

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
July 11, 2013**

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, July 11, 2013, 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	
Frieda Christopher	Shannon Raybold
Donn Gardner	Kyle Riggs
Christine Larsen	

Also present were Don Grotting, Superintendent/Clerk; Patt Komar, Director of Administrative Services; and Gail Hunter, Board Secretary.

The agenda included consideration of the following:

Call to Order / Flag Salute

Swearing In of Newly Elected Board Members – Deputy Clerk Patt Komar administered the Board Member Oath of Office to Christine Larson, elected to Position 3, and to Shannon Raybold, elected to Position 6. They were each presented with a Certificate of Election.

Election of Board Leadership for 2013-14 – Chair Gardner opened nominations for board leadership. Ms. Christopher nominated Cheryl Scarcelli Ancheta as Chair for 2013-14, seconded by Ms. Raybold. There being no other nominations, Ms. Scarcelli Ancheta was elected Board Chair for 2013-14 in a vote of 6-0. She thanked her fellow board members for the honor. Nominations were opened for Vice Chair. Mr. Riggs nominated Frieda Christopher. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner. There being no other nominations, Ms. Christopher was unanimously elected Vice Chair for 2013-14.

Recognitions –

- Recognition of 2012-13 School Board Chair Donn Gardner – On behalf of the board and the district's students and staff, Superintendent Grotting expressed thanks and appreciation to Mr. Gardner for his leadership as board chair, saying he discharged his duties in the best interest of all. Chair Scarcelli Ancheta thanked Mr. Gardner for his mentorship during her year as Vice Chair.
- Oregon Principal of the Year presentations – Video from the June COSA conference was presented, which featured 2013 National Distinguished Principal Ericka Guynes, and 2013 Oregon Middle School Principal of the Year James Johnston. Chair Scarcelli Ancheta said it speaks volumes about the caliber of our administrators that we have two statewide winners as well as a high school runner-up in John Bier.
- Mr. Grotting presented Certificates of Election to Mr. Gardner, Chair Scarcelli Ancheta, and Mr. Riggs, congratulating them on their reelection to the board.

Visiting Delegations –

- Bond Oversight Committee / Construction Manager's Report – Mike Ewald reported that many construction projects are well underway. He said that a budget modification will be presented for the board's consideration this evening. Rick Rainone reported that the construction team has been working for the past ten months to reallocate funds within the construction budget to provide additional funding for the pool. They worked closely with the architect and contractor and determined that some aspects of the projects will cost more than estimated. These include onsite improvement of the parking lot and landscaping, and discovery of an oil tank on

the construction site which needs removal. They are bringing all applicable alternative energy funding sources together on the pool project, but costs are greater than estimated for the siding and the volume of glass in the design, which include windows and skylights, both of which would allow less use of lighting during the day. One bid package has been completed; to balance the program budget within the bond dollars we have, a recommendation will be brought to the board to increase the pool budget from \$6,600,000 to approximately \$7,815,000. These additional costs have been reviewed with the bond oversight committee and management team. The last bids are due July 24, so the specific budget adjustment needed will be determined then, and presented to the board for consideration in August. A groundbreaking ceremony for the pool project will be held tomorrow at 10am.

Audience Input – Elementary Principals Cherie-Anne May, Kate Barker, and Rebecca Chase – Ms. May thanked the board for expanding professional development days this fall, saying they will be really valuable. Ms. Barker thanked the board for considering reinstating elementary instructional coaches, saying they have a tremendous impact on the school culture as well as academic achievement. Ms. Chase said she has never had an improvement coordinator or instructional coach, but she said the staff could do so much more with that support.

Krista Dennis, district parent – said she saw a report in *Willamette Week* regarding our bullying policy which stated it needed updating to meet current Oregon statutes, and wondered if it is being revised. Superintendent Grotting said the policy currently in place was recommended by OSBA, but it may be time for another review. He said he did receive a call from a *Willamette Week* reporter.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Grotting announced that the deadline to submit letters of interest for the board vacancy is July 26. Letters may be directed to the attention of Gail Hunter in the Superintendent's Office. The district will also be seeking new budget committee members in the near future. The Early Intervention program is ours and is up and is running. Mr. Grotting said that Barbara Kienle has done an outstanding job bringing on 150 new employees, who work throughout Multnomah County, Hood River and The Dalles. The groundbreaking for the pool project will take place tomorrow. Superintendent Grotting announced that former Assistant Superintendent Natalie Osburn has been named Principal of Gladstone High School. OSBA's Summer Board Conference will be held in Bend next weekend. Ms. Raybold and Ms. Larsen will attend. This year's ASB President, Kylan Carlson, refurbished the sign at the entrance to the David Douglas Performing Arts Center as his Eagle Scout project. Summer School at the high school has been going very well. The superintendent acknowledged Assistant Principal Charlene Bassine for her efforts to not only support these students but to hold a special graduation ceremony for seniors.

Financial Report – Patt Komar presented a brief budget recap as we close the books on 2012-13. She expected the district's ending fund balance to be approximately \$10.5 million. A planned transfer from the Early Retirement fund was not necessary. There were fewer expenditures than expected, and less was spent on purchased services and supplies. The technology fund had an increased in e-rate receipts. Purchase of a hoist from the Transportation replacement fund didn't come in by June, so the supplemental budget will be adjusted for this fiscal year.

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

- Approval of June Board Meeting Minutes
- Personnel Recommendations
- Approval of Alternative Education Providers

Citizens Advisory Committee Reports – Dan McCue introduced tonight’s Citizens Advisory Committee reports, thanking members of this year’s committee. He said that while the group was smaller than in past years, participants are deeply invested in this district. He thanked Chelsea Karpa for her work as chair, and for helping to refine wide-ranging conversations into the two reports being presented tonight. Ms. Karpa said that by the end of the year, membership had declined, which made it difficult to meet the CAC’s goals. Going forward, it was recommended to possibly combine the CAC with family engagement efforts. Mr. McCue announced that Ms. Karpa would speak on food insecurity, and Krista Dennis on healthy water.

Food Insecurity Ms. Karpa said that one issue our entire, diverse community has in common is hunger, with 80% of our students qualifying for free/ reduced lunch. The subcommittee teamed up with Lincoln Park principal Becki Chase, who was working on food insecurity at her school. Their goal was to start a backpack program, with the long range goal of developing a full food pantry. They participate in gleaning at the Lents Farmers Market, delivering fresh produce to eleven Lincoln Park families who live in the Mountain View Apartments at 129 & Division. Families have been very grateful for this support. This has been a great way to build a foundation of trust and understanding between families and their school staff. They hope to create a self-sustaining resource, with the ultimate goal of vibrant parent groups across the district. Ms. Christopher asked whether their group will work with the incoming SUN program. Ms. Karpa said they will. Ms. Christopher suggested that in locating volunteers, they consider area churches, which want to be an asset to the community, as well as American Legion Post 1. Ms. Raybold remarked that a local church has stepped up to pick up produce from the Lents market. Ms. Chase and a Lincoln Park teacher are also doing pickups and dropoffs. Having staff members participating builds that trust and familiarity.

Health & Wellness: Water Fountains Krista Dennis presented two recommendations under this topic. She said the committee recommends adding water bottle filling stations around the district as current fountains need replacement. Some of our buildings already have these, and the cost for bottle fillers is lower than the cost of the current double fountains. They suggest that bottle fillers be installed in the Weight Room, and outside the new early learning wing at Earl Boyles near the infant/toddler room so parents can fill formula bottles.

The committee also recommends district-wide water fountain lead level testing. Ms. Dennis said that in reviewing tests undertaken in 2001, 76 fixtures were tested, of which 39 failed. They could not find replacement data except some hand written notes on the side of a report. They recommend that Mill Park be retested as some earlier tests had high readings, and that all fixtures installed district-wide before 1990 be tested, as well as 20% of newer fixtures. When testing was last done, Cherry Park wasn’t tested because new fixtures had just been installed. Ron Russell and Fir Ridge were built after 1990 so have never been tested. A one-minute draw would indicate any problems with the pipes rather than the fixtures. She recommended asking the City to assist with the process to help mitigate the cost, which averages \$18 per test. She said they recommend using Pyxis Labs. Her husband has volunteered to do the draws to help with the cost. Mr. Dennis reviewed chain of custody requirements and protocols. He recommended that the data set be more robust with future tests, and that results and responses be better documented.

Chair Scarcelli Ancheta thanked Ms. Dennis for bringing these recommendations to the board’s attention, saying they appreciate the CAC’s good work. She also thanked Ms. Karpa and other CAC volunteers for their work with Lincoln Park families.

Superintendent’s Goals for 2013-16 – Superintendent Grotting presented his goals for 2013-16, which he said are similar to when he first arrived, although his achievement goals are now aligned with achievement compacts. Under **Student Achievement**, he said that alignment of the district’s

curriculum is underway, which also involves looking at the standards and making sure that teaching is to those standards. Kelly Devlin submitted the district's goals for ELL program improvement to ODE, which have now been approved. The next step will be implementation. New ELL curriculum standards are coming in October, so adoption of curriculum will be on hold until those standards are announced. The district is providing a great deal of professional development, and we need to make sure it's effective and that strategies are being implemented. **Family and Community Engagement** is included in the newly designed evaluation system for principals. We are seeing parents involved and empowered at some buildings, but not district-wide. The goal of bringing on instructional coaches and school improvement specialists at the elementary level will allow principals to work more extensively with parents. Mr. Grotting said we are living in a different community now, and basic needs may be parents' first priority. We need to identify what supports we need to put in place. He said he wishes what's happening at Earl Boyles could be duplicated. They have a family coordinator on staff, while other buildings don't have this support. Parents are empowered there. He recently met with an organization which wants to fund a family engagement coordinator at one elementary school. The family hub model is a promising concept, with families coming to the school for other resources as well as education. Under **Organizational Efficiency and Sustainability**, the superintendent said that all employees are being evaluated. The new evaluation system for administrators and teachers is a complex process with many requirements. The Classified Evaluation also needs review. The district is looking at the way we do business and is increasing efficiencies. Contracts with our bargaining units have been sent to OSBA for review. Relationships with our bargaining units have improved.

Superintendent Grotting asked board members if there are any other goals or measurements they want added to his goals statement. Mr. Gardner said the three year goal fits well with the criteria the board intended. He remarked that one item the superintendent did not address tonight, but outlined in the Superintendent's contract, is an annual report on progress toward goals. Mr. Riggs made a motion to approve the superintendent's 2013-16 goals as presented, seconded by Ms. Larsen. The motion carried in a vote of 6-0.

Annual Board PECBA Training – Superintendent Grotting reported that per the District's agreement with DDEA, the board receives annual training on the Oregon Public Employees Collective Bargaining Act. He announced that training for 2013-14 has been conducted.

Review of Revised Health Center Survey – Ms. Kienle reported that a first draft of a parent survey regarding services at the high school campus's County Health Clinic was presented in May. The County had requested the board's reconsideration of the contract requirements that they not fill prescriptions on site. The board's consensus was to determine our parents' preferences before responding to the County's request. Jill Daniels, Multnomah County's Director of School-Based Health Centers, developed the initial survey, and based on board member feedback has provided two revised drafts for the board's consideration.

A question had been asked about the legal age of service without a parent's consent. Two versions of a paragraph to deliver that message were included for the board's consideration. Following discussion and minor revision, it was the board's consensus to use Draft #2, which refers to Oregon law, and to conduct the telephone survey in October. Ms. Kienle said she would bring back specifics and the date of the survey for the board's formal approval. It was suggested that a phone number be added in case parents have questions. Superintendent Grotting said that many folks in our community aren't aware that we have a health center. Surveys will be translated into major languages.

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – Mr. Gardner reported that the board is required to take action to name the new swimming pool building. He made a motion to name the pool complex the David Douglas Aquatic Center. Mr. Riggs seconded the motion, which passed in a vote of 6-0.

Mr. Gardner said that in past years, district employees have gathered in the football stadium for a back to school kickoff. Due to multiple training demands and requests by several principals to forgo the event this year, he made a motion to bypass the all staff back to school gathering in August for 2013. Ms. Raybold seconded the motion. Mr. Riggs said he heard from many staff members who favored deferring the gathering this fall. Chair Scarcelli Ancheta said she favors continuing to have this celebration, saying there should be a way to have a balance and maintain this tradition. Ms. Raybold said that from a teacher's perspective, she would rather have been in classroom working. Ms. Christopher said this event has a long history here, and is among the traditions that have defined David Douglas. She favored continuing the event. The motion to forgo the all staff gathering for Fall 2013 passed in a vote of 4-2 (in favor: Gardner, Larsen, Raybold, Riggs; opposed: Christopher, Scarcelli Ancheta).

Board Member Reports – Ms. Raybold said she is grateful to be here as a board member, and thankful for the group working with Lincoln Park families on food support. Ms. Larsen said she is also glad to take her seat on the board. Ms. Christopher announced that the Education Foundation has launched its website, ddeforkids.org. The website has a donation page which includes the Early Childhood Center campaign. Fundraising efforts are going well. The Community Campaign has released an RFQ for artists, and has set up a July 29 site visit. EPAP will hold two meetings in August. URACs for Lents and Gateway have been disbanded by Portland Development Commission, leaving a number of unhappy folks. EPAP's economic development subcommittee will discuss next steps in light of that action by PDC, and how to band together to advocate for continued action. On August 12 at 6pm, EPAP's housing subcommittee will hear a report on the housing bureau's new strategic direction. The Bureau is seeking public opinion on the plan. Chair Scarcelli Ancheta thanked the administration for their hard work, encouraging folks to take some time this summer to recharge.

Adjournment – There being no other business, Chair Scarcelli Ancheta declared the meeting adjourned.



Cheryl Scarcelli Ancheta, Board Chair



Don Grotting, Superintendent / Clerk