

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
May 3, 2007**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, May 3, 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:

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| Donn Gardner, Board Chair | |
| Dawn Barberis | Frieda Christopher |
| Bruce Burton | Carl Clinton |
| Mike Centoni | Annette Mattson |

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 – Board Chair Gardner thanked the David Douglas High School choir and orchestra for performing prior to the board meeting. Dawn Barberis attended today's QEC meeting, saying it was a good discussion and that information will be looped to administration and teachers. Bruce Burton said the turnout was wonderful at last Thursday's TAG Project Fair, with a number of administrators, teachers and a large number of parents supporting that activity. He expressed his agreement with a comment made by Mr. Clinton at the budget workshop, noting that the opportunities we provide students in areas such as the arts, woods, metals, and automotive truly are part of our core curriculum, rather than optional extras. Mr. Centoni thanked the high school music students for their performance. He remarked that Molalla High School is cutting their metals program at a time those trades are in need of trained workers, and said the district needs to support and enhance these vital programs. Carl Clinton shared the Centennial School District newsletter, which included an article about Positive Behavior Supports. Frieda Christopher thanked board members for attending the foundation dinner and auction, which raised \$10,000 for the kids fund and an additional \$20,000 to support foundation efforts. Annette Mattson said she and Ms. Barberis attended the Fir Ridge art show, which was excellent. She also attended the high school fashion show, where she was very impressed by the professionalism of the event and by the marvelous display of talent. Last Thursday she had the opportunity to take part in the Earth Day Fair put on by high school students in the Natural Resources CAM for the district's fourth graders. She represented PGE as they provided an electric car demonstration. Board Chair Gardner said he and his wife enjoyed the dinner/auction. He also visited the International Bite at the high school, which looked like a great success.

Student Body President's Report – Ellyn Ward reported on last week's Diversity Week activities and the International Bite, which had a great turnout. A highlight of the week was a presentation by motivational speaker Mark Scharenbroich. Ellyn introduced Stacy Chao, the newly elected ASB president for 2007-08. She was also pleased to announce that choir, band and orchestra will all be advancing to the state competition this month. National Honor Society members will be inducted on May 16, and the One-Act Plays will be performed May 16-19.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Rommel announced that the work of Gilbert Heights and Cherry Park staffs will be honored at next Friday's "Celebrating Student Success" banquet. Alice Ott Middle School students and staff received special recognition recently for raising more than \$7,000 for the Oregon Food Bank. Dan McCue is preparing a community newsletter which will be mailed to district patrons at the end of May. On a sad note, our former school resource officer, Rob Blanck, lost his daughter last weekend in an auto accident.

Teacher Appreciation Week Proclamation – Board Chair Gardner read a proclamation honoring our teachers in appreciation of their outstanding effort on behalf of our students. He said he was pleased to announce that the week of May 7-11 is Teacher Appreciation Week. He called on the David Douglas community to personally express their thanks to all of our teachers. The proclamation will be distributed and posted in all of our buildings next week. Board members echoed the sentiment, expressing their appreciation for the dedication of our teaching staff.

Music Education Report – Board Chair Gardner introduced District Music Supervisor Russ Fillis to review the opportunities we offer students in music education. Mr. Fillis noted that it is a real honor for all of our high school music groups to have been selected for state competition this year. He presented a recap on the status of our music department since his last report in 2003. Staffing has increased by 4.75 FTE since that time. He described the music curriculum at each level. In addition to general elementary music instruction, band, orchestra and choir are offered as electives to our fifth graders, as well as grades 6-8 at the middle schools. Jazz band is also offered as a full year elective at the middle school level. He reviewed the many music course opportunities at the high school, as well as the numerous opportunities our music students have for performance. A number of our students have been selected to state and northwest honor groups. High numbers of participants at all levels confirm the popularity of our program.

By the end of 2007, \$250,000 will have been spent on new and pre-owned instruments for our students. New band uniforms and additional choir robes have been purchased to accommodate these large programs. The department's goals for the future are to continue to offer band, orchestra and choir to all interested students; to demonstrate high quality individual and group performances at competitions, contests and festivals; and to offer a high quality music education designed to teach performance as well as the understanding and enjoyment of music. Future considerations include updating classroom sets of instruments for the elementary general music program, at an estimated one-time cost of \$48,000. He also suggested the board continue an allocation for new and replacement musical instruments at an estimated cost of \$50,000 per year. In closing, Mr. Fillis shared a list of 2006-07 students of musical honor, which included students selected for the all state elementary choral group this year, which performed for the state music educators conference, and middle and high school students honored for vocal and instrumental performance. He thanked board members for their long-standing support of the district's music program.

Revision of Policy #7600.1 Policy Assuring Compatibility of Materials and Supplies:

First Reading – A revision of Board Policy #7600.1 was presented for a first reading. A review of our current policy on compatibility of materials and supplies revealed the need to make some wording changes to assure compliance with state and federal requirements. The revised wording reflects our current practice. Action will be taken on the revisions at the next board meeting.

Consent Agenda – Mr. Burton moved approval of the following consent agenda items, seconded by Mr. Centoni. A unanimous vote approved the motion.

- **Adoption of 2007-08 Board Meeting Calendar**
- **Approval of April Board Meeting Minutes**

Audience Participation – Board Chair Gardner opened the meeting for public comment. District patron Richard Kemp commented regarding lack of coverage of district events by *The Oregonian*. Blog postings have been few and far between as well. He read a letter he sent to the East Metro Editor, asking for more coverage. He has not received a response but wanted the board to know of his efforts.

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – Board Chair Gardner said he attended the David Douglas Historical Society annual meeting and luncheon, where he enjoyed visiting with his former high school chemistry teacher. He requested that the Administrator Salary Committee meet and develop recommendations for the superintendent's compensation for next year as well as any contract language revisions. The recommendations for the administrator group will be submitted for action at the next meeting. The executive session regarding the superintendent's evaluation was scheduled for June 21, 7:00pm. Ms. Barberis noted that she will be unable to attend.

Mr. Centoni requested a future report on the legal requirements and constraints on the district regarding students charged with or convicted of crimes, or returning following incarceration. Ms. Christopher asked for an update on drug and alcohol education. The board chair commented on the president's prose in the most recent issue of the DDEA newsletter, saying he was concerned with a possible misinterpretation of his conversation with Mr. Gray. Mr. Burton expressed concern with the tone of the article, saying he was disappointed with the apparent attempt to cultivate rancor between the association and the administration.

Adjournment – There being no other business, Board Chair Gardner announced that the board would reconvene in executive session immediately following the regular meeting, in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2)(d) Collective Bargaining. He then declared the regular meeting adjourned.



Donn Gardner, Board Chair



Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk

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