

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
May 7, 2009**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, May 7, 2009, at 7:00pm 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:

Frieda Christopher, Board Chair	
Dawn Barberis	Annette Mattson
Mike Centoni	Mike Price
Donn Gardner	

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

The agenda included consideration of the following:

Call to Order / Flag Salute

Board Member Reports – Annette Mattson has been away for the past two board meetings, as her role of OSBA President took her to regional meetings across the state. In addition, she said she participated in a meeting of the Chalkboard Project Advisory Council, attended the NSBA Conference, the Oregon PTA Summit, testified before the Oregon Senate Ways & Means committee, and participated at district budget committee meetings. She extended a special thank you to Janice Essenberg, commending her and her staff for all of their work on the district budget. She said it was her privilege to present an award at ODE’s “Celebrating Student Success” banquet. She also enjoyed Mom’s Weekend at OSU, and AVID family night on Monday. With Ms. Barberis, Ms. Mattson attended the NW Career Expo at the Oregon Convention Center, along with 260 students from David Douglas High School. Some David Douglas students were featured speakers at the opening breakfast. Ms. Mattson said it was particularly moving to hear about one student’s goal to be a radiological oncologist. Dawn Barberis agreed that the student speeches were very inspiring. She said more than 6,000 students from the region attended the event. Chair Christopher attended the budget committee meetings, and sat in on the AVID presentation. She was pleased to attend the banquet honoring “Celebrating Student Success” award winners Lincoln Park and Gilbert Park. She presented a brief update on Opportunity Gateway activities, noting that a donor has committed \$1 million in matching funds for the bike park being planned for the land adjacent to the I-84/I-205 freeways.

Student Body President’s Report – Rena Chayanam, ASB First Vice President, reported on behalf of the high school student body. The Senior Assembly will be held tomorrow, one of the last gatherings for the Class of '09. The event will include student competitions and recognition of members of student clubs. A new photo of the graduating class will be taken at Palermini Stadium following the assembly, since the photo taken earlier in the year did not turn out well. A Recognition Assembly will be held on May 15, in which every senior will receive recognition for achievements and activities in and outside of school.

Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Rommel introduced Cherie-Anne May, Coordinator of Gifted Programs and Music, who presented 5th grade students who participated in the State Future Problem Solvers Competition. Two teams from David Douglas participated at the state event. The fifth grade team also qualified for the international competition, which will be held at Michigan State

University at the end of May. Teacher Lani Dalzell read the problem the team tackled in the state competition, and students recapped their experience. They expressed their gratitude to the Board for supporting their efforts and allowing them to attend the state and international competitions.

Candy Wallace announced that Lincoln Park Kids Club students took third place at the YOUthFILM Project awards on April 28. The David Douglas TAG program received a Program Achievement Award, the first Portland area school program to do so. That award included a Flip video camera for the TAG Center. Fifth grade students from Mrs. Sanstead's class at Lincoln Park entered the Celebrate America Writing Contest, writing on the topic of "Why I Am Glad America is a Nation of Immigrants." Their efforts to celebrate the stories of their families resulted in a first place award for the State of Oregon for 5th grader Junior Chavez-Rodriguez. Two more of Mrs. Sandstead's students finished in the top ten. Mike Stout commended Business Office staffer Jacque Gardner for her vigilance in watching for fraudulent activities. She discovered \$5,000 worth of fraudulent checks, which would have been charged to the district. As another \$6,000 was identified this week, her efforts helped save the district about \$11,000. At least one of the perpetrators has been apprehended.

Superintendent Rommel was pleased to announce that David Douglas High School Senior Samantha Peterson took first place in poetry reading at the state speech competition. She also received OSAA's Four Year Excellence Award for being a state finalist all four years of high school. North Powellhurst Principal Kate Barker will be honored next week as an Outstanding Literacy Leader by the Mt. Hood Reading Council. Fred Meyer Stores presented the district with a check for \$4,888 as part of their "Support Your Schools" campaign. Students from Gilbert Park's SUN program will be selling student-made beauty products this weekend, with all proceeds to benefit the Oregon Humane Society.

On Monday, the high school's "Community 101" program will culminate in the awarding of a total of \$5,000 in small grants to a number of non-profit organizations selected by students. The program of the PGE Foundation and Oregon Community Foundation promotes student leadership and civic engagement through philanthropy. A team of Ron Russell Middle School math students is celebrating a first place overall victory at the Pentagames competition, which was held on May 1st at Stayton High School. Alice Ott students also competed and took second place overall.

The superintendent announced that all four major performing groups from DDHS will be representing our district in their respective state contests. While all had state-qualifying scores, each had to be entered into the "tape pool" for final consideration. The Concert Choir, directed by Christopher Silva, Symphonic Strings, directed by Michelle Lindberg, the Full Symphony, directed by Jennifer Muller, and the Wind Ensemble, also under Jennifer Muller's direction, will perform next Friday and Saturday. At a public meeting on May 29, 4:00pm at Parkrose High School, James Sager, Education, Workforce and Revenue Policy advisor from the Governor's office, will discuss budget issues for the coming biennium. Annette Mattson was featured in this month's PGE's newsletter, which was sent to PGE customers along with their bills. This week is Teacher Appreciation Week. School Board proclamations have been distributed to each of our schools. The graffiti abatement group from DDHS has painted over all of the graffiti on SE 135th, with only two of those sites defaced again following their efforts.

Parent and Community Involvement Report – Parent, Family, and Community Involvement Coordinator Katy Chase has been working with the schools to increase parent involvement and develop ways to engage more community members. She shared some of the year's activities and plans for the future. Areas of activity this year have included "La Familia", a PSU and ODE pilot project. A team from the district, along with PSU and ODE representatives, created a work plan

which includes clearly articulating district expectations regarding family involvement at the building level. This topic has also been a focus in this year's Leadership Academy meetings. The team created a parent/family survey which was distributed earlier this month.

Title I includes a parent involvement component in policy development at each elementary school. A wide range of parent and student events was offered at the building level, focused on academics as well as fun activities for families. After school community partnerships have enriched experiences for our students. Grant collaborations with Lewis & Clark and Metropolitan Family Services, and the SUN partners at Gilbert Park and Earl Boyles have provided a number of student, family and community-wide events, along with a number of other partnerships. Lincoln Park, Ventura Park, and West Powellhurst have hosted Kids Club via the 21st Century Grant. Classes have been offered around the district for adults. District-wide classes included Love & Logic parenting classes, a drug/alcohol prevention/intervention class through Northwest Behavioral Healthcare Services, and HELLO classes. A support group for parents of children with autism meets monthly. The district has also partnered with Barnes and Noble with book fairs to benefit schools. Portland Community Land Trust has provided information for prospective home buyers at several presentations for district parents. Ms. Chase meets regularly with building Volunteer Coordinators to discuss training, recruiting, and tips for community connections. Donated computers have been installed in school offices to allow volunteers to log in and track their hours of service. Our schools and students have been the beneficiaries of 12,435 hours from our volunteers as of April 30.

OASIS volunteers have been working with students at Gilbert Park, Ventura Park, and Menlo Park. Marcia Hartman, an OASIS tutor, shared her experience with the program. A parent of David Douglas graduates, she has found volunteering with OASIS to be a very rewarding experience. Volunteers receive two days of training and numerous teaching materials to use with students. They develop wonderful relationships with students as they work one on one for an hour every week during the school year, assisting with reading and writing, talking together and helping students build self-esteem. Ms. Hartman said she has appreciated Ms. Chase's insights and contributions at their monthly meetings.

Ms. Chase also works with our Title X program (homeless support). At this time, 458 of our students have been identified as homeless. Thankfully, all are living in some type of housing at this time. 64 families have been placed in temporary or permanent housing, and there have been 47 referrals to Celtic Heart or other building clothes closets. Staff training and awareness are very important components of our efforts to support these families. The district was recently notified that we will receive \$33,105 in AARA stimulus funding for Title X. We have also applied for a McKinney-Vento subgrant to provide additional support.

Family surveys were sent home with report cards, and recorded phone messages were sent to families in major languages as a follow up. Next year, a parent involvement goal will be required as part of every K-12 school improvement plan. Family events will continue, and the results of the family survey will be reviewed to determine other areas of interest for events, classes or ways to further support our families.

Approval of Construction Manager / General Contractor for Summer Projects – Janice Essenberg reported that the Construction Committee held a special meeting last Monday to review proposals for CM/GC services for its Small Projects program. The response to our request for proposals to coordinate and oversee planned summer projects was very strong and included proposals from five contractors. After a lengthy review and discussion of the five proposals, the Construction Committee recommends that the Board award the CM/GC contract to the top-ranked

firm, Fortis Construction. Mr. Centoni said that while he supports the committee's recommendation, he will abstain from voting on this recommendation due to a potential conflict of interest. Ms. Essenberg said that as each project is determined, it will be brought to the construction committee and to the board for discussion. All summer projects involve needed maintenance or repairs. Mr. Price made a motion to award the CM/GC contract to Fortis Construction, per the Construction Committee's recommendation, seconded by Ms. Mattson. The motion was approved 5-0, with Mr. Centoni abstaining.

Approval of Board Meeting Calendar for the 2009-10 School Year – Superintendent Rommel presented a draft of the board meeting schedule for the 2009-10 school year, through the summer of 2010, for the Board's consideration. Ms. Mattson made a motion to approve the 2009-10 board meeting calendar as presented, seconded by Mr. Price. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

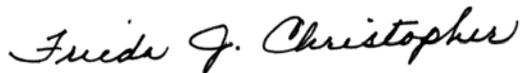
Consent Agenda – Mr. Centoni moved approval of the following consent agenda items, seconded by Mr. Gardner. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

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

Audience Participation – Chair Christopher opened the meeting for public comment. There were no remarks from the audience.

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – Chair Christopher requested that the Board select a date in June for the Superintendent's Evaluation. It was the Board's consensus to hold the evaluation on Tuesday, June 16 at 6:30pm.

Adjournment – There being no other business, Board Chair Christopher announced that the Board would reconvene in Executive Session immediately following the regular meeting, in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2)(d) Collective Bargaining. She then declared the regular meeting adjourned.



Frieda Christopher, Board Chair



Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk