

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
August 23, 2018**

A Board Workshop of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, August 23, 2018 at 6:30pm in the David Douglas School District Board Room, 1500 SE 130th Ave, Portland, OR 97233.

School Board Members present were:

Christine Larsen, Board Chair

Bryce Anderson
Frieda Christopher
Ana del Rocio

Kyle Riggs
Stephanie D. Stephens
Andrea Valderrama

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

The agenda will include consideration of the following:

District Overview – Board Chair Ms. Christopher and Superintendent Mr. Richardson welcomed everyone for their time and interest in Board Position 1. Mr. Richardson provided a District overview beginning with a snap shot video of our staff, programs, buildings, and facilities. He reported we have nine elementary schools, three middle schools, one high school, and one alternative high school. Our District is entirely in the city of Portland and covers 12 square miles. We have approximately 1,400 employees and serve approximately 10,000 students from PK-12. We also house the Multnomah Early Education Service District Early Childhood Program, which serves 2,800 students from birth-5 years. Mr. Richardson provided a demographic breakdown of our students and reported they speak over 70 different languages. He stated the Board's main responsibilities are to hire and evaluate the Superintendent, set District policy, and approve the District budget and contracts. He gave a snapshot of our District budget breakdown, which totals \$194,321,690. Our Board selects members to serve on a Budget Committee who then approves the budget and sends to the Board for a final approval to adopt. Mr. Richardson provided our Vision and Mission, Commitment to Learn, Grow and Thrive, and the core values we believe make a difference in our community and schools. He read 'A Culture of Learning' which states; our schools must be places where all student have an identity, are valued, feel safe, and everyday the unique interests, talents and gifts of each student are cultivated and affirmed. Our students must know we believe in them and will never give up on them. Mr. Richardson reported on the 'Commitment to Safety' which is worked on with all teachers and administrators to make sure our students are safe, and he included 'Grounded in Equity' which is using an equity lens for continually accessing what we're doing and how successful we are in student achievement.

Introduction of Process – Ms. Christopher requested the Board members and Directors to introduce themselves, state the number of years they have served on the Board or have worked in the District. The potential Board candidates also introduced themselves and stated their District connection. Ms. Christopher gave an explanation of the application process and timeline beginning with the Board Workshop this evening to answer questions and assist potential applicants. Applications are due September 12th, five minute presentations will be given to the Board on September 13th, the Board will select a candidate on September 27th, and on October 25th the candidate will be sworn in. A requirement for the new member will be to run for the elected position in the spring.

Q & A with Board Members

●Board member’s personal perspective - The potential Board applicants had a chance to have a question and answer session with all Board members. Some of the questions asked were:

Q - What is the time commitment? Board members responded with explaining that you are required to attend meetings, which may be two meetings per month. Calling-in is acceptable. You are required to attend the high school graduation. You may serve on Board committees or Superintendent Advisories, attend trainings, conferences, and visit buildings. Board members receive their board packets on the Friday before the Board meeting and are expected to read it before the meeting. Questions may be asked before the meeting to clarify information in the packet.

Q - What is the most difficult thing as a new Board member? Board members responded with an inability to get child-care. Having a push and pull of the time you have available and the balance with children.

Q – What is the most surprising thing as a new Board member? Board members responded with: everyone is very open and welcoming. Members of the Cabinet are extremely helpful and you spend more time talking with the Superintendent and Cabinet than any other Board member. You don’t have any power until the seven Board members are together.

Q – What are you looking for in a new Board member? Board members responded with: to have common ground in caring about the kids in the District and wanting them to have a quality education. To have a skill that is lacking on the Board. A past involvement in the District shows interest and commitment.

Some comments from the Board: It’s a very rewarding experience. You have an opportunity to find out what it’s like in the classrooms and buildings. There is a learning curve when you become a Board member. You get a chance to meet students and teachers and learn from other Board members. They try to keep continuity on the Board with long-term members to help administration and the school district. You have an opportunity to take your leadership and School Board lens to do other jurisdictional work. You see many teams working together to make this District work. As a Board member you don’t work for anybody, it’s your choice. All members get a vote. Our District is extremely successful and has a great administration and faculty. When you are an elected official, what you say really matters.

Mr. Richardson provided copies of the following Board resources: A Guide for Public Officials, Public Meetings Law Guide, and DDSB Board Handbook.

Assist Applicants to Complete Application - Board members were available to assist potential applicants.

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



Frieda Christopher, Board Chair



Ken Richardson, Superintendent / Clerk