

**Meeting of the School Board  
David Douglas School District No. 40  
April 12, 2018**

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 7:00pm in the David Douglas School District Board Room, located at 1500 SE 130<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Portland, OR 97233.

School Board Members present were:

Christine Larsen, Board Chair  
Ana del Rocio, via phone      Stephanie D. Stephens  
Kyle Riggs

Excused Absence: Bryce Anderson, Frieda Christopher and Andrea Valderama

Also present were Ken Richardson, Superintendent/Clerk; Candy Wallace, Assistant Superintendent; Patt Komar, Director of Administrative Services; Derek Edens, Director of Assessment & Technology; Brooke O'Neill, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Kelly Devlin, Director of ESL & Equity; Barbara Kienle, Director of Student Services; Andy Long, Director of PK-12 Education, and Laurie Brunelle, Board Secretary.

The agenda will include consideration of the following:

**Call to Order / Flag Salute**

**Student Body President's Report** – Student Body President Anwar Sheikh reported that the seniors are working on the end of the year senior BBQ, International Week, and gearing up for another Mental Health Awareness week. Mr. Sheikh said he would like to use his report time as a reminder to be a good person. He made a request for everyone to do something nice and text one person and tell them how much you appreciate them or write a letter. He's hoping his advice will allow everyone to have a better day and a better world.

**Visiting Delegations**

**American Legion Post #1** - First Vice Commander John Bolner presented an annual donation of \$1,000 to the special needs student of the David Douglas School District. He read a letter from Commander Dennis Washam which states the American Legion Post #1 contributes to the care of students. The donation is requested to be distributed as follows; \$600 to the Celtic Heart, \$200 to Lincoln Park (Principal's fund for emergent needs), and \$200 to Mill Park (Principal's fund from American Legion Riders). This amount is added to \$3,000 per year given to David Douglas Baseball.

**Alice Ott – Culturally Responsive Teaching Practice** - Taye Spears, Vice Principal, Erick Flores and Laura Moe, teachers, and Shalo Franklin, student. Ms. Moe reported that Alice Ott has adopted five Culturally Responsive Teaching (CRT) practices this year. These have been chosen from the Montgomery County Public School's list of 27, which are based on research into teacher expectations and student achievement. The five CRT's are as follows; CRT 1 - Welcoming students by name as they enter the classroom, CRT 19 - Uses students' real life experiences to connect school learning to students' lives, CRT 20 - Using "wait time" to give students time to think before they respond to your question, CRT 22 – Provides students with criteria and standards for successful task completion, and CRT 24 – Provides multiple opportunities to use effective feedback to revise and resubmit work for evaluation against the standard. Ms. Franklin introduced a video reflection of CRT 20 seen through the lens of Alice Ott Middle School students. Ms. Spears said it's not only important to have this language and conversations with our teachers but also with our students

because we want them to be fully engaged. Mr. Flores stated there is a lot of work ahead but they have an amazing Equity Team who will help train all the teachers.

**Attendee's Input** Katherine Sherman, district parent – Ms. Sherman informed the Board of the passing of Linda Brown who was known as the child at the center of the landmark Brown vs The Board decision and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. Ms. Sherman said David Douglas School District has a lot of diversity and a lot to celebrate but we are a segregated District. We have a high concentration of refugee families and students of color that do not cross-pollinate with other populations. She recommended the following books to read about segregation to help better serve the students in the District; Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together In The Cafeteria, Savage Inequalities, and The Shame Of The Nation.

Craig Rogers, district resident – Mr. Rogers stated that it feels good to be here because there's a lot of people here who want to do the right thing for students. He appreciated being sent a letter from the Board Chair for his previous testimony stating that he had been heard. Mr. Rogers said it was money well spent when the brush was cut down on the hillside across from Floyd Light Middle School because it stopped the car dates that were taking place on Salmon St.

**Superintendent Report** – Superintendent Mr. Richardson apologized on behalf of the District for a technical email error. He explained that for the last few years we've been having conversations about a bus driver shortage. We have looked at research, re-classed bus drivers to give them higher pay, developed incentives and bonuses but this has not increased our bus drivers. At the end of last year the Transportation Department said they could not make it next year with the routing schedules they have now. Mr. Richardson said they immediately began a study and separated the routes giving a ½ hour between each one, but this is still not working. A draft of possible schedules were developed after research was done on secondary students and sleep patterns and looking at neighboring district's schedules. These were sent out to the staff for their input. In mid-March we sent out an email survey to our families in our top five languages with an invitation to an Open House Listening session for community input. Unfortunately, we used a new system to do this. A small amount of surveys were returned so we didn't think there was a problem until we heard from the community that a majority of them didn't receive the email. We then found out that Google Mail determined the email to be spam so it stopped after sending to 1000 families. We had no notification that this had occurred and only realized after talking with the community. Mr. Richardson said they immediately put out an apology on Facebook, are resetting and starting over with the survey, and have selected May 8th for the next Listening Session. Ms. Stephens also apologized as representatives of the District.

Mr. Richardson reported on the Safe Oregon tip line that was implemented. Since it rolled out in early April, there have been 11 different reports around bullying and harassment, cyber bullying, threats of assaults, and suicide threats. He thanked the community for using this tip line to help take care of each other.

**Investment Report** – Ms. Komar provided the Board an Investment Report detailing the District's cash and investment balances and the LGIP accounts.

**Consent Agenda** – Mr. Riggs moved approval of the following Consent Agenda items, seconded by Ms. Stephens. The motion carried a vote of 4-0.

- Approval of March Board Meeting Minutes
- Personnel Recommendations
- Approval of Board Meeting Calendar 2018-19
- Purchasing Approvals for 2018-19
- Contract Approvals for 2018

**Inter-District Transfer Recommendations 2018-19** – Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Wallace recommended the Board approve 50 incoming and 50 outgoing inter-district transfer openings for the 2018-19 school year. We are limiting it to grades K-11 and giving priority to continuing students and their siblings. Ms. Stephens moved approval of the Inter-District Transfer Recommendations, seconded by Mr. Riggs. The motion carried in a vote of 4-0.

**Approval of Elementary Math Adoption** – Brooke O'Neill, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Amy McQueen and Steve Vancil, K-12 Mathematic Specialists. Ms. O'Neill said they are requesting approval for additional elementary math curriculum after coming to the realization that the new curriculum called Forward was not working. Ms. McQueen shared the thought process that went into making the decision to move forward with the new curriculum. We received a Title IIB Grant 2 ½ years ago, and for those 2 ½ years 60 educators had a chance to be involved in the East Metro Mathematics Leadership (EaMML) Project. This is a collaboration aimed to improve mathematics teaching by consistently using research-informed instructional practices. The hope was to increase student achievement. They worked on enhancing teachers' professional knowledge and skills in mathematical content, pedagogical content, and leadership. The students who were taught by teachers who participated in the Grant had significantly greater growth on SBAC than students whose teachers did not participate in the Grant. The positive EaMML Effect was consistent across student demographic subgroups. Ms. McQueen said we recognized that we had this great professional learning we had done with teachers that had a great impact on student achievement and thought about how we can use this to impact the achievement of all students across the District. What we knew about our current elementary curriculum was the support and scaffolding for the teachers is not robust enough for them to be successful with that curriculum. We looked for a supplemental curriculum that could support our teachers in the type of mathematics teaching that we need to see in the classroom to impact all of our students. The Elementary Mathematics Curriculum Team (EMCAT) and the Elementary Administrators recommend LearnZillion. Each key concept in this curriculum is taught through a combination of three lesson types: Conceptual Understanding, Fluency/Procedural Skills, and Application lessons. LearnZillion provides teacher support on task engagement, classroom discussions, instructional decisions, and supporting English Language Learners. Mr. Riggs moved approval of Elementary Math Adoption, seconded by Ms. Stephens. The motion carried in a vote of 4-0.

### **Committee Reports**

- Bond Committee – Chair Larsen made a request for this item to be removed from the agenda for future meetings until the Bond Committee reconvenes.
- Equity Committee – Ms. Stephens reported that the first meeting was held on March 22nd. The Committee is made up of Board members, community members, educators, non-profit partners, administrators, students, and the Superintendent. They took a look at the current Equity policy and had small group discussions on strengths and limitations. Childcare, interpreters, and food is provided for those who participate. Ms. del Rocio said the District did a good job of listening to the importance of making this an accessible space and to not create any unnecessary barriers. There was a healthy mix of representation, good facilitation, great conversations, and a great presentation of different ways to bring communication styles into the space. Mr. Riggs said one of the best takeaways was breaking into the group sessions and talking about the Equity policy. He has read this policy many times which states these policies will be reviewed by the Board and the District, and for the first time he realized there was not a timeline for review. He said as a Board we can choose to put a timeline on these policies. Jared Cetz, student Equity Committee member stated that he felt like he was treated as an equal. Mr. Richardson thanked the Board for their leadership and guidance and thanked Ms. Devlin for her organization, structure, keeping us focused, and planning a great initial meeting. The next meeting will be held on April 26th from 5:00pm – 7:00pm.

**Second Reading – Board Policy** Mr. Riggs moved approval of the following Board Policy, seconded by Ms. Stephens. Mr. Riggs stated the AR's are being approved by the Board because they have Board action listed in the policy. The motion carried a vote of 4-0.

- AC-AR – Discrimination Complaint Procedure (administrative regulations)
- BDDH – Public Participation in Board Meetings
- CCG – Licensed Evaluation - Administrators
- EBBB – Injury/Illness Reports
- GCN/GDN – Evaluation of Staff
- IGBAJ – Special Education – Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
- JECA – Admission of Resident Students
- KL-AR (1) – Public Complaint Procedure (administrative regulations)
- KL-AR (2) – Appeal to the Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction (administrative regulations)

### **Other Business / Future Agenda Items**

Ms. Larsen requested to have more openings for students in our Driver's Ed Program. She said it's a great program and kids should have the opportunity to learn to drive.

Ms. Stephens requested a safety review. She has heard that certain school doors do not lock and we need to look at what we do to keep our kids safe. Ms. Larsen requested to add any other facilities the District owns to the safety review.

Ms. del Rocio requested an update on YouthPass. Mr. Riggs requested an update on how YouthPass might apply to our transportation situation with our own buses.

### **Board Member Reports**

Mr. Riggs said he had some great conversations with building administrators regarding the Graduation Rate presentation. He was able to share his thoughts about what we can do to make sure we are not missing kids. It was good to get a firsthand view from elementary and middle school administrators on how they view their school and their role in helping kids get to graduation.

Ms. Stephens would like to make sure we do a follow-up on how we are going to address the dress code and make sure to follow through with how we respond to comments. Mr. Richardson said the Board Notes page is up and running on the website with responses to public comments and questions.

Ms. de Rocio said she had a very nice visit with Mr. Bier, Principal for David Douglas High School. She was able to go on a tour of the high school and said the administration was welcoming and teachers were open to her visiting classrooms. Ms. del Rocio said she would be able to connect the David Douglas United students with elected officials in preparation for the demonstration next Friday.

Ms. Larsen attended the All Hands Raised event with Ms. del Rocio and Ms. Valderrama. She said it was a really good event and they raised a lot of money. Ms. Larsen said the Wind Ensemble and the Symphony competed in the League Competition and took first place in both. Ms. Larsen requested to not have the 2nd Board meeting on April 26th. She invited the Board to attend the Equity Committee meeting from 5:00pm-7:00pm as an audience member. Mr. Riggs questioned whether the Board can meet as a whole and attend the Equity Committee meeting.

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



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Christine Larsen, Board Chair



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Ken Richardson, Superintendent / Clerk