

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
June 12, 2014**

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, June 12, 2014, 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:

Cheryl Scarcelli Ancheta, Board Chair	
Bryce Anderson	Christine Larsen
Frieda Christopher	Shannon Raybold
Donn Gardner	Kyle Riggs

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

The agenda included consideration of the following:

Call to Order / Flag Salute

Visiting Delegations

- Bond Oversight Committee / Construction Manager's Report – Mr. Ewald reported that board members toured the new pool complex. Mr. Rainone reported that the start for 2014 has been amazing. A portion of Gilbert Park's modular classrooms have already been demolished and contractors will pour concrete next week. West Powellhurst's modular unit has also been removed. The Fir Ridge staff has moved out and all work scheduled to start tomorrow will start on time. The team has completed the selection process for access control and security cameras and will present a recommendation for action tonight. Ms. Komar said she is still in the process of doing some reconciliation on 2013-14 projects. She presented a report on phase one expenditures to date. The report shows us currently about \$.5 million under budget, which was applied to the pool construction.
- Superintendent Grotting introduced Samantha Westmoreland, David Douglas High School's Rose Festival Princess. She described some of her experiences representing the David Douglas community. She said she will attend University of Oregon in the fall with a full scholarship, and thanked the Board for her outstanding experience in our schools.
- Zenger Farms Report – David Perry, Program Director, reported that Zenger Farms has just completed Year #2 of a model partnership with David Douglas School District. He described the facility and its goals, and said 8,000 students visited the farm on field trips. The Farm School began in 2008 and has expanded to include all DDS 5th graders. This year 870 students received ten hours of instruction at the farm and one hour of in-classroom instruction. Mr. Perry described the urban grange building which will be constructed to provide opportunities for expanded services.
- Mr. Grotting introduced Mill Park's new principal, Bob Stelle. Bob taught at Fir Ridge and worked as Gilbert Height's school improvement specialist before that position was eliminated due to budget cuts. Mr. Stelle said he is happy to be at Mill and excited to begin his work there.
- DDHS GSA (Gay/Straight Alliance) Presentation – Students Kennedy Bertelson and Cassie Thompson presented recommendations regarding teaching on the subject of gender/sexual orientation as it relates to state standards. Kennedy earlier met with Mr. Grotting to outline their concerns and recommendations, and they also met with Principal John Bier. They reported that they see a lack of basic knowledge about LGBT kids and differences between gender identity and sexual orientation. They said more knowledge would increase understanding. The school could also be more of a link to resources for LGBT youth. They thanked Health Teacher Jennifer Healey for her assistance in composing their recommendations.

Audience Input

- Mike Ewald, district patron – expressed his thanks to district leadership and members of the Flight Team for their support of the Reynolds community following the shooting there this week. He said he spoke with a mother whose son was in the gym when the incident took place. She said she observed the Flight Team and was very thankful for their efforts and their professionalism.
- Susie Albin, parent – requested that the district consider adding Levels 3 and 4 to the high school's World Languages curriculum. She said that our high school only offers two years currently, and that we should give our students every opportunity to be competitive. She did a quick survey of students in language classes who just finished Year 2. Students interested in Year 3 included 100 in Spanish, 35 in French, and 35 ASL students. World language teachers have been in contact with MHCC where students can receive college credit for taking foreign language in high school.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Grotting said this has been a great school year as well as one of the most challenging years for our staff, as so many new initiatives were rolled out. We did not experience layoffs but still have high class sizes, and folks are working as hard as they can. He said that last night's graduation was an outstanding event. 111 high school staff members were in attendance and on duty, and more than 500 students graduated. Students demonstrated impeccable behavior. Mr. Grotting expressed his appreciation to the many teachers who contributed to their success. He also thanked the board for allowing extra time for teachers to pack up classrooms in preparation for construction.

Financial Report – Ms. Komar announced that projected ADM was a little higher than where we're ending. She will report where we landed at the next board meeting.

Consent Agenda – Ms. Christopher moved approval of the following Consent Agenda items, seconded by Ms. Larson. The motion carried in a vote of 7-0.

- Approval of May Board Meeting Minutes
- Personnel Recommendations
- Resolution Setting Tuition for School Year 2014-15
- Resolution to Select a Student Accident Insurance Carrier for 2014-15
- Resolution to Select a Workers Compensation Insurance Carrier for 2014-15
- Resolution to Authorize the Superintendent to be the Authorized Representative to Apply for Federal Funds for the 2014-15 School Year
- Resolution Establishing Committed Fund Balance for 2013-14
- Resolution to Select a Property and Casualty Insurance Carrier for 2014-15
- Approval of CMGC for Security Access/Cameras

Recess – The chair declared a brief recess in order for Patt Komar to conduct a public hearing on the 2014-15 budget. Following the hearing, the regular meeting was reconvened.

Resolution Adopting Budget, Making Appropriations and Levying Taxes for Fiscal Year 2014-15 – Mr. Gardner so moved, seconded by Ms. Raybold. The resolution was adopted in a vote of 7-0.

Citizens Advisory Committee Reports – The CAC selected two study topics this year. Reporting this evening on behalf of the committee were Suzanne Hesse and Chelsea Karpa.

- **Recess** – CAC member Suzanne Hesse is the parent of a student who just completed kindergarten at Ventura Park. She presented a report advocating increased recess time for elementary students, saying we are doing a disservice to students to give them only 20 minutes or less of recess per day. She referred to research outlining the benefits of playground learning, noting

that most pediatricians recommend 60 minutes of hard physical activity per day. Her report recommends that on days students don't have a dedicated PE period, that they be provided two active play periods per day. She said breaks are necessary for both kids and adults, and lead to better behavior and better academic performance. Recess fosters social development and playground learning time is where kids get the bulk of that development. Many students move to engage their brains. Ms. Hesse concluded by requesting that the district adjust their thinking around playground time. Some concerns raised include loss of instructional time and recess duty coverage, but she said we should equally see the value of teaching critical thinking, which experiential learning time on the playground provides. A rotating recess duty schedule would allow new ways for teachers to interact with students. Superintendent Grotting said that the district has contracted with Playworks for services at three schools, Lincoln Park, Mill Park and Gilbert Park. We had hoped to serve all nine of our elementary buildings but Playworks did not have that capacity. They will provide structured play outside and go into classrooms as well. He noted that folks shouldn't assume that experiential learning is not taking place in the classroom, because it is. We are also one of few districts with full time Music and PE teachers. He said that students need to learn how to read before third grade, and that literacy is extremely important to him. He agreed that learning takes place on the playground, and said Playworks is a very exciting program, with data showing that when implemented with fidelity, test scores go up and behavior incidents decrease.

- CAC Bylaws – Chelsea Karpa reported that CAC bylaws haven't been revised since 1996. Much of the old language was exclusionary, limiting membership, input, and participation. In order to expand our focus and better include our community, she tried to leave as much of the language intact as possible, mostly attempting to revise language about how members are selected. With this year's merger with the Family Engagement committee, she wanted to welcome them as full members to expand participation as much as possible. Ms. Raybold said she applauded the passion and commitment of this year's CAC members, and very much appreciates their participation.
- Family Engagement – Barbara Kienle introduced Florence Protopapas, who has been leading this group. This is the first year of their partnership with CAC. Ms. Protopapas shared their five year plan, noting that when the superintendent was first hired, one of his goals was family engagement. The past four years we have been making a concerted effort to engage our families at the district level. The plan came out of those discussions, with guidance from ODE and Education NW. The district is currently completing Year #3 of the plan. The goal of this year's committee was to put on a family event, so next fall work will continue to expand the plan into Years 4 and 5. There were some changes this year when they merged with CAC. They lost membership at that point, partly because of a change in meeting times. They became a subgroup of CAC, and would share with CAC and get feedback. They also presented to principals at administrator meetings for feedback. This year their focus was on providing a Celebrating Families event, held on a Saturday morning. The event was offered free of charge. Four students from David Douglas preschool volunteered to provide day care. A volunteer teacher provided a zumba class. Parent workshops were offered including one that Mr. Riggs volunteered to teach, although the groups merged for discussion when a smaller number of folks attended than were expected. The Earl Boyles marimba band played during lunch, which was donated by Olive Garden, and the group at that point expanded to about 60 parents. Next year the event is scheduled for Saturday, October 25, with a fall harvest theme, and they plan to publicize the event more extensively. She will be meeting with Kim Melton from Stand for Children next week to discuss ways they might collaborate in this effort. She noted that committee participation went from about 20 down to five when they merged with CAC. Superintendent Grotting remarked that Ms. Protopapas put in a tremendous amount of work on the family event, which through her efforts was provided completely without cost to the district, and which was really worthwhile. Ms. Larsen said that an older Girl Scout service unit would also be available to provide

child care at one of these events. She is contact person. Ms. Kienle thanked Ms. Protopapas for all of the work she has put in, spearheading not only the family event but the group that meets in the evening as well. Chair Scarcelli Ancheta said this is a priority for the board leadership, and expressed her thanks for all of the good headway.

Inter-District Transfer Determination – Assistant Superintendent Richardson reported on changes put in place by the Legislature regarding inter-district transfers. He reviewed the old process and new requirements. The law requires that rather than making decisions on a case-by-case basis, districts must choose between accepting all applicants, denying all applicants or setting a quota for admissions. All of the law addresses students coming in, but OSBA recommends using the same criteria for outbound students. Mr. Richardson said that while we do want to make this opportunity available, he is suggesting a conservative approach this first year, recommending we approve 25 new student admissions, on a first come, first served basis, and release 25 new applicants out, drawn by lottery. He recommended restricting admissions to grades K-11, not allowing new seniors admission by inter-district transfer. Students released in 2013-14 are to be automatically released by their resident district for 2014-15, and each district determines the duration of inter-district admissions. Due to our high class sizes, Mr. Richardson recommended continuing our practice of approving admissions for a year at a time. School boards may reconsider their established quotas in the future if no applications are pending. We are developing language expressing required standards for continued attendance. Mr. Gardner moved approval of the recommendations as presented, seconded by Mr. Riggs. The motion carried in a vote of 7-0.

Budget Committee Appointment Position 4 – Mr. Anderson nominated Jordan Norris to another three-year term on the Budget Committee, seconded by Mr. Gardner. Mr. Norris was appointed in a vote of 7-0.

Summer Board Conference July 18-20 – Chair Scarcelli Ancheta encouraged board members to consider attending OSBA's Summer Board Conference. Ms. Raybold said she attended last year and found the presentations valuable.

Proposed City Transportation Tax – Superintendent Grotting said he was informed that some members of City Council were proposing a tax to improve roadways. In discussion with these folks, he said they talked about provisions for school districts and how it would impact David Douglas. The projected cost was between \$85,000-90,000 annually. They talked about some of the improvements they would be able to make for roads, sidewalks, and safe routes to school. He said he hasn't heard where discussions are lately. Ms. Christopher said she heard that they were talking about adjusting how they charge schools and businesses. She expressed concern about the amount to be spent in the district, and what return our patrons would receive for their investment. She said we should be getting a guarantee that dollars we contribute would be spent in our district. Mr. Gardner expressed concern that this added tax might burden taxpayers so they might not support future school bonds. He said he understands the issue has been tabled until November.

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – Ms. Komar presented two items item for the board's consideration.

- **Resolution for Bonds Proceeds Investment Policy** – Mr. Anderson made a motion to approve this annual housekeeping item, seconded by Ms. Larsen. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.
- **Contract Approvals for Early Childhood Special Education Services** – Ms. Komar presented these intergovernmental agreement items, and included information on some other contracts currently in place for the board's information. Superintendent Grotting reported that ODE renewed our early childhood contract. Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve the contracts as presented, seconded by Ms. Larsen. The motion carried in a vote of 7-0.

Board Member Reports – Mr. Riggs said he attended several year-end music performances, his favorite being the high school jazz concert. He said the district’s music program is fantastic, pays great dividends for students, and that he is so grateful we are able to provide these opportunities. Ms. Raybold enjoyed the graduation ceremony, and thanked Superintendent Grotting for reviewing the variety of awards given to students. As her student finished the year at Gilbert Park, she said students were watching the demolition and are so excited by the new construction. Ms. Raybold attended the CAC’s last meeting of the year, where they planned for tonight’s presentations. She said CAC is a small but very dedicated group. Ms. Christopher announced that the Educational Foundation awarded \$16,000 in spring grants to district staff. The Earl Boyles early childhood project is 90% funded. She shared photos of the mural project, which she said will be a great addition to that building. Related to her work with EPAP, she said the City is developing a 25-year comprehensive plan, and are looking at the possibility of downzoning to lower density out here. Her district activities this month included the District Office luncheon, graduation, the Shu-Te dinner, the EB health and wellness fair, and tours of the EB facility. Ms. Larsen attended musical performances, reviewed proposals for security access, attended the bond oversight meeting, and last night’s graduation. Mr. Anderson attended the first CAC meeting of the year and the last one, He said he looks forward to more active participation in the future. He also attended the GED celebration and last night’s graduation.

Mr. Richardson said that almost a year ago the board had the opportunity to be present when Superintendent Grotting was announced as Oregon’s Superintendent of the Year. He announced that on June 18 the entire Cabinet will attend the COSA Conference, where Mr. Grotting will be recognized by administrators from across the state. Chair Scarcelli Ancheta said she is aware that although school is over, the administration’s work continues. She said she is grateful personally to work with such a fine board, and thanked the superintendent and cabinet members for their efforts. She noted that 122 students graduated from Fir Ridge this year, saying that speaks to the outstanding work of Linda Vancil. Superintendent Grotting said he can absolutely rely on his Cabinet in his absence, that each one is capable of serving as a superintendent anywhere, and that he is especially grateful they choose to work here. He thanked the board for their support this year.

Adjournment – Board Chair Scarcelli Ancheta announced that there would be an executive session immediately following the regular meeting, in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2)(i) Superintendent’s Evaluation. There being no other business, Chair Scarcelli Ancheta declared the regular meeting adjourned.



Cheryl Scarcelli Ancheta, Board Chair



Don Grotting, Superintendent / Clerk