

**Meeting of the School Board  
David Douglas School District No. 40  
August 9, 2018**

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, August 9, 2018 at 7:00pm in the David Douglas School District Board Room, 1500 SE 130<sup>th</sup> Ave, Portland, OR 97233.

School Board Members present were:

Frieda Christopher, 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; 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; Mary Pearson, Director of Student Services, and Laurie Brunelle, Board Secretary.

The agenda will include consideration of the following:

**Call to Order / Flag Salute**

**Visiting Delegations –**

**City of Portland - Deardorff Easement** - Sue O'Halloran, Kohler Meyers O'Halloran, Inc. Real Estate Company and Kate Carone, City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services. Ms. O'Halloran stated that for many years they have represented the City of Portland in their acquisition either of property or conservation easements in regards to watersheds, Johnson Creek, and water quality. Ms. Carone stated that a lot of her work is focused on restoring Johnson Creek for salmon and reducing flooding impacts for communities that live along the creek. She is here to talk about the property owned by David Douglas that is off of Deardorff road. It is next to the only covered bridge in Multnomah County, and is in an alder flood plain forest with Johnson Creek winding along the edge. Because of the natural resources and proximity to Johnson Creek, a lot of the property is in the protection zone and most of the rest of the property is in the conservation zone. Half of the property is in the 100-year floodplain, which means you have a 1% chance or greater of being flooded in any given year. In December 2015 we had the highest recorded flood on Johnson Creek since 1941. Most of this property was flooded at this time.

Ms. Carone gave a Cedar Crossing Restoration Project Overview. She reported that the Bureau of Environmental Services has been eyeing restoration opportunities in this area since 2001. At this time they are working on Phase I, which is west of the covered bridge. They are doing design for the habitat and floodplain restoration with a plan to go to construction in 2020. The benefits of this project and potential restoration on the David Douglas property and beyond, would be to reduce flood impacts, restore salmon habitat, and improve water quality. The David Douglas property would be a part of a theoretical phase II. The City of Portland is in the process of seeing if property owners are willing to work with them or sell to them. Ms. Carone provided the Phase II – Potential Restoration Actions. The following is a vision of what they might do on the

District property and adjacent properties: reconnect historic creek channel, remove portions of WPA rock walls, plant conifer trees, reconnect floodplain backwater areas, add downed logs to the floodplain, and remove old pipes. Ms. O'Halloran said the District Property we are discussing is Tax lot 100, around 2.35 acres and is adjacent to Johnson Creek. The proposal is for a conservation easement with the management being under the City of Portland as well as the restoration. The City will pay for surveys and an appraisal.

Some of the questions raised by the Board were: why does the city not purchase the property outright, would the removal of stone walls change the 100 year flood plain and map, how do you get improvement of water quality, and what is the timeline for phase II. At the closing of the question session, Ms. Christopher stated that more discussion was needed within the Board.

#### **Attendee's Input -**

Craig Rogers, district resident – Mr. Rogers reported that the Portland Parks map was different than his map and his was correct, which included the area he refers to as bad actor corner. This is why it was not being patrolled. Mr. Rogers has now been in contact with the person in charge of the Park Rangers to help with the situation.

Chris Conklin, district parent – Mr. Conklin stated that he brought a request to the Board months ago hoping their insight would help bring equity to the Mill Park community. At that time he also requested a vision for Mill Park from the Superintendent's Office and has never seen it. He stated the District's Board Notes site gives very little feedback, does not address each person's complaint, and is dated back to May. Mr. Conklin requested the Board to follow their responsibilities that are listed on the website.

Heather Franklin, district parent – Ms. Franklin thanked the Board for the presentation on the District's discipline policies. She stated she had to attest that much of what was presented is at odds with what actually happens at the school level. Ms. Franklin gave personal examples to the Board involving her son and the manner in which the situations were dealt with and the follow up that took place after. She requested honesty and more direct conversation around graduation and discipline.

Aaron Barrow, district parent – Mr. Barrow commented on the financial presentation at the July Board meeting as being really scary. He stated last year we had under budgeted because the economy is booming and he would rather see us use that money to shore up a PERS shortfall. He does not want the District to gamble on our kid's future.

**Superintendent Report** – Superintendent Mr. Richardson reported that he sent an email to the Board with his 2017-2020 Goals which were adopted last year. These goals are active for another two years and were brought to the Board tonight for any feedback or discussion they would like to have about them. Mr. Richardson provided the Board a document around ESSA with the 2018-19 accountability update. This document talks about how they will be looking at our school report cards and determining the schools and districts that need either comprehensive or targeted supports. At this point we are monitoring this and trying to figure out what it all means. Mr. Richardson gave a reminder to the Board that he will email them the Superintendent Advisory list to

determine their interest in participating in any of the following: banking advisory, charter school advisory, facilities and construction advisory, quality education council advisory, policy review advisory, and family engagement advisory. Mr. Richardson reported that at this time of year we look at our bus routing, walking distance, any added crosswalks or sidewalks, and any other safety changes. We will be reaching out to families to let them know if their bus stop or walking zone was impacted. He informed the Board that we are in school funding talks and will be determining what direction the District will be going. We will be lobbying in Salem and doing everything we can to make sure the funding is there for our students.

**Consent Agenda** – Ms del Rocio requested the July Board Meeting Minutes pulled to include her notes on the Discipline presentation. After a short discussion it was decided to include her notes in other business. Mr. Riggs moved approval of the following Consent Agenda items, seconded by Ms. Stephens. The motion carried in a vote of 7-0.

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

**Pension Bond Update** – Ms. Komar reported she received an email with the following new timelines: Actuarial Analysis needs to be requested by the end of August, Resolution is due on September 30th, final date to drop out of going out for the Bond is November 12th, closing will be in December, and rates need to be modified by January 1st. The decision to move forward will need to be made at the next Board meeting.

**First Reading: Board Policy** –

- DN – Disposal of District Property
- DN-AR – Disposal of District Property – Administrative Regulations

Mr. Riggs made a suggested change to DN-AR to increase the \$10,000 amount to \$20,000-\$25,000. Mr. Richardson said we can do some research to see if other policies have this or other districts that are our size. Ms. Stephens requested an addition to DN-AR Category 1 to include the words “in a timely manner.”

**Other Business / Future Agenda Items** – Ms. Komar presented the following Resolution to the Board: [Resolution Authorizing Updated Construction Excise Tax Limits](#). Mr. Riggs moved approval, seconded by Ms. Larsen. The motion carried in a vote of 6-1. (approved: Ms. Christopher, Ms. Larsen, Ms. del Rocio, Ms. Valderrama, Ms. Stephens, Mr. Riggs) (opposed: Mr. Anderson)

Ms. del Rocio provided notes she took during the July 13th Board meeting on the Discipline Presentation. She gave a general overview which included: she is interested in exploring or identifying how much of our resources are being funneled into punitive versus non punitive discipline measures, and how we’re emphasizing quality of academic engagement as a classroom management strategy. Ms. del Rocio is concerned about disproportionate discipline being talked about towards the end of the presentation and not in as much depth compared to other components of the presentation. She stated we have to explore how we’re understanding our current discipline practices and how our communities of color are experiencing or being impacted by them. Ms. del Rocio raised the question, how are we attending to close the

achievement gap of the students with inequitable outcomes when they are the same group of students that we're disciplining at higher rates? She stated we are looking at preventing loss of instructional time in general. *The complete document is considered public record and kept on file at the David Douglas School District*

Mr. Riggs added the following overall question Ms. del Rocio has included in her summary: How much of what was contained in this presentation was aspirational versus operational? Mr. Riggs stated there are opportunities for discussion at the administrator level.

Ms. del Rocio requested the minutes of the Equity meeting be posted to the website along with other general information such as; meeting dates, and members.

Ms. del Rocio made an announcement that she is resigning from the David Douglas School Board on October 15th. The following is her statement of resignation:

Serving this school board over the past 13 months has been an honor, a challenge, and a dream come true. Through every board meeting, briefing, training, conference call, lobby visit, public hearing, parent meeting, school tour, and so much more -- what a surreal yet wonderful year this has been.

We know that the children and youth of our district hold immense promise, talent, and hope for our future. One of the reasons I chose to serve this district is because public education nationwide is, and has been, under attack. Without the necessary resources and investments, our districts fight uphill battles to create schools worthy of educating our brilliant and capable children.

At every step of the way in this work, I have sought to ground my words and actions in love -- in the fierce, irrefutable, non-negotiable love that our community has for our children. This love was what made my election possible. This love is what fuels our commitment to improving our schools.

And it is with love that I have come to the painful realization that a change of course is now necessary.

My capacity for public service is different in 2018 than it was in 2016, when I ran for this position. I am now a single mother. I am also now a nonprofit director, working to build leadership skills in communities of color across Oregon, including building the leadership and capacity of school board members of color.

The combined needs of my children, my new professional role, and my personal health and well-being now demand all of my attention. I must practice what I preach -- putting our children first -- by putting my own two children, Tupac Amaru and Inti Guamani, first.

Effective October 15, I regretfully resign from my position on the David Douglas School Board.

The challenges to work/life balance that I have faced as a working mother of two young children are not unique to me. We do not yet live in a society that fully accommodates parents and caregivers in the workforce, or in public service roles. Making elected and appointed positions more accessible to working families will be one of my ongoing professional priorities as the director of Color PAC Action.

I do not take the electorate's confidence in me lightly.

The best way that I can truly serve my community at this time is to step back, so that another capable leader can step forward.

Our board will appoint a replacement, and I humbly request this community's collaboration and active participation in the selection process that will take place over the next two months. (Our board leadership will review the details of that process with you shortly.)

I'm confident that our board will appoint a passionate leader who truly represents, and is accountable to, this community -- and, as importantly, can give to this role all of the time, energy and love that our children deserve of their education leaders.

I will continue attending board and committee meetings through October 11, and will spend the next couple of months focused on the work of our Racial Equity Subcommittee.

I won't say my full goodbyes quiet yet, as I have a few meetings left until my departure, but I would like to personally thank the Superintendent, his cabinet, and my fellow board members for their understanding and support of my decision.

It was not an easy decision to come to, but it is the right one, and I thank everyone in advance for their kindness and graciousness throughout this transition.

Ms. Christopher stated that because of Ms. del Rocio's announcement of resignation, we will consider the position vacated as of October 15th. Mr. Richardson thanked Ms. del Rocio and stated he could speak to the community and say nothing but class, grace, and respect. Ms. Stephens thanked Ms. del Rocio for her 13 months of service. What she has been able to accomplish in that amount of time is incredible and her perspective, voice, and leadership will be sorely missed.

Mr. Richardson provided the following timeline for the Board vacancy:  
August 9th - Vacancy is declared open and effective October 15th  
August 10th - Communication will go to the entire community through different channels  
August 23rd – Board workshop to assist potential candidates  
September 27th – Applicants present to the Board  
October 11th – Board will select a new member  
October/Nov – Swearing in the new Board member

Mr. Anderson voiced an issue with the timeline and after Board discussion the new timeline was created:  
August 9th - Vacancy is declared open and effective October 15th  
August 10th - Communication will go to the entire community through different channels  
August 23rd – Board workshop to assist potential candidates  
September 13th - Applicants present to the Board  
September 27th - Board will select a new member  
October - Swearing in the new Board member

Applications will be available on our District website. They will be translated and can be submitted via fax, mail, email, facebook, etc.

Ms. Christopher requested the Board Secretary to send out the Board Committee list for Board members to choose the committee they are interested in serving on. Mr. Richardson will send out a Superintendent Advisory list as well. Ms. Christopher requested participation in the Family Engagement Advisory group so we can get that going this year.

Mr. Richardson gave a reminder of the White Glove Tour that usually takes place in August. For the last couple of years we've had conversations of changing this to a different format. This is a stressful time for custodians who are trying to get the buildings ready. Mr. Richardson said we are looking at changing it to only four sites and waiting until September or October when kids are back. Ms. Stephens proposed a Work Glove Tour where the Board takes on a small service project.

### **Board Member Reports**

Ms. Larsen reported that schools are starting soon and the registration day for the high school is August 23rd.

Mr. Anderson thanked Ms. del Rocio for her service on the Board and having the courage to do what many people don't do.

Ms. Stephens asked where we landed with the dress code changes. Mr. Richardson reported that the dress code we shared last school year is our updated dress code. It is going out to all teachers and the roll out and training is the next step.

Ms. Valderrama thanked Ms. del Rocio for her service and work done on the Board. She said it's been really incredible to serve with her and will definitely miss having her voice. Ms. Valderrama reported she did an Early Works site visit and saw some familiar faces. It's always a pleasure to be in District and to see so many others impressed about partnership and the work that we're doing. She said it would be a great opportunity for the Board to participate in something similar. Ms. Valderrama announced there is a new park in her neighborhood called Discovery Park and it's really exciting to see that so many new households will have the access to recreation.

Ms. Christopher reported she is still dealing with housing issues and is adding homelessness to it. She hopes she's convincing people we're infrastructures, and given her meeting with a developer she thinks it's going to help us in the future to make developers understand. It's nice to talk to schools and tell them how many are coming in before they get there.

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



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Frieda Christopher, Board Chair



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Ken Richardson, Superintendent / Clerk