

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
June 12, 2008**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, June 12, 2008, 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:

Frieda Christopher, Board Vice Chair	
Dawn Barberis	Donn Gardner
Bruce Burton	Mike Price
Mike Centoni	

Also present were Barbara Rommel, Superintendent/Clerk; Mike Stout, Assistant Superintendent; Gary Haase, Interim 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 – Donn Gardner attended the Fir Ridge graduation on May 30. He said the speeches are always an inspiring part of that ceremony. Mike Price also attended Fir Ridge graduation, as well as their GED ceremony, and the David Douglas High School graduation. He also attended the performance by Shu-Te High School students, which he said was a spectacular event. Dawn Barberis was also pleased to attend the graduation events. Mike Centoni commented on the important traditions that have developed around graduation that contribute to the evening's festivities. Frieda Christopher attended a number of retirement celebrations and graduations. She reported on continuing discussions of the East Portland Action Plan committee.

Superintendent's Report – Mike Stout reported that three David Douglas High School students were among the 26 winners of an essay contest sponsored by Macy's. Junior Laura Whedon won the overall competition and received a \$1,000 savings bond for herself and a \$5,000 check for the high school. Her winning essay will be published in *The Oregonian*. Barbara Kienle recapped some of the outstanding efforts of our MESD nurses, who work tirelessly to benefit our students. Visiting dental vans provided onsite dental care to 225 students. OHSU's dental program benefited another 122. 441 students received updated immunizations. Nurses have helped enroll 523 eligible students for free Kaiser insurance, and helped families enroll in the Oregon Health Plan. Superintendent Rommel announced that the David Douglas High School Marching Band took the first place award at the Rose Festival Starlight Parade. The Floyd Light Middle School band won first place honors at the Gateway parade and the St. Johns parade. Alice Ott's unicycle team won an award at the Jr. Rose Parade. Multnomah County Library has provided game boards to all schools for the summer reading program. On June 18, City Council will review proposed amendments to the PDC charter regarding River District expansion, to include a new school for David Douglas.

New administrators were welcomed and introduced. Kevin Taylor is the new Assistant Principal at David Douglas High School. Most recently an assistant principal at Cleveland High School, he earlier worked at David Douglas as a science teacher. James Johnston is the new principal at Alice Ott Middle School. He comes to us from Beaverton School District, where he was Assistant Principal at Mountain View Middle School. Rolando Florez, formerly Vice Principal at Floyd Light

Middle School, has been named Principal of Mill Park Elementary. Former PBS Coordinator Ericka Guynes is the new Principal of Earl Boyles Elementary, and Andy Long left his position as Gilbert Park's School Improvement Coordinator to become Principal of Menlo Park Elementary. Shelly Wilcoxon introduced building winners of the district spelling competition. Each received a certificate and pin in honor of their achievement. Top spellers from each division were Gilbert Park fifth grader Sarah Cook, Division I; Andrew Caranto, Floyd Light eighth grader, Division II; and high school senior Cassandra Turcotte, who was the Division III winner and placed third in the county competition.

Positive Behavior Support Data Update – Mike Stout introduced this report. PBS began two and one-half years ago, with the first half-year, the 'zero year' dedicated to planning. For the past two years the elementary and middle schools have been implementing the program. The high school had their planning year this year. Mr. Stout introduced PBS Coordinator Ericka Guynes to present an update and some data. The mission of PBS in David Douglas School District is to help schools develop, implement and maintain systems that maximize school safety and provide a climate conducive to learning. This mission is related to school improvement goals. She reviewed this year's goals to decrease the number of disciplinary incidents. The elementary goal was a reduction of 5%, and the middle schools by 3%. Progress was measured by tracking in-school and out of school suspensions and expulsions. 2007-08 high school data will establish their baseline.

Ms. Guynes recapped the PBS multi-year plan, reviewed components of the school-wide PBS system, and reviewed trainings and support for building teams and staff members. Teams from David Douglas High School, Menlo Park, and Alice Ott presented at the statewide conference. The District also hosted many high school teams from around the state for a High School PBS Forum. Clear and explicitly taught expectations are in place at all of our elementary and middle school buildings. This year they focused on targeted group interventions. Led by their PBS team, the high school staff has been building their school-wide system.

PBS is a data-driven program, emphasizing data-based evaluation which allows staff to make adjustments as needed. Schools are using the data they collect to reflect and make decisions. District-wide incident data were reviewed. Ms. Guynes was pleased to report that elementary and middle school goals were exceeded: disciplinary incidents at the elementary level are down 35.7%; and are down 6.9% at the middle schools. Pre-implementation data at Fir Ridge and the High School are being collected this year to serve as their baseline. A video clip from Gilbert Park was shown, in which Principal George Bryson noted how important PBS has been to improvement in the school climate and student learning. Gilbert Park won an award this year for academic improvement. The common language and expectations which have been established will follow students as they move from elementary to middle school, and then to the high school.

Professional Learning Teams Presentation – Sherrie Barger reviewed Professional Learning Team projects undertaken this year. Members of the high school staff worked with PSU in after school training. Two of our middle schools, along with Fir Ridge, used school improvement funds through MESD to send teams of teachers to trainings. Derek Edens described the professional learning teams approach. Teachers need time to work together to implement the strategy, gather data, reflect critically on their practice and learn from each other. Three key ideas include building a culture of collaboration, focus on learning, and focus on results, using data to inform instruction. All David Douglas schools have professional learning teams. He reviewed the PLT timeline and expectations. The process began with a training session lead by Mike Schmoker in August. Mr. Schmoker encouraged staff to think about how they are using data, and said the PLT model builds staff enthusiasm, develops staff leaders, and fosters high morale.

The fourth grade Professional Learning Team from Gilbert Park reported on their goal to improve scores on the fourth grade writing assessment. School Improvement Coordinator Andy Long introduced teachers Leah Starkovich, Scott Burton, Sarah Phillips, and Luan Nguyen. After identifying areas of weakness in writing samples, the team developed twelve focus lessons with a pre- and post assessment. Their coordinated efforts resulted in a 14% gain in scores on the writing assessment. The team described the process of developing the Gilbert Park K-5 Common Writing Vision.

At Fir Ridge, Karen Phong, Frank DiAna, and Brian Gonroff formed a Professional Learning Team. They elected to focus on improving students' reading and vocabulary skills, highlighting high frequency words in particular. They created assignments in a variety of subjects using the same high frequency words in a practical way. Team members said the overall PLT experience has been very positive in terms of collaboration and improved student performance.

Robbie Bouslaugh, Jennifer Clary, Amy Fennell, and Megan Schubel are members of the Gilbert Heights fifth grade Professional Learning Team. The team chose math literacy as their focus, with the goal of shifting their teaching for maximum student learning. Team members reviewed their SMART goal and steps taken to improve outcomes for students. They observed one another teaching the same lesson to see what techniques were most effective. Their students exceeded the team's SMART goal by 11-18%. The PLT attended an assessment training which they found very valuable. Future challenges include finding time to collaborate, and identifying how to best reach those students who don't "get it" as shown on the post-test. Next steps include how to focus on a bigger picture, and really target an objective to ensure that every student finds success.

Audience Participation / Break – Vice Chair Christopher opened the meeting for public comment.

Maria Arneso and Lorena Heaton, Arthur Academy parents, expressed concerns about Arthur Academy students losing TAG services. As their students are part of David Douglas School District and will be going on to district middle and high schools, they said their students should be able to take part in the program. Vice Chair Christopher encouraged the parents to discuss their concerns with Mr. Arthur. The district is willing to discuss amending the contract with Arthur Academy to provide TAG services.

Meredith McManus, Arthur Academy parent, asked whether the charter school should be expected to provide this service, and whether it is required to do so by the State. Superintendent Rommel said that Arthur Academy is obligated to provide TAG services just as they do math or reading. They do have latitude regarding how they choose to provide that service. She suggested that the parents meet with Mr. Arthur as a group to discuss having that program made available. The charter school is a separate entity from David Douglas School District, and is responsible for their students' entire educational package.

Mr. Burton noted that there are tradeoffs when a family selects a charter school. He reiterated that the District is willing to continue to discuss this topic with Arthur Academy.

Following a brief recess, Gary Haase opened a hearing on the David Douglas School District 2008-09 budget. At the conclusion of the hearing, the board meeting was reconvened.

Resolution Adopting Budget, Making Appropriations and Levying Taxes for Fiscal Year 2008-09 – Mr. Centoni made a motion to approve this resolution, seconded by Mr. Burton. Without further discussion, the 2008-09 budget was approved in a vote of 6-0.

Construction Update – Superintendent Rommel requested that this become an action item, as bids have been received on the high school's south gym for re-roofing, as well as bids for reroofing the entire Gilbert Heights building including related seismic upgrades. Mr. Haase recommended awarding the high school bid to Rehfeldt Construction, and the Gilbert Heights bid to Par-Tech Construction. Mr. Centoni so moved, seconded by Mr. Burton. The bids were awarded as recommended, in a vote of 6-0.

Terry Rommel reported that the public hearing appeal on the Deardorff property was held. City Council denied the appeal, with the condition of additional requirements for sidewalk improvement. The track and field project is making rapid progress. Curbs around the perimeter of the track are complete. Sod installation will begin on Monday on the baseball field. The base work for the football field will begin shortly. Trusses for the Floyd Light Middle School wing have arrived. Next week when the school is empty, demolition of ceilings will begin in order to install the new sprinkler system. A decision is pending from the City regarding the Ron Russell Middle School conditional use permit.

Paul Arzt presented photos of ongoing construction. Gary Haase reviewed the summer projects list. He suggested that the board consider separate heating units for the swimming pool at some point in the future.

Election of Board Leadership for 2008-09 – Vice Chair Christopher opened nominations for Board Chair for the 2008-09 school year. Mr. Centoni nominated Frieda Christopher; Mr. Gardner moved nominations be closed, seconded by Mr. Price. Ms. Christopher was elected in a unanimous vote. Nominations were opened for Vice Chair. Mr. Burton nominated Dawn Barberis; Mr. Gardner moved nominations be closed, seconded by Mr. Price. Ms. Barberis was elected in a unanimous vote.

Approval of Azbuka Charter School Contract – Sherrie Barger presented the final contract for the Azbuka Charter School. Agreement was reached today and all language has been approved by lawyers for the two parties. Per the contract, they must have a school site determined no later than July 1st. At the District's cost, there will be an annual evaluation by an outside party selected by the District. PSU has developed a comprehensive rubric for charter school evaluation. Mr. Burton made a motion to approve the Azbuka Charter School contract, seconded by Mr. Gardner. The motion carried in a vote of 6-0.

Consent Agenda – Mr. Gardner moved approval of the following Consent Agenda items, seconded by Mr. Burton. The motion carried in a vote of 6-0.

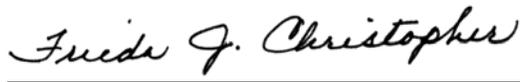
- **Resolution to Increase Grant Fund Appropriations for the Year 2007-08**
- **Resolution to Appoint Budget Officer for Fiscal Year 2008-09**
- **Resolution Appointing Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Designating Depositories for School Funds for Fiscal Year 2008-09**
- **Resolution to Temporarily Borrow from General Fund Reserves for Grant Purposes for Fiscal Year 2008-09**
- **Resolution for Facsimile Signatures for US Bank for Fiscal Year 2008-09**
- **Resolution to Participate in the Local Government Investment Pool with Amounts Up to the Limit Allowed by the Oregon State Treasury for Fiscal Year 2008-09**
- **Resolution Selecting Talbot, Korvola & Warwick, LLP as Independent Auditor for Fiscal Year 2008-09**
- **Resolution Setting Tuition for School Year 2008-09**
- **Resolution to Select a Property and Liability Insurance Carrier for the 2008-09 School Year**

Consent Agenda (cont.) –

- **Resolution to Select a Student Accident Insurance Carrier for K-12 Students for the 2008-09 School Year**
- **Resolution to Select a Workers' Compensation Insurance Carrier for the 2008-09 School Year**
- **Personnel Recommendations**
- **Approval of May Board Meeting Minutes**

Additional Staffing Request – Superintendent Rommel requested the addition of a .5 FTE elementary principal position at North Powellhurst to oversee the new kindergarten classrooms and begin planning for the Cedar Crossing Elementary School. The additional FTE will allow a full time principal at North Powellhurst. She further requested the addition of .5 FTE for instrumental music instruction at Floyd Light and Alice Ott Middle Schools due to increased participation in those buildings. Mr. Centoni moved approval of the staffing increases as presented, seconded by Mr. Burton. The motion was approved in a vote of 6-0.

Adjournment – There being no other business, Vice 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 and (2)(e) Property. She then declared the regular meeting adjourned.



Frieda Christopher, Board Vice Chair



Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk

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