

**Meeting of the School Board  
David Douglas School District No. 40  
February 19, 2009**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, February 19, 2009, 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	
Dawn Barberis	Donn Gardner
Bruce Burton	Annette Mattson
Mike Centoni	Mike Price

Also present were Barbara Rommel, Superintendent/Clerk; and Gail Hunter, Board Secretary.

The agenda included consideration of the following:

**Call to Order / Flag Salute**

**Board Member Reports** – Annette Mattson attended the hearing on the East Portland Action Plan, along with the board leadership, the superintendent, and Dan McCue. She was delighted to see the standing-room only crowd which attended the Portland City Council session at the Midland Library. Board Chair Christopher and Ms. Mattson both gave testimony. She said it was very exciting to see community members, new and old, interested and involved. Ms. Mattson also attended the Earl Boyles fundraiser at Burgerville, which also had a great turnout. The culmination of OSBA's legislative conference was Monday's lobbying day in Salem. She recapped latest discussions regarding state and federal funding for education. Board Chair Christopher thanked Ms. Barberis, Ms. Mattson and Superintendent Rommel for attending last night's City Council meeting, saying that as a member of the Action Plan committee she appreciated their support. She also attended Jefferson Smith's town hall meeting, which was also well attended. A group of students from the high school got involved in the discussion as well.

**Student Body President's Report** – Tyler Short, ASB Recording Secretary, reported on high school activities. Scots PRIDE weeks are underway. This week's theme was participation. The second round of the Rose Festival competition will be held next Tuesday. Each finalist has filmed a speech for presentation to the student body, which will then vote on their selection. The 2009 princess will be announced on March 10. Spring sports begin next week. The Father-Daughter Banquet will be held next Wednesday.

**Superintendent's Report** – Superintendent Rommel reported that at the last meeting, Mr. Bruce Burton announced his intention to resign his position on the David Douglas School Board. She took the opportunity to thank him for his 18 years of outstanding service, and his thoughtful, well-reasoned contributions to discussion over the years. She presented Mr. Burton with a plaque and the thanks of the District and the Board. Classified Employees will be honored the week of March 2-6 for the many ways they contribute to the well-being of our students and staff. Board members and the superintendent signed a proclamation declaring March 2-6 Classified Employees Appreciation Week. Copies will be posted in each of our facilities. The David Douglas High School theater department will be presenting *The Matchmaker*, March 5, 6, 7 and 12, 13, 14. She noted that David Douglas is very well represented in Mt. Hood Community College's current theater production of *Guys and Dolls*, which opens Friday. Two of our staff members, CJ Butenschoen and Marlene Trigg, are participants, along with several DDHS graduates. Two former staff members, Rick Zimmer and Susie Jones, are also participating. Fir Ridge recently hosted a summer jobs fair,

which was very well attended by our own students as well as students from other area high schools. Barbara Kienle reported that statewide immunization exclusion day was yesterday. Only 19 of our students were excluded, an all-time low for David Douglas. She commended the MESD nurses and our health assistants, who worked very hard to assist families in meeting requirements. A February 7<sup>th</sup> immunization clinic hosted by the District in cooperation with Multnomah County Health Department and School Health Services provided 229 vaccinations. John Bier recently informed the superintendent that three David Douglas seniors, Tyler Short, Amanda Abbott, and Wyatt Chan, have been named National Merit Scholarship finalists this year. She congratulated them on this prestigious recognition. The superintendent noted that David Douglas Board Member and OSBA Board President Annette Mattson was quoted in a recent article published in the National School Boards Association's March edition of *School Board News*. The Multnomah County Budget Committee will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 2, 6-8pm at the East County Service Center. The topic will be health and human services. Another hearing will be held March 16, 6-8pm at the Multnomah Building to discuss public safety. The superintendent congratulated the David Douglas drama department for the recognition several students received at the state drama competition. Ms. Mattson remarked that a City of Portland budget meeting will be held at Floyd Light Middle School this Saturday at 10:30am.

**Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreement between David Douglas School District and East County Bargaining Council, July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2010** – Board Chair Christopher recognized Donn Gardner, a representative on the District's bargaining team, to share his remarks regarding the bargaining process. He expressed his appreciation for the district's teachers, his disappointment in the length of the agreement, and his hope that the Association will elect to use the collaborative model during the next bargaining cycle. Mr. Centoni thanked both teams for the countless hours they spent over the course of this process. He expressed his appreciation to our staff and said he would vote to approve this contract; but said he doesn't believe this two-year agreement is in their best interest. Mr. Price thanked both teams for their time and effort, and expressed his hope that the next bargaining session will be completed in a shorter time frame. Ms. Mattson said she was unable in good conscience to vote in favor of this contract, remarking that she is concerned about the message it sends to support this salary increase in difficult financial times. The Board Chair offered the floor to members of the DDEA bargaining team. President Bob Gray declined the offer, saying the team is pleased to sign the contract. Chair Christopher said there was discussion regarding the changing economy but the District team felt it was their responsibility to stand behind their compensation offer. She called for a motion to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between David Douglas School District and East County Bargaining Council from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2010. Mr. Gardner so moved, seconded by Mr. Price. The board chair requested a voice vote by roll call. In favor: Mr. Gardner, Mr. Burton, Mr. Centoni, Ms. Barberis, Mr. Price, Chair Christopher. Opposed: Ms. Mattson. The motion to approve the contract carried in a vote of 6-1. Board members and East County Bargaining Council members signed the signature page of the document.

**Update on Scots' PRIDE Implementation** – Assistant Principal Elise Guest opened the high school's report with a video created by student Joey Peacock, which introduces Scots' PRIDE to students new to the high school. Joey also won the school-wide contest to design the Scots' PRIDE t-shirt. Ms. Guest said Scots' PRIDE is a program with a commitment to all students, designed to be proactive rather than reactive, creating a common language with common expectations. The overarching goal is to build community and a school culture which demonstrates pride. District PBS Coach Shawn Fletcher presented data from the school evaluation tool, Fall 2007, which identified strengths and progress as well as areas of future focus during the pre-implementation phase. Scots'

PRIDE TOSA Sarah Dorn reported that the features of the high school program are very similar to PBS at the elementary and middle school levels. Features include common expectations and defining what expected behavior should look like, explicit teaching of expectations, and an acknowledgement system. Board members were presented with PRIDE tickets, which give staff members the perfect opportunity to have one on one communication with students and to acknowledge positive behaviors. As part of the process for correcting behavior, a new referral was introduced which aligns better with the reporting system for better data collection. There were many presentations to the full staff prior to implementation, to reinforce a common course and to improve buy-in. Fall activities included a presentation to freshmen during their orientation, a PRIDE week kick-off and a pep assembly. PRIDE lessons were presented across the curriculum, along with location-specific presentations. Student PRIDE tickets are included in monthly prize drawings. Second semester activities include PRIDE weeks, which are currently underway with the first week focused on participation. "PRIDE-ful moments" are presented at staff meetings. The PRIDE team holds work days twice yearly to plan for the upcoming semester. The collaborative effort has generated great ideas and positive energy.

Mr. Fletcher reviewed post-implementation data. Growth in all areas has been outstanding. He noted that this success is a big tribute to the high school team. Areas still in implementation were described. He said the school evaluation tool shows we now have an environment where we can anticipate a high level of success. PRIDE TOSA Kamala Skipper said staff members have been able to acknowledge more students for doing great things. They have created a school wide common language, and have increased meaningful dialogue between staff and students. She said the program has become a vehicle for character education and is making a positive impact on their school culture. DDHS has become an example for high school PBS implementation. The team has participated in a number of presentations around the state. A concluding slide show shared some comments from students about Scots' PRIDE.

**Audience Participation / Break** – Board Chair Christopher opened the meeting for public comment. As there were no remarks from the audience, she declared a brief recess. Mr. Burton excused himself from the balance of the meeting. The meeting was reconvened.

**Review of Oregon Budget and Stimulus Package Status** – Janice Essenberg reported that the state's next economic forecast is due tomorrow and the news is expected to be grim. The state budget shortfall and the level of assistance from the federal stimulus package continue to be moving targets, but the March forecast is the one anticipated to be the most informative for decision making. Back in November, the state budget was reduced 1.2%, a \$1.2m reduction for David Douglas. Ms. Essenberg said she felt we were in good shape to weather that reduction. In January, estimates got more dire, and the state's deficit was forecasted to be as high as \$800m. In a worse case scenario, that could mean an additional cut of up to \$4.8m to David Douglas. Still, we could absorb that blow by drawing on our reserves. In February, the federal economic stimulus package was announced, which includes \$375m for Oregon K-12 schools over a three year period. Distribution to the district would total \$6.7m. A \$115m allocation for this year is under consideration in Salem. That plan would mean a reduction to David Douglas of \$1.9m instead of \$4.8m. Fortunately, we have some cushion which provides us a little flexibility. Ms. Essenberg said she is optimistic that we'll have some fairly solid numbers to give us a starting point on next year's budget discussions. The board's budget workshop was scheduled for March 31, 6pm in the Board Room.

**Appointment of Budget Committee Members** – Superintendent Rommel announced that Budget Committee members John Thomas, Tom Petrie, and Christine Larsen have agreed to serve another

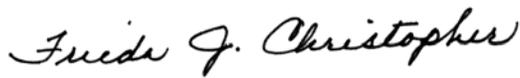
term on the Budget Committee. Mr. Gardner made a motion to re-appoint John Thomas to Position 4, re-appoint Tom Petrie to Position 5, and re-appoint Christine Larsen to Position 7. The motion was seconded by Mr. Centoni and carried in a unanimous vote.

**Announcement of Board Vacancy and Approval of Replacement Schedule** – Chair Christopher reported that Bruce Burton has submitted a letter announcing his retirement from the Board of Directors. She requested a motion to accept his resignation and declare Position 1 vacant. Mr. Centoni so moved, seconded by Mr. Gardner. The motion carried in a vote of 6-0. Candidates interested in running for a position on the School Board must submit election materials by March 19 and the voters will have the opportunity to elect from the slate of candidates on May 19. In accordance with Board Policy 1110.2 (2)(d), the Board Chair called for a motion to not fill the vacancy and allow the election process to determine the community's choice. Mr. Gardner so moved, seconded by Mr. Centoni. The motion was approved in a vote of 6-0.

**Personnel Recommendations** – Mr. Centoni made a motion to approve the Personnel Recommendations are presented, seconded by Mr. Price. The motion carried in a vote of 6-0.

**Other Business / Future Agenda Items** – Mr. Centoni asked when the board might have a discussion regarding criteria for selection of the next superintendent. Superintendent Rommel said an executive session could be scheduled after input on qualifications has been gathered from the community. It was the Board's consensus that the Superintendent's evaluation will take place even though Ms. Rommel has announced her intent to retire; the evaluation process will help identify goals for her final year in 2009-10. Mr. Gardner expressed his appreciation to Mr. Stout for spearheading the PBS effort across the district, noting that David Douglas will benefit for many years as a result of this effort.

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

  
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Frieda Christopher, Board Chair

  
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Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk