

**Meeting of the School Board  
David Douglas School District No. 40  
April 5, 2012**

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, April 5, 2012, 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:

Annette Mattson, Board Chair	
Frieda Christopher	Mike Price
Shemia Fagan	Cheryl Scarcelli Ancheta
Donn Gardner	

Also present were Don Grotting, Superintendent/Clerk; and Gail Hunter, Board Secretary. Dawn Barberis was excused.

The agenda included consideration of the following:

**Call to Order / Flag Salute** – Honor Society students from the David Douglas High School American Sign Language program led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Mattson read a statement on behalf of the board regarding the budget committee selection process used this year. She apologized to the audience and to applicants for miscommunication.

**Student Body President's Report / Recognitions** – ASB Vice President Katie Anderson reported that since spring sports started in March, many events have been rained out. The Boys basketball team finished sixth in the state tournament, where the Scots were well and enthusiastically represented in the stands. New class officers have been elected. Megan Bier has been elected ASB president for the 2012-13 school year. "Sunset Serenade" is the theme of this year's Prom, to be held at the Oregon Zoo on April 28. Student Council members have been working with Social Studies Teacher Brad Joy to kick off a Sparrow Club fundraiser, to benefit a two year old boy needing treatment for cerebral palsy. The Theater Department's one act plays are in preproduction. Student Council members will assist at the mayoral candidate debate on April 22 in the PAC.

**Visiting Delegations / Audience Input** – Bob Lawrence, David Douglas Citizens for Schools campaign manager, introduced Art Sasse, general consultant, and Bridget Saldino, field operations. Mr. Sassy said with only five weeks to campaign, the board's time is needed to set the pace from a leadership standpoint. Mr. Lawrence said interested folks can go to the website ([www.ddcitizensforschools.com](http://www.ddcitizensforschools.com)) to find out about activities and volunteer opportunities. He announced that there will be phone banks on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and volunteers will be canvassing on the weekends. Campaign volunteers have also been speaking with parent groups and neighborhood associations. Ms. Saldino described a plan for canvassing on Saturday. Ms. Christopher said the campaign budget is short \$28,000, which would cover four mailings. She said she has presented at some parent meetings where the reception has been very positive, and that DDEA and OSEA members have also been supportive. Several administrators have volunteered this Saturday to drive or canvass.

**Superintendent's Report** – Superintendent Grotting introduced a video presented by the high school featuring student Sauni Hartley, encouraging student attendance and investment in their education. Josh Gray was thanked for his production assistance. The video will be shared with middle school students and viewed in Ninth Grade Counts classes. Mr. Grotting announced that a

meeting of the Oregon Education Investment Board, chaired by Governor Kitzhaber, will be held in our board room on April 10, 1:00-5:00pm. KATU is sponsoring the mayoral debate on Sunday, April 22 in our PAC. Admission is free of charge but by ticket only due to the limited seating. A candidate forum organized by students will take place on Wednesday, April 11, 4:30-6:30 in the high school's north cafeteria candidate. About 18 candidates are participating. The superintendent reported that state-mandated achievement compacts are being prepared which will be brought to the board for approval before June 30. This academic goal setting is now required by law, and includes a budget component showing that resources are being used to support the district's priorities. The district's first budget meeting will be held on April 16, 7pm. Per Derek Edens, it looks very hopeful that the district will be awarded a \$500,000 grant from the Mt. Hood Regulatory Commission to upgrade our wireless capabilities. Cherie-Anne May reported that David Douglas High School has won a Grammy Signature Schools Enterprise award. The \$5,500 prize from their foundation is earmarked for the percussion department. The award will be presented at the Percussion Night concert on May 30, and a Grammy workshop for careers in music will be held on May 31. David Douglas High School will host the League band contest on April 11 during the day. Ms. May thanked the board for their continued support of the music program.

**Consent Agenda** – Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve the following Consent Agenda items, seconded by Mr. Price. The motion carried in a vote of 7-0.

- Personnel Recommendations
- Approval of March Board Meeting Minutes

**Budget Update** – The superintendent will formally present the 2012-13 budget to the full Budget Committee on Monday. Mr. Grotting said the proposed budget includes a reduced contingency and approximately \$2.5 million in staffing reductions, and will be extremely tight. If board approves these reductions, he will send an email message to notify the staff. Reduction in Force notices would be delivered next Friday so impacted employees can make their plans. Estimated reductions include 22.5 FTE in certified staff, and on the classified side, approximately 20 FTE coming primarily through attrition. He said the board and administration are doing everything in their power to reduce the impact on our employees. Challenges include increasing PERS costs, a slight decrease in enrollment, decreasing ELL enrollment, reduced state funding, and general rollup costs. Even with this recommended reduction of \$2.5 million, the district will still be operating at a deficit. The superintendent requested the board's approval to move forward with this reduction plan, noting that at this point our students still have music, still have PE, and still have many electives, and we have not reduced the length of the school year. Mr. Gardner thanked both of our employee associations for their support, remarking that compromises from both groups have helped make these cuts less painful than they might have been.

**Approval of \$6.5 Million Reduction Plan for the 2012-13 School Year** – Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta thanked the superintendent and cabinet for their courage and strength in taking on this difficult task. Ms. Christopher moved, and Mr. Gardner seconded, approval of a \$6.5 million reduction plan for the 2012-13 school year. The motion was approved in a vote of 6-0.

**Approval of Early Retirement Incentive Plan** – Ken Richardson presented a plan for the board's consideration which would make changes in retirement benefits for licensed staff. He said that the changes would provide savings to the district as well as benefiting our employees ready to

retire. The plan would only apply to the certified staff as it is more difficult to achieve savings with our classified staff. He said the plan needs to be approved by DDEA and ECBC as well. Mr. Price made a motion to approve the plan as presented, seconded by Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta. The motion carried in a vote of 6-0.

**Resolution to Authorize Establishing a New Fund: Energy Conservation Project Fund** – Patt Komar reported that last year’s legislative session changed the way public purpose funds flow through to school districts, determining that disbursement via the ESDs was not needed. Per HB 2960, school districts must create a specific fund for this revenue. Ms. Fagan so moved, seconded by Mr. Gardner. The resolution passed in a vote of 6-0.

**Resolution Authorizing Amendment to the 2011-12 Adopted Budget** – Ms. Komar said that this resolution appropriates the funds established by the last action item, making an adjustment to the General Fund of about \$129,000 from the Support Services appropriation to Community Services. Ms. Christopher so moved, seconded by Ms. Fagan. The resolution was approved in a vote of 6-0.

**Open Enrollment Update** – Dr. Osburn reported on the results of this year’s Open Enrollment period. The board previously approved 219 slots based on the number of current students on inter-district transfer and an estimate of additional capacity. As of April 1, the district received applications from 190 students. 138 returning students and 46 new students were accepted. Six applicants were denied, including one who applied after the deadline, and five high school students for whom there was no space. Next steps will be to notify families of approval or denial, and by May to notify other districts from which we accepted students. We will also hear at that time which of our students will attend other districts through this process. This year’s open enrollment window has now closed. Any other requests from non-residents must go through the inter-district transfer request process. Mr. Grotting said the board may want to revisit the criteria for approval of inter-district transfers, if we see other districts restrict those releases due to the funding crunch.

**Achievement Compacts** – Mr. Grotting reported on a new legislative requirement that every school district in Oregon approve an achievement compact in which they list their academic goals. Brooke O’Neill said the district has been setting goals for a long time but these are much more specific, and tie in to how budget expenditures support our goals. Board members are key stakeholders as they will sign off and approve the compact. A consultant will help districts build a trajectory over the next 13 years, and determine how to measure progress. OEIB will present an informational webcast for board members on April 12. There is a quick turnaround this spring as the deadline for school districts to have approved achievement compacts in place is June 30, 2012. The district received data today for validation. John May said that quite a bit of the required data is information the state already tracks. Ms. Fagan said she wants to make sure this is not a top down mandate for our teachers. She asked what the administration is doing to let our teachers be co-creators of this. Ms. O’Neill said that this year with the quick turnaround, the process won’t be as thorough as we would like. We will need to work with all stakeholders with a more thorough process next year. The state will still require school improvement plans in addition to the achievement compacts.

**Other Business / Future Agenda Items** – none

**Board Member Reports** – Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta attended the Division Street Neighborhood Prosperity committee meeting, which is looking for the community to raise \$30,000 to bring empty spaces back into viable businesses on the Division Street corridor. Ms. Christopher said tickets are still available for the Educational Foundation’s dinner/auction at Camp Angelos on April 21. Activities begin at 3:00pm, with dinner at 4:30pm. Proceeds will benefit David Douglas Outdoor School. Chris

Scarzello from the Mayor's office is recruiting representatives from East Portland to serve on committees which will review various sections of the Portland Plan. Volunteers interested in applying should expect a six month commitment with meetings being held during the day. Ms. Fagan said she volunteered during the first bond canvass, saying responses were overwhelmingly positive. She also attended the Educational Foundation board meeting where she requested volunteers. She'll meet to discuss the bond with the West Powellhurst parent group next week. Ms. Fagan was pleased to announce that she and her husband are expecting a baby boy in August, who she said will someday be a Gilbert Heights student. Chair Mattson said that Bob Lawrence's media and speaker training on the bond were excellent. She attended the "We are Portland" awards on March 23, where David Douglas High School Teacher Anne Downing and Instructional Assistant Lindsay Hook were honored for their work with our ethnic community.

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



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Annette Mattson, Board Chair



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Don Grotting, Superintendent / Clerk