

**Meeting of the School Board  
David Douglas School District No. 40  
May 3, 2012**

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, May 3, 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	
Dawn Barberis	Donn Gardner
Frieda Christopher	Mike Price
Shemia Fagan	Cheryl Scarcelli Ancheta

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

The agenda included consideration of the following:

**Call to Order / Flag Salute**

**Student Body President's Report / Recognitions** – ASB President Tanner Adrian reported that class council elections will be held on May 20. ASB officers hosted a meeting of Mt. Hood Conference school officers on May 1. Six hundred students attended the Prom last weekend at the Oregon Zoo. At the Community 101 meeting on May 2, selected nonprofit grant recipients received their checks. Tanner reviewed spring sports, announcing that the conference tennis and track meets will be held at David Douglas High School. Band, orchestra, choir, and symphony are preparing for state competition.

**Visiting Delegations / Audience Input –**

- Citizens for School Bond Campaign Update – Bob Lawrence reported that thanks to a couple of large donations and many pledges, the campaign will be very close to meeting its budget goal. The largest contributions were received from the Children's Institute and DDEA/OEA. He said David Douglas teachers have also been very generous with their time, participating in phone banking and canvassing. Local companies and a number of retired administrators have also contributed to the campaign. This funding will cover four mailings. He commented on a very favorable editorial published recently in *The Oregonian*. Articles will also appear in the *Mid-County Memo* and in the online *East Portland News*. 7,000 voters have been canvassed, with a response rate of about 73% in favor expressed during those contacts. Last night, volunteers maxed out the phone bank. Another canvass is scheduled for this Sunday. An election night gathering will be held at La Isla Bonita, 302 NE 122, at 7:30pm. Chair Mattson said she had good conversations and good responses during canvassing. Ms. Christopher said she found that the bond has good support from our long time residents in particular. During the canvass, Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta spoke with former superintendent Dr. Howard Horner. She reported he is doing well and said he would be pleased to share information about the bond with fellow residents of his retirement community.
- There were no remarks from the audience.

**Superintendent's Report** – Superintendent Grotting reported that the district is working with City and County partners on the CAN Initiative, which would provide every elementary school in Multnomah County with funding to pay for a music or art teacher. Last night's Achievement Compact meeting was well attended. This first meeting was informational; the next meeting on May 30 will include specifics regarding achievement targets. Ms. Barberis is serving on this committee. Superintendent Grotting said that due to the efforts of Frieda Christopher and Parkrose

Superintendent Karen Gray, he will be serving as the co-chair of East Portland Action Plan's Education Subcommittee. Mr. Grotting attended a meeting today at City Hall regarding potential additional funding for schools from the City budget. He said that thanks to the discussions built on efforts by Barbara Rommel, other East County superintendents and board members to ensure equity in funding from the city and county, the disbursement would be equitably based on district ADMw. Particulars will be forthcoming. The superintendent thanked Dan McCue for his work being the gatekeeper in providing information about the bond to the media and our community.

He said the district is working on some big educational initiatives, including implementation of core curriculum, and integrating the English Language Acquisition Program into the regular classroom at the elementary level. He said at some point he may ask the board for some half days for staff professional development as we launch these major educational reforms.

He also thanked Dr. Osburn for her work developing the procedures, determining capacity, and working through the open enrollment process. The district will receive a \$5,000 grant from NIKE which will support our community sports program. A \$375,000 grant from the Children's Institute will support the Earl Boyles Early Works project, providing a community liaison, translation services, and professional development. Mr. Grotting said the board is breaking new ground with the early childhood initiative, and was courageous to include that project in the bond proposal in this time of depleted resources. He introduced a video on the project which was shown at the Children's Institute's annual luncheon. Superintendent Grotting said that Ericka Guynes has taken this initiative on and really embraced it. He is excited about this pilot project.

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

- Personnel Recommendations
- Approval of April Board Meeting Minutes
- Budget Transfer Figure Correction

**Revision of Board Policy IKF – Diploma Requirements (First Reading)** – Dr. Osburn presented a draft revision of board policy which includes essential skills language required by statute. Of note is the section on English Language Learners. New legislation requires that if a district offers an essential skill in a native language, they must be able to assess and grade in that native language. Discussion is continuing about our district's capacity to provide not only instruction but scoring and grading. Ms. O'Neill said another difficulty is determining equal levels of rigor in translated lessons. This is a first reading. Action will be taken at the next board meeting.

**New Board Policy GCQAB – Private Tutoring for Pay (First Reading)** – Barbara Kienle reported that this recommended policy came about because a parent questioned an offer of fee-based tutoring by a classroom teacher at school at the conclusion of the school day. This policy clarifies the requirements regarding the use of district facilities and personnel to tutor students, in order to avoid any breach of the state code of teacher ethics. This is a first reading. Action will be taken at the next board meeting.

**Open Enrollment Update** – Dr. Osburn presented a recap of open enrollment admissions and releases. She said the new process worked well, and applications for the most part did not exceed our capacity to accept students. The district approved 184 students, 46 of whom will be new admissions, and lost 27 students to other districts, of whom 16 were already released on inter-district transfer. She denied six applications, either because space was not available in a particular grade

or building, or because the application came in after the deadline. The regular inter-district transfer application process remains in place. Superintendent Grotting said the board may want to discuss amending the inter-district approval criteria for next fall.

**Discussion - Naming of Facilities / Infrastructure** – Mr. Grotting reported that he has received a request for a sports field to be named after a former coach. He also received a request to name an elementary library after a retiring librarian. He suggested that the board develop guidelines to address these enquiries. Chair Mattson requested that a couple of board members, a couple of administrators, and possibly some staff representatives meet this summer to discuss this issue and recommend policy language. Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta and Mr. Gardner volunteered to represent the board on the committee.

**Achievement Compact Update** – Brooke O'Neill presented an overview of work to date. At last night's meeting, the presentation included the definition of an achievement compact, how it is developed, the role of OEIB, and required timelines, as well as the challenges of determining a target. John May presented current data as a starting point. The team will divide into four work groups at the second meeting on May 30. The document will be brought to the board for approval at the June 14 board meeting, and must be submitted to the state by June 30. Mr. Grotting said most area superintendents favor meeting the minimum requirement initially, and waiting to see how this develops. He said at this point, with our reduced resources, it will be positive if we can maintain our current status.

**Other Business / Future Agenda Items** – Mr. Gardner requested information on graduation tickets. They will be delivered to board members ahead of the event. Patt Komar briefly reviewed next steps in the bond process, should the ballot proposal pass.

**Board Member Reports** – Ms. Barberis commented on several articles in *The Highlander* where students were upset about reduced graduation standards. She said she hopes someone is informing them of all of the requirements to graduate from an Oregon high school. Ms. Fagan said she heard a comment that Mr. Grotting did an outstanding job speaking during today's press conference with the mayor. Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta said she has followed conversations among fellow DDHS alumni on Facebook and enjoyed the discussion determining that the restaurant across 130<sup>th</sup> from the high school was called "The Thistle". She attended Pat Fontaine's memorial service and said it was a moving tribute. She said that during classified bargaining she was struck by Pat's grace and wisdom. Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta said Ms. Fontaine represented OSEA's classified personnel with honor. Ms. Christopher echoed those sentiments, saying it was wonderful to work with her.

Ms. Christopher said that those who attended the Education Foundation event to benefit outdoor school had a wonderful time. The setting was beautiful and the weather could not have been better. Folks enjoyed a sample of outdoor school activities followed by a barbecue dinner and limited auction. An online auction will continue the fundraising when it begins on May 15, running for three weeks. The Gateway regional education center discussions are being reactivated. Senator Merkley's office is trying to find grant funds to help build that center. As she has been out speaking with parent groups about the school bond proposal, Ms. Christopher said she has been pleased to see increased participation by our parents. Chair Mattson said that canvassing has been a joy. She attended a banquet for the Oregon League of Conservation Voters, where she said Shemia Fagan presented the best "ask" for a fundraiser that she had ever witnessed.

**Adjournment** – It was the Board's consensus to convene an executive session immediately following the regular meeting, in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2)(d) Collective Bargaining. There being no other business, Chair Mattson declared the regular session adjourned.



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Annette Mattson, Board Chair



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Don Grotting, Superintendent / Clerk

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