

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
October 5, 2006**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, October 5, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the David Douglas School District Administration Building, located at 1500 SE 130, Portland, Oregon 97233.

School Board Members present were:

	Donn Gardner, Board Chair	
Mike Centoni		Carl Clinton
Frieda Christopher		Annette Mattson

Also present were Barbara Rommel, Superintendent/Clerk; Mike Stout, Assistant Superintendent; 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 – Frieda Christopher reported that the due date for Foundation grants is October 15. The next round of applications will be collected from April to July, with awards made in time for the start of next school year. Planning is underway for the annual dinner/auction. This year's theme is "South of the Border". Ms. Christopher participated in Citizens for Schools phone banking in support of the district bond. Annette Mattson has been attending the planning meetings of the Citizens for Schools group, and also volunteered on the phone bank Monday evening, along with Board Chair Gardner and Dawn Barberis. Last night she testified at an Oregon Senate Commission hearing on educational excellence, as an extension of her work with the Clackamas County Economic Development Commission. Topics included Head Start and all day kindergarten. She also shared a report from Eric Nelson and Tom Erickson of Citizens for Schools. The campaign fund balance is approximately \$14,000. The three largest donations were received from Skanska, OSEA, and PGE. Phone banks are making progress; they will continue on October 9 and 10 at Georgetown Realty from 5:30 – 8:30pm. The group plans to send a mailing and are discussing whether to order lawn signs. Eric Nelson participated in an interview by Willamette Week as part of the paper's coverage of the upcoming election. In reviewing his experience as a telephone volunteer, Board Chair Gardner said a number of voters needed more information about the proposed bond.

Student Body President's Report – Ellyn Ward reported that attendance was disappointing at PTSA's first bingo night. Student Council will help get the word out for the next session on October 20. The Sadie Hawkins dance will be held Friday night following the football game against Barlow. Nominees for the Homecoming court have been announced, and special theme days have been planned for the week leading up to the football game and dance. OSAA sponsors a Scholar Athlete program, where team GPA averages must be 3.0 or higher. Fall teams qualifying for the honor include boys and girls cross country, varsity volleyball, and girls soccer. Student Council's community service project for October is called "Head to Toe", a donation drive for Celtic Heart. Hats, gloves, scarves and socks may be brought to the high school's main foyer.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Rommel reported that MIS Services Manager Keith Seher has had communication recently with Apple Computer regarding technical issues. Resolution of the situation resulted in the donation of \$55,000 worth of computers to the district, where they will be put to good use. Sherrie Barger announced that fifty volunteers from Comcast will be here covering library books on Saturday as part of their special community service day. In addition that day, the district will host an all-day instructional strategies class for our paraprofessionals in order for them to become highly qualified under federal law. Three additional sessions in the series will be held on evenings this fall from 4-7pm. Mike Stout said he has been involved in a work group facilitated by City Commissioner Erik Sten's office on the topics of schools, families, and community. On Tuesday he was invited to testify to City Council. Lincoln Park Principal Linda Okazaki also attended and testified on the impact of high density housing on her school. Two components of the city's initiative which may have positive outcomes for the district are the small grants program and the school and facilities improvement program. Mr. Stout requested suggestions of study topics for the CAC to consider this year. Their first meeting will be Tuesday, October 10. Suggestions can be given to Mr. Stout, Mr. Burton or Mr. Clinton. Superintendent Rommel noted that Vice Chair Annette Mattson will serve on Metro's housing choice advisory committee.

Presentation on Mt. Hood Community College Bond – Board Chair Gardner introduced Mt. Hood Community College Board Member Beverly Russell, former David Douglas Superintendent Tony Palermi, and Special Assistant to the College President, Brenda Brady, to present information on the bond measure being presented to voters in November. Dr. Palermi is chairing the MHCC bond campaign, and thanked the board for the opportunity to speak on this subject, noting that maintenance of campus facilities has been deferred so long that it is affecting the instructional program. MHCC has not passed a bond measure since 1974. The proposed bond would cost taxpayers only 17 cents per thousand of assessed value, due to the large tax base. Ms. Brady presented background on the college, which opened in 1965 with 650 students and now serves 9300. More than 800,000 students have been served since 1965. She reviewed a list of facility improvements which would be made possible with passage of the bond, which included roofing, wiring, earthquake readiness, paving, safety and visibility improvements for the parking areas, and energy efficiencies. Bond funds would also be used to replace the early childhood education center, which has been housed for 30 years in a temporary building which no longer meets code requirements, and would permit refinancing of college debt. Beverly Russell said the MHCC board is excited about the possibilities this bond would provide. She asked board members to share information with others about the bond measure and the college's facilities needs. She thanked board members for the warm welcome she received.

Enrollment Report – Mr. Stout presented information on September 30 enrollment figures. Enrollment from September 30 a year ago is up 56 students, for a total of 9878. This represents an increase of .6%. Mr. Stout presented data on sizes of individual classrooms and course sections, and reviewed average class loads per teacher at the elementary level, noting that the number of classes with more than 30 students has been cut in half this year as a result of adding teachers through the budget process to address growth.

Numbers at Ron Russell and Floyd Light Middle Schools are slightly down, although middle school enrollment is up 36% from ten years ago. Mr. Stout reviewed core class averages at the middle schools, and compared section averages by department at the high school between last year and this year. He remarked that it will be interesting to track the enrollment numbers as various housing projects open this year around the district.

Staffing Report – Susan Summers reported that hiring continues. Current staff totals 1174 individuals, for a total of 1044.66 FTE. Employee numbers have increased approximately 9% from 2004. The teacher experience graph is heavily weighted to the low experience side, with 41% of the teaching staff having five or fewer years of experience. Average experience is 9.35 years. Ms. Summers recapped additional certified FTE for 2006-07 (31.05 T). 93 new teachers have been hired as of today, of which 31 are new positions. 68 of those new staff members have a Masters degree or higher. In reviewing retention rates for the period of 2002-2006, she noted that 73% of those teachers hired during that period are still teaching in David Douglas. 134 of the district's employees graduated from DDHS.

Superintendent's Evaluation Update – Board Chair Gardner presented the superintendent's approved goals for 2006-07 for discussion in order to clarify expectations for each area and to make sure all board members have the same interpretation. It was confirmed that the goal regarding increasing competitive grants related to the number applied for and obtained, rather than the dollar value. It was recommended that energy savings be reflected by kilowatt hours and BTU's rather than cost savings. Information will be presented in October regarding the high school's visioning efforts.

Consent Agenda – Mr. Centoni made a motion to approve the following consent agenda items, seconded by Ms. Mattson. The motion carried in a vote of 5-0.

- **Personnel Recommendations**
- **Approval of September Board Meeting Minutes**

Audience Participation – Board Chair Gardner opened the meeting for public comment.

Bob Gray, DDEA President, announced that his remarks in the first DDEA newsletter were dedicated to the district bond. Car signs regarding the bond have been made available, as will lapel buttons. Although Citizens for Schools calling came on the heels of OEA phone banking, approximately 30 current and former teachers participated in the Citizens for Schools phone bank.

John May, Citizens for Schools – presented a brief update on results from the first two nights of calling, saying that 2,651 calls were made to voters who voted in three of the past five elections. The committee hopes to reach 5,500 voters. Calling will continue next Monday and Tuesday. The committee will follow up with a mailing.

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – Board Chair Gardner requested an update on the Positive Behavior program. That topic will be scheduled for a board meeting in November.

Adjournment – There being no other business, Board Chair Gardner declared the meeting adjourned.



Donn Gardner, Board Chair



Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk