

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
September 4, 2008**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, September 4, 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 Chair	
Dawn Barberis	Donn Gardner
Bruce Burton	Annette Mattson
Mike Centoni	Mike Price

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 – Along with other members of the OSBA board from Multnomah County, Annette Mattson attended a brainstorming session to discuss the Green Schools Caucus with Katie Drenner, who works on education issues for Rep. Earl Blumenauer. The event was held at Rosa Parks School, where the group took a tour and heard about the creative financing that facilitated the construction, and the energy efficient design. She noted that the Department of Energy has high performance schools grants available for the planning phase of new school development. Ms. Mattson attended open houses at Earl Boyles, West Powellhurst and at Alice Ott, where she was very impressed by the work students have completed in the courtyards. She was also pleased to attend the all-staff meeting, where she heard a lot of positive feedback. Donn Gardner attended the new teacher luncheon and all staff meeting, as well as the ‘white glove’ tour. He said he was very impressed as always by the pride the custodians take in their buildings. He said North Powellhurst looks particularly nice for the new kindergarten classes. He was also pleased to see the new saws in the high school shop which are equipped with the latest safety features. The courtyards at Lincoln Park and Mill Park have been made accessible to students. He said there will always be some issues with our aging buildings that can’t be avoided as time goes on, which may need to be addressed by the next bond. He noted that a fence adjacent to the swimming pool parking area needs attention. Bruce Burton attended back to school events at Menlo Park and North Powellhurst, as well as the new teacher luncheon and all-staff meeting. He was very impressed with the enthusiasm of students, parents and staff. Mike Centoni visited North Powellhurst and was pleased with preparations there. He’s also been pleased to see some positive light shown on East County by *The Oregonian* lately. Mr. Centoni said he is very excited to start the school year. He expressed hope that the issue with the pool parking area fence will be promptly addressed. Dawn Barberis participated in the ‘white glove’ tour, saying the buildings look great and the custodians are so proud to show them their work. Board Chair Christopher remarked that the back to school meeting for all staff was very enjoyable. She also enjoyed welcoming our new teachers at their luncheon, and attended the North Powellhurst open house.

Student Body President’s Report – Stephanie Lutz was unavailable.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Rommel thanked Dan McCue for facilitating the performance by *Wavelength* at the all-staff meeting. She also thanked the high school custodial staff and administration for their help with use of their building. She said Brooke O'Neill and the curriculum team did a great job organizing the continental breakfast. The superintendent's office has received a number of positive comments about the event from the staff. The superintendent remarked on a report she received about students who took the ACT test last year. 65 students took the exam, up from 33 in 2004. All 65 outperformed the state average in every category.

Preliminary Enrollment Report – Mike Stout reported that enrollment as of today stands at 10,060, 127 more than the third day of school a year ago. Only four elementary classrooms in Grades 1-5 have 30 or more students. Last year at this time, there were twenty. Elementary class sizes are averaging 25-26. Another kindergarten section is being added at Gilbert Park in response to a large number of kindergarten registrations. 21 kindergarten students are being transported from Lincoln Park to Menlo Park. Another hot spot is Grade Six at Ron Russell Middle School. All nine classrooms have more than 30 students each. The new wing of classrooms there won't be ready until January. Both Alice Ott and Floyd Light also have large sixth grade classes, so transferring students to either school from Ron Russell is not a viable solution. Mr. Stout will present a formal report on enrollment at the first meeting in October.

First Week of School – Candy Wallace reported that she and Natalie Osburn visited all of the schools this week. Building administrators reported a very smooth start to the year. A slide show of first week highlights and activities around the district was presented.

CM/GC Selection for Stadium Support Buildings – Janice Essenberg thanked board members serving on the construction committee for their time and effort. The committee carefully reviewed six proposals for Phase II of the high school track and field project and recommend Fortis Construction as CM/GC for the high school stadium support buildings. Mr. Burton made a motion to select Fortis Construction as per the construction committee's recommendation, seconded by Ms. Mattson. The motion carried in a vote of 6-0, with Mr. Centoni abstaining due to a potential conflict of interest.

Collective Bargaining Update – Susan Summers reported that the bargaining teams most recently met on September 2. Three articles which had verbal tentative agreements were revised at the Association's request. The District has agreed to a number of the Association's requests for language changes to address areas of concern, including establishing a sick leave bank, offering more flexibility with tuition reimbursement, and making changes in student discipline procedures. The District presented a hypothetical package proposal, in which language would be restored regarding two mandatory meetings per week, making midterm reports required only for students with a grade lower than a C, and restoration of the statewide inservice day. Proposed compensation included a 4% increase in salary, and an insurance cap of \$1050 per month for a 193 day contract. The proposal was met by a cool response. Negotiations will now be going into mediation. The District offered to meet on the first date available for the mediator, September 8, but the Association selected September 22, 4pm for the first session. There is the possibility that OEA employees may be going out on strike. It is uncertain at this point how that would impact the mediation schedule.

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

- **Election of OSBA Board of Directors**
- **Personnel Recommendations**
- **Approval of August Board Meeting Minutes**

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

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – Ms. Mattson said she will miss the stadium dedication on September 12. Details of that event will be forwarded to board members.

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 J. Christopher

Frieda Christopher, Board Chair

Barbara Rommel

Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk

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