal formula also allowed West Powellhurst students to receive free meals this year. For schools that just miss qualifying, there is a process by which the district can pay a percentage to provide free meals to students. The administration will investigate costs and consider providing free meals for all of our students in budget discussions for next year. Ms. Komar said she expects more of our schools will qualify as the school year progresses. Those schools would be added to the program next fall.

**Demonstration of New District Website** – Superintendent Grotting extended his appreciation to Derek Edens and the tech team for their work rolling out a new district website this fall. Mr. Edens demonstrated navigation of the new website, reporting that the team investigated several samples last spring to determine what we needed, and then selected a local firm from Portland, which did a good job capturing our goals. He said it was important to the team that the website not only provide information, but bring our community into the culture and atmosphere of David Douglas through still photography, video and social media. It is viewable on any device.

**Annual PECBA Training** – Chair Christopher reported that board members have received their annual PECBA training. The board receives an annual update on requirements of the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Act, which establishes a collective bargaining process for public employers and unions representing public employees.

**Other Business / Future Agenda Items** – Ms. Komar presented amendments to three contracts which were approved earlier in the meeting, and one new school-year contract for the board's approval. Mr. Gardner moved approval of contract increases with Top Echelon, Education Based Services (EBS), and PT & ST On Call, and approval of a new contract with Serendipity Center, seconded by Ms. Larsen. The motion carried in a vote of 6-0.

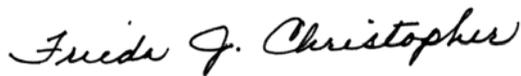
As a future agenda item, Mr. Anderson requested having our school resource police officer address the board on his work and interaction with students, staff, and administration. Mr. Anderson had earlier emailed a question about where kids learn about being respectful to police and following their commands. Brooke O'Neill responded to his email, said there is a strand on law enforcement in Civics class. The superintendent will invite Officer Morinville to address the board, saying he and our newly assigned Officer, Chris Kulp, do an excellent job.

Chair Christopher requested the board's consensus to send a letter to the City of Portland in response to their comprehensive plan. She said planned downzoning does not have an impact on 30-year growth projections, which indicate an additional 6,000 students in the next 30 years. The public comment period ends in November. It was the board's consensus for Chair Christopher to send a letter outlining their concerns.

**Board Member Reports** – Ms. Larsen reported that she appreciated seeing all of the completed construction work when she attended the 'white glove' tour. She brought greetings from former board member Dawn Barberis, whom she saw recently. Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta said that the buildings looked exceptional, and that she appreciated the enthusiasm, hospitality, and excitement

across the district as the school year began. She said she will be cheering for the Scots at Friday's football game. Ms. Raybold attended the district tour and said she was very impressed with the work of our custodians, and everyone's flexibility getting back into the buildings and ready for the start of the year. Mr. Anderson attended the City Club meeting, saying Mr. Grotting did a great job representing David Douglas. Chair Christopher attended the 'white glove' tour, during which the group stopped by the press conference held by City Commissioner Steve Novick at the crosswalk near Ventura Park. She also attended the open house at Earl Boyles, saying the newly installed mural looks wonderful. The artist will attend the grand opening celebration to answer questions. The board chair said she was particularly glad to welcome new staff members at this year's New Teacher Luncheon.

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



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Frieda Christopher, Board Chair

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Don Grotting, Superintendent / Clerk