

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
January 3, 2008**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, January 3, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. 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:

Annette Mattson, Board Chair	
Dawn Barberis	Frieda Christopher
Bruce Burton	Donn Gardner
Mike Centoni	Mike Price

Also present were Barbara Rommel, Superintendent/Clerk; Mike Stout, Assistant Superintendent; Gary Haase, Interim Director of Administrative Services/Deputy Clerk; Sherrie Barger, Director of Curriculum; Susan Summers, Director of Human Resources; Barbara Kienle, Director of Student Services; and Gail Hunter, Board Secretary.

The agenda included consideration of the following:

Call to Order / Flag Salute

Board Member Reports – Mike Centoni extended holiday greetings to fellow board members and was pleased to announce the arrival of a new granddaughter. Frieda Christopher announced that donations are sought for the Foundation dinner/auction, to be held April 19. The East Portland action team will meet at the East Portland Community Center on January 10 at 6pm.

Student Body President's Report – Stacy Chao reported that preparation is in full swing for the winter formal, to be held January 26. This year's theme is "Hollywood Nights". Junior class president Stephanie Lutz recently won an essay contest and received a New York shopping spree. The basketball teams participated in tournaments over winter break, with the boys in Hawaii and the girls team in San Diego. A meeting next week will be the start of Rose Festival preparation.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Rommel presented board members with a token of appreciation as well as a proclamation from Governor Kulongoski, in honor of School Board Appreciation Month. She thanked board members for their hours of effort on behalf of our students. Mike Stout reported on a project by Mr. Reardon's industrial design class to improve function of the district's presentation stations. Superintendent Rommel announced that the Ron Russell Middle School staff made arrangements to serve free lunches to students twice during winter break. The Education Foundation supported their efforts by covering the cost of bus transport. The superintendent shared a letter from a patron, praising staff and students for the "Wizard of Oz" production. She remarked that she also received numerous positive comments and emails about the choir's holiday performance at the Grotto and on the radio. She shared a photo of a student who fell asleep during her reading of The Polar Express at Gilbert Heights.

Multnomah Education Service District Presentation – Barbara Jorgensen, MESD Chief Program Officer, along with MESD board members Harry Ainsworth and Zak Johnson, presented the Multnomah Education Service District annual report and reviewed their current priorities. It was noted that the statewide equalization process for ESDs is now complete and district allocations are on the increase.

Presentation of Comprehensive Annual Financial Report – On behalf of Talbot, Korvola, and Warwick, Bill Barker reviewed the David Douglas Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The district received a clean auditor's opinion, indicating that the district is in compliance with all applicable laws and practices. An audit of selected programs receiving federal funds also found full compliance. Mr. Barker noted that new regulations place greater responsibility on the district for preparation of annual GAAP financial statements.

Resolution Adopting David Douglas Long-Term Facilities Plan – The David Douglas Facilities Plan was presented to the board in November and was discussed further in actions taken in December. The Construction Excise Tax legislation requires a specific resolution adopting a long-term facilities plan. Superintendent Rommel presented a formal resolution for the board's approval. Following a motion from Mr. Centoni, seconded by Mr. Burton, the board approved the resolution in a unanimous vote.

Resolution Declaring an Emergency and Granting Bidding Exemption, Authorizing Construction of Middle School Classrooms, by Means of a Construction Manager/General Contractor and Authorizing Selection by Request for Proposals – Superintendent Rommel presented a resolution to address overcrowding at Floyd Light and Ron Russell Middle Schools by fast tracking construction of additional classrooms, to be completed for occupancy in 2008-09. Following discussion, Mr. Burton moved approval of the resolution, seconded by Mr. Centoni. The motion carried in a vote of 7-0.

Resolution to Impose Construction Excise Tax – Superintendent Rommel reported that the Portland City Council has approved the Intergovernmental Agreement to collect the Construction Excise Tax. It is now in place with uniform language for all districts in the City of Portland. The next step is for individual school districts to approve a resolution imposing the tax. The superintendent presented a resolution, effective January 4, 2008, which would authorize imposing the tax and utilizing the full amount of assessment authorized by the legislation. Ms. Christopher made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Burton. The resolution was approved in a vote of 7-0.

Resolution Declaring Intent to Impose Provisions of SB 336 – Superintendent Rommel presented a resolution as the first step in pursuing the provisions of SB336, which outlines a process for district involvement in approval of building permits, using a school's enrollment capacity as one of the criteria. The legislation becomes effective in January 2008. Ms. Christopher moved approval of the resolution, seconded by Mr. Burton. The resolution was approved in a vote of 7-0.

Audience Participation / Break – Board Chair Mattson opened the meeting for public comment. As there were no remarks from the audience, she declared a brief recess. The meeting was reconvened.

Azbuka Academy Charter School Application – Sherrie Barger presented board members with a packet of information outlining the Azbuka Charter School proposal, and reviewed the application timeline. A public hearing on the proposal will be held on January 15, 2008 in the Board Room at 7pm. On January 29, the charter school committee will meet and draft their recommendation to the board, to be presented on February 7. If the application is approved, the district will work with the applicants to develop the formal contract. Ms. Barger requested that board members forward questions and concerns to committee members prior to the hearing.

First Readings: Board Policy #5210.4: Threats of Violence; and Board Policy #3410.6 / 4410.6: Mother-Friendly Workplace – Mike Stout presented Board Policy #5210.4 - Threats of Violence for a first reading, saying that state statute requires districts to have board policy addressing this issue and outlines specifics to be included. Board members made no recommendations for changes.

Policy #3410.6/4410.6 Mother-Friendly Workplace was presented for a first reading by Susan Summers. HB 2372, passed during the last legislative session, requires districts to establish this policy in support of nursing mothers. The district has been informally making these accommodations for some time. Locations in each workplace will be designated with signage and employees will be notified of the locations so designated. There were no suggestions for revisions.

Staffing Request – Superintendent Rommel requested approval of additional certificated staffing of .65 FTE to support growing enrollment of ESL beginners at the high school. The superintendent also requested the addition of 1.0 FTE in order to hire a Speech Pathologist. Our current staff has a very high case load, and it has been difficult to find qualified candidates for this position.

Both of these positions would be temporary and taken from the contingency fund for the remainder of the school year. Adjustments will be made in the 2008-09 budget for continuation of the positions if warranted. Mr. Centoni made a motion to approve the staffing requests as presented, seconded by Mr. Gardner. The motion carried in a vote of 7-0.

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

- **Oregon Standards Compliance Assurance**
- **Personnel Recommendations**
- **Approval of December Board Meeting Minutes**

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – Mr. Centoni asked whether new board policy will be needed to address legislation regarding student journalists and free speech. Superintendent Rommel said policy will be presented to address each of the new legislative requirements affecting schools. Guidance from the district's insurance agent of record was requested in light of the OHSU tort liability suit, which could have ramifications for all government agencies.

As a future agenda item, Mr. Gardner requested a report on how our advanced placement and college credit courses are structured, and what we are doing to broaden those offerings for students. He also suggested revisiting our graduation standards to determine whether they should be strengthened. Chair Mattson requested a spring report on the high school's ongoing visioning project.

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



Annette Mattson, Board Chair



Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk