

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
September 12, 2013**

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, September 12, 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	
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

Student Body President's Report / Recognitions – ASB President Kylan Carlson reported that high school students had a great start to the school year. Tomorrow will be a “Red Out” spirit day in anticipation of the home football game against Oregon City. Back to School Night will be held tomorrow before the game. The SWAG Club (Students War Against Graffiti) will be working with the Police Department and area residents to paint over graffiti. Superintendent Grotting announced that Kylan will be receiving his Eagle Scout badge on Saturday. The new sign at the entrance to the PAC was his Eagle project.

Visiting Delegations / Audience Input –

- **Bond Oversight Committee / Construction Manager's Report** – Mike Ewald reported that committee members took a tour of bond construction sites on August 23, and said the work looked really good. Rick Rainone said five projects were successfully completed this year. He said the district displayed a lot of courage in choosing to polish concrete floors at many buildings, and said that decision will save money in maintenance over the long run. Exterior improvements to the South Powellhurst facade have generated positive feedback from the neighborhood. In addition, a brand new warehouse was built in back, as well as a bus wash station. School buildings which were remodeled received a fresh coat of interior paint. Nine projects are scheduled for next year.
- **Audience** – Mr. Greg Burrill, PPS resident and substitute teacher, said this is his third time speaking to the board as an education stakeholder. He reported that he worked as a long-term sub at the high school last year, and hopes to write a book about what education can be. As part of that project he hopes to interview a cross-section of stakeholders. He said he will be sending the district a formal request for permission to interview students he taught last year, with their parent's consent.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Grotting thanked the board for approving an extra week of staff inservice prior to the start of the school year, saying that time was invaluable to complete necessary training. He attended seven open houses on September 5, and it was great to see students and parents. He said principals did a wonderful job welcoming everyone back. Additional open houses will be held through September. The district is collaborating with Gresham-Barlow and Centennial School Districts to create intervention services for middle school students. The tentative title of the program is Step Up Academy. Mr. Grotting shared board policy on advertising and sponsorship which he discussed with the high school's new Athletic Director. He said there are also some OSAA rules regarding posting of advertising at athletic venues. He suggested this might be a topic to discuss further in the future.

The superintendent announced that Dan McCue has invited representatives of all of the faith-based organizations within our boundaries to a luncheon on October 16 to discuss how we can strengthen communication and engagement with our families. Board members are welcome to attend. Along with several board members and the board secretary, Mr. Grotting attended the memorial service for former Superintendent Howard Horner on September 7, where he said he was pleased to meet Dr. Horner's family. The new PAC seating was installed just in time for this event.

The superintendent said that the Tech team has done some outstanding upfront work preparing for the launch of Synergy. John May reported that it is a big, complex, intricate system, and given the scope of the project, went pretty well. The team's goal was to have teachers ready to take attendance on Monday, and that task proceeded smoothly. He said the program provides opportunities to implement features that will benefit students and parents as well. Derek Edens expressed appreciation to Mr. May for prepping for that transition.

Director of Curriculum Brooke O'Neill reported that staff spent eight days training as they prepared for new curriculum accessed by iPad; the shift to Synergy; the new report cards and the new teacher evaluation process. Content has been loaded on classroom sets of iPads, and our instructional assistants have been trained as well. Training also included reading interventions, ESL training, and PBIS. Superintendent Grotting said the district will again request proposals for facilities planning services, in order to gather expert opinions regarding our future facility capacity and enrollment projections.

Financial Report – Patt Komar presented a brief update. Following the conclusion of their work, the auditors conducted an exit conference with the business office and made some minor, standard recommendations. The district is on target to submit the initial financial report to the auditor by October 2, they will complete their review by November 27, and the auditor will report to the board on December 12. Mr. Grotting said it has been a very busy and challenging year for the business office, and that Patt's staff has done a great job. Ms. Komar reported that four of five vacancies in the business office have been filled.

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

- Approval of August Board Meeting Minutes
- Personnel Recommendations
- Approval of New Construction Excise Tax Rates
- Approval of Current Bid Amounts for Pool
- Updated Server and Data Center Infrastructure
- Approval of Achievement Compact

Appointment of Board Position 4: Unexpired Term – Chair Scarcelli Ancheta announced that four candidates applied for the school board vacancy. Applicants are Bryce Anderson, Krista Dennis, Christopher Piekarski, and Dolores Wood. She said it is an honor to know that there were four people who care passionately about David Douglas and are willing to commit their time and effort to service on the board.

Mr. Gardner made a motion that candidates receiving the least number of votes in each round not move forward to the next round, that voting continue until one candidate receives four votes, and if tied for three consecutive ballots, that a coin toss be used to break a tie. The motion was seconded by Ms. Christopher, and passed in a vote of 6-0. The Chair requested nominations. Mr. Gardner nominated Bryce Anderson. Ms. Raybold nominated Christopher Piekarski. There were no further nominations.

Voting proceeded as follows:

Board Member	Ballot #1	Ballot #2
Christopher	Christopher Piekarski	Bryce Anderson
Larsen	Christopher Piekarski	Christopher Piekarski
Gardner	Bryce Anderson	Bryce Anderson
Raybold	Christopher Piekarski	Christopher Piekarski
Riggs	Bryce Anderson	Bryce Anderson
Scarcelli Ancheta	Bryce Anderson	Bryce Anderson

Having received four votes, Bryce Anderson was appointed on the second ballot.

The chair welcomed Mr. Anderson to the board. Ms. Christopher said that the selection process is always difficult. She noted that there will be vacant positions on the budget committee, and that the Educational Foundation is seeking board members as well. She expressed hope that the other candidates will look for other ways to be involved in David Douglas. Ms. Raybold said this was a difficult decision and each of the candidates brought useful skills and backgrounds to the table. Mr. Riggs said the district was blessed that this many people in this community wanted to serve in this way. Chair Scarcelli Ancheta invited all of those who were not selected to become involved in other ways, and said board members would welcome the opportunity to mentor any of them who choose to run for a board position in the future.

Swearing in of Newly Appointed Board Member – Patt Komar, Deputy Clerk, administered the board member Oath of Office. Mr. Anderson took his place at the table.

Recess – The board chair declared a brief recess in order for Patt Komar to conduct a public hearing on the presentation of findings regarding proposed use of a CMGC process for selected 2014 construction projects. Following the hearing, the board chair reconvened the board meeting.

Approval of Findings and CMGC Process for Construction – Mr. Gardner moved approval as presented. Ms. Larsen seconded the motion, which passed in a vote of 7-0.

Preliminary Enrollment and Staffing Report – Ken Richardson presented a preliminary look at staffing and enrollment. He said we have had a strong start with a great team of employees and students. At this time, 713 teachers represent 675.55 FTE. Five positions remain open: a counselor, three speech/language pathologists, and one physical therapist. The counseling position is at the high school and is temporarily being filled by a retiree. We brought in 116 new positions when the district acquired the early childhood program. He expressed his appreciation to the HR Department for outstanding work getting those folks on board. There were 41 other positions which were opened due to retirements and resignations. Principals did great job during the hiring process.

Today's enrollment stands at 10,657, up 145 students from this point last fall. Elementary numbers are up by 128, middle schools are down 13, and the high school is basically flat with an increase of 30 students. Several elementary classrooms are at 30 or above, with some fifth grade classes at 35. We're doing what we can to distribute the overflow to buildings where classes are smaller. At the kindergarten level, eight classrooms have exceeded their enrollment targets, so classified assistant hours will be provided to support those large classrooms. At the elementary level, every classroom is in use except one. Mr. Richardson recommended that at some point the board should review our process/rationale for inter-district transfers and open enrollment.

Lease Agreement for Office Space – Ms. Komar reported that during the summer the district searched for office space for the early childhood staff. With little commercial property located within district boundaries, space was finally located in Parkrose School District. Mr. Gardner moved

approval of a lease agreement for office space at 5208 NE 122nd Avenue, seconded by Ms. Raybold. The motion was approved in a vote of 7-0.

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – Chair Scarcelli Ancheta announced that a future board workshop will be planned to inform new board members about the district budget, construction projects, and other topics as requested. Following discussion, the consensus was to hold Thursday, November 21 for an evening workshop. Suggestions for topics may be sent to Gail Hunter.

Board Member Reports – Mr. Riggs attended school open houses, which he said provided a great opportunity to meet parents and students, and to catch up with teachers between visitors. He said they talked about the district's new initiatives and he received really good feedback. He sat in on classified training on reading intervention, where he said the trainer received good comments and he learned a lot. He said presenter Cyndi Hagey's presentation was fluid, clear, concise, and well-organized. He met with Ventura Park Principal Jakob Curtis and attended their staff potluck, and took a tour of Menlo Park construction with Principal Elise Guest. He also went on the White Glove tour and attended Apple Award and 25-year bell presentations. He has continued conversations with Brooke O'Neill regarding "My Future, My Choice" curriculum and more information will be forthcoming. He said the effort and process used to select the student achievement specialists was fantastic, resulting in having the best people in those positions. Ms. Raybold also attended the White Glove and construction tours, and said everything looks great. She said she was particularly impressed with the care taken by our custodians to have buildings ready for students. She also attended opening-day training with teachers on the new report card process, and Gilbert Park's open house. Ms. Christopher said that family calendars have been distributed to buildings courtesy of the Educational Foundation and Special Projects. The Earl Boyles community campaign selected artist Hector Hernandez to work on the fund raising mural project. They will seek grant funding to pay for the artist's time. Krista Dennis will be the point person for the Foundation in this effort. Information will be posted on foundation website. Oregon Solutions will be meeting with possible stakeholders regarding the Gateway Education Center. If they think it's a viable project they'll attempt to bring stakeholders and funders together. Private groups are raising all of the funding to develop Gateway Green, the bike and pedestrian park between two freeways. Using Crowdfunding, \$43,000 has been raised toward their \$100,000 goal. Ms. Larsen reported that her children are off to school this week at Floyd Light Middle School and David Douglas High School. She plans to attend those two open houses along with Menlo Park's. Chair Scarcelli Ancheta said she attended the White Glove tour, and said the district has had another exceptional start to the year. She thanked Linda Sill, Dan McCue and Nancy Smith for the excellent work on text and photos to accompany the family calendar, and to Beverly Fischer and the Education Foundation for financing the project. She said she attended Dr. Horner's memorial service in the Performing Arts Center which bears his name, remarking that he was an exceptional leader at David Douglas. His interest in music was reflected in the service as his grandchildren performed in his honor. She noted that his son talked about the family environment here, and she said that goes all the way back to the beginning, of which Dr. Horner was a part.

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



Cheryl Scarcelli Ancheta, Board Chair



Don Grotting, Superintendent / Clerk