

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
April 5, 2007**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, April 5, 2007, 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:

Donn Gardner, Board Chair	
Bruce Burton	Frieda Christopher
Mike Centoni	Carl Clinton

Also present were Barbara Rommel, Superintendent/Clerk; Mike Stout, Assistant Superintendent; Courtney Wilton, 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 noted that spring sports at the high school are off and running. Frieda Christopher reported on continued planning by the Central Gateway strategy committee, which will host a public meeting on Wednesday, April 18 to discuss their budget and to present their plan for the Prunedale area for public comment. Tickets are still available for the David Douglas Educational Foundation dinner/auction, to be held April 21. Some wonderful auction items will be available for bid.

Student Body President's Report – Ellyn Ward reported that ASB elections were held yesterday. Stacy Chao has been elected student body president for 2007-08. Preparations are in full swing for the prom on April 13. Auditions are under way for the One-Act Plays, and parent-teacher conferences will be held on April 12. National Honor Society will hold a used clothing sale on April 14 from 11:00am – 2:00pm. Proceeds will benefit the district clothes closet. Students are looking forward to this year's "International Bite" on April 27. Ellyn congratulated the Symphonic Orchestra, which has qualified for the state competition. Mt. Hood Conference schools will gather tonight for "Battle of the Bands."

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Rommel announced that the district band festival is underway tonight at the high school. She shared a summary of a report from OSU's College of Education which prominently featured David Douglas High School's counseling department in a report on the good things happening in Oregon high schools. The design of the Ron Russell Middle School building received an Honorable Mention from *Learning by Design* magazine. Oregon Department of Education's "Celebrating Student Success" awards banquet will be held on May 11. Gilbert Heights and Cherry Park will be honored at that event. The TAG Project Fair will be held on April 26, 7:00 – 8:00pm at East Campus. The David Douglas Historical Society will host their annual Chautauqua on Saturday, April 28, 11:30am – 3:00pm in the David Douglas High School North Building cafeteria. Students from the High School's Hospitality, Tourism & Recreation CAM presented to the Mayor during a recent City Council meeting. Ron Russell Middle School student Jacob Wittren was also featured during the kids segment at City Council. Jacob collected more than 8,000 books for the Bedside Books program.

Mike Stout reported that PBS teams from each district school participated in a full day training session on April 4. He expressed his appreciation to Mill Park Baptist Church for permitting the district to use their facility to accommodate the large number of participants. Dr. Rob Horner came from University of Oregon to give the teams feedback on their building displays, and presented to the entire group in the afternoon. Participants gave the training very positive evaluations. Superintendent Rommel announced that David Douglas High School was represented by the largest number of finalists in Multnomah County for Academic All Stars. The group also included two National Merit Scholars, Sabrina Skau and Nick Martin.

Ventura Park will host an Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 14. On April 17 at 9:15am, Oregon's First Lady Mary Oberst will talk with Earl Boyles fifth graders about alcohol awareness. Her presentation will be based on a "Deal or No Deal" format. Superintendent Rommel participated in a tree planting ceremony on March 13 at Ron Russell Middle School. The Multnomah County Garden Club planted a "freedom tree" in honor of Dr. Ron Russell's service in the Peace Corps. On April 11 at 3:30pm, Board Chair Gardner will speak on the steps of the Capitol in Salem regarding after school programs, at the request of a community schools group.

Curriculum Mapping Report – To open their presentation on the district's Curriculum Mapping project, high school teacher Greg Lind presented board members with tool kits, asking them to consider the steps needed to build a solid house. Menlo Park Principal Brooke O'Neill said that the Curriculum Mapping team first looked at the blueprints, the Oregon State Content Standards. The next step was to look at the architecture – the K-12 experience and the supports we offer along the way. The team reviewed core curriculum, instructional strategies, expectations, resources, and opportunities for professional growth. They also examined assessments in place before, during, and following learning. The essential question was, "how do we support our students learning by building a solid K-12 Educational House?" Web-based curriculum mapping allows staff members to work together as a collaborative group rather than working as independent contractors. Mapping is an organizational process that allows teachers to align instructions to state standards, map instruction from a yearly perspective, and collaborate and share with one other; and allows vertical and horizontal alignment of what is taught. It provides an overview of a student's actual learning experience, permitting a teacher to look at what is happening in real time versus what they might have planned.

Sherrie Barger reported that the process started with the district's comprehensive improvement plan (CIP), where the district site council determined the need to focus on teaching from grade level to grade level from a K-12 perspective. In 2004-05, the David Douglas mapping tool was designed and built, with specific features determined by a teacher task force, and mapping coaches in each building were trained. Coaches began training staff to map their lessons. This school year, K-8 teachers are mapping one unit of instruction during early releases. The high school's literacy taskforce is working on literacy across the curriculum, and mapping will be part of that process. Another team is working on 6th -12th grade math alignment. Technology Coordinator Derek Edens presented a visual tour of the district's mapping site. Greg Lind reviewed one of his lessons on the website.

Teacher Shelly Wilcoxon described the process at Gilbert Heights. During 2001-02, teachers began to map their reading curriculum. The process continued the following year with emphasis on connecting teaching to state standards. An additional goal was to be more consistent with instruction among grade level teams. In 2003-04 they started having cross-grade level discussions; teachers revised and edited maps across grade levels to identify gaps and repetitions, and to continue to align

to state standards. In 2004-05 teachers began mapping writing curriculum, which they can now do through the mapping website. She reviewed the positive jump in reading and writing test scores since curriculum mapping began. The project has been sustainable and has paid off in assessment results. Mr. Edens said here are now 323 complete, active maps on the district website.

Nutrition Services Pricing – Courtney Wilton recommended that the board approve rate increases for meals provided by the Nutrition Services Department, effective Fall 2007.

Proposed:	Elementary Lunch	\$1.90
	Middle & High School Lunch	\$2.20
	Adult Breakfast	\$1.60
	Adult Lunch	\$3.10

He presented a memo showing price comparisons with other districts, participation rates, and program budget information, saying that approving this request now would provide time to share information on the new pricing in communications to parents. Ms. Christopher referred to an article regarding grant funding available to schools to fight childhood obesity. Mr. Wilton will investigate. Mr. Centoni said he was not comfortable continuing to raise prices, and would prefer subsidizing the program through the general fund in the future. Following discussion, Mr. Clinton moved approval of Nutrition Services price increases as outlined, seconded by Mr. Burton. The motion carried in a vote of 5-0.

Appointment of Budget Committee Member – Frieda Christopher reported that two district patrons responded to the posting of an opening on the district's budget committee. Following interviews of each, she nominated Christine Larsen for the board's approval. Ms. Larsen will have children at Floyd Light and Ventura Park next fall. Mr. Centoni presented a motion to approve Ms. Christopher's nomination of Christine Larsen to the David Douglas Budget Committee, seconded by Mr. Burton. The motion carried in a vote of 5-0. Ms. Christopher said the other candidate, Mr. Larry Beach, has indicated a strong interest in future involvement on district committees. The superintendent and Mr. Wilton will meet with the new budget committee members for an orientation to the budget process.

Legislative Session Update – Dan McCue presented a brief summary of pending legislation that would affect K-12 education. He attends weekly briefings provided by COSA in Salem. He noted that a number of bills are being considered relating to capital construction funds. He said he would be glad to relay the board's questions or comments to COSA.

Consent Agenda – Mr. Burton moved approval of the following consent agenda items, seconded by Mr. Centoni. The motion carried in a unanimous vote of 5-0.

- **Approval of March Board Meeting Minutes**
- **Personnel Recommendations**

Audience Participation – The board chair opened the meeting for public comment. There were no remarks from the audience. Following a brief break, Mr. Gardner announced that the regular meeting would recess in order for the board to convene in Executive Session, under ORS 192.660 (2)(b) Personnel.

Following the Executive Session, the regular meeting was reconvened.

In the matter of an appeal of the Superintendent's Denial of a Grievance to the Board of Directors, Board Chair Gardner said that as a matter of clarification for the record, a vote to sustain the grievance would be a vote in support of the Complainant's position; a vote to deny the grievance would be a vote in support of the District's position. He polled individual board members for their votes and remarks.

- Bruce Burton voted to deny the grievance, with no comment.
- Mike Centoni voted to deny the grievance, with no comment.
- Carl Clinton voted to deny the grievance, saying that he did not believe Just Cause was violated and there was no complaint that needed to be resolved, thus no notification required.
- Frieda Christopher voted to deny the grievance, saying it was her opinion that there was an observation, not a complaint, the administration followed through, and that there was just cause for a Letter of Reprimand.
- Board Chair Gardner voted to deny the grievance, saying that Just Cause had been met. He remarked that it was his opinion that the requirement to comply with all seven steps seemed excessive. He expressed his hope that the Complainant would continue his career in David Douglas and wished him every success, although he said there was poor judgment exhibited in this case.

Having reached a unanimous vote of 5-0, the grievance brought before the Board was denied.

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – None

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



Donn Gardner, Board Chair



Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk