

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
October 16, 2008**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, October 16, 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	Mike Price
Mike Centoni	

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 – Board Chair Christopher attended the East Portland Action Team meeting last week. November’s meeting will focus on selection of projects which could be funded with a \$500,000 allocation from the City. She said Barry Manning confirmed that the Portland Planning Bureau will be reviewing concentrations of low income housing across the city.

Student Body President’s Report – Tyler Short, ASB Recording Secretary, reported on behalf of the high school student body. He said Homecoming Week last week was a huge success, with great participation during the week’s theme days as well as the dance. Leadership students interviewed seniors who participated in a fall sport, asking them which teacher has been of most influence to them. They sent letters to those teachers noting their positive impact on students and asking them to watch their student’s final game of the season. The Sadie Hawkins dance will be held next Friday.

Superintendent’s Report – Natalie Osburn reported that a senior student at David Douglas High School has been awarded a “Beat the Odds” scholarship of \$10,000 from Stand for Children. She will receive \$2,500 over four years at the college of her choice. This outstanding scholar has a 4.0 GPA, is a three sport athlete, and took advanced placement courses all four years. Candy Wallace announced that ODE has invited three of our schools, Gilbert Park, Lincoln Park, and West Powellhurst, to apply for the “Celebrating Student Success” award based on improved student achievement compared with like schools across the state. As a past winner, Gilbert Park is being invited to apply for a “Continuing Success” award. Dan McCue reported that David Douglas junior Gustavo Mazon-Mayan was invited to discuss his experiences as an ESL student on OPB Radio’s “Think Out Loud” program. He did a very nice job and represented the high school well. Superintendent Rommel announced that *Big Lots* presented \$2,500 to Floyd Light Middle School to celebrate the store’s grand opening in the neighborhood. All sophomores took the PSAT yesterday as required by new legislation.

Personnel Recommendations – Mr. Centoni moved approval of the personnel recommendations as presented, seconded by Mr. Burton. The motion carried in a vote of 6-0.

Board Workshop: Site Panel Findings on Facilities – Superintendent Rommel said that over the last two days, an energetic, hard-working panel of professionals has been working to help identify some of the facilities issues in David Douglas School District in preparation for community task force meetings which will begin next week. She introduced Ruth Scott, President of Innovative Partnership.

Ms. Scott thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with the District, commenting on the terrific staff and the great input they received from community members they interviewed. Under the auspices of Innovative Partnership, the Center for Innovative School Facilities is a non-profit that takes on issues of interest to school districts, providing general information, training and workshops, as well as doing research and answering questions. Their site panel provides direct technical assistance, bringing together volunteer specialists to address the specific needs of the entity being served.

Ms. Scott and Jeff Renfro, Project Manager of Innovative Partnership, served as site panel managers. Site panel team members, all of whom volunteered their time, included Bruce Murray, Chicago Public Schools, Executive VP Bank of America (retired); Skip Rotticci, CEO, Costa Pacific Communities; Justin Douglas, Gateway Regional Center Urban Renewal Manager, Portland Development Commission; Brad Malsin, President, Beam Development; Barry Manning, East District Planner, City of Portland Bureau of Planning; and Brent Perry, Project Executive, Bremik Construction.

The panel saw their charge as helping to identify current and future challenges, finding practical ways to cope with growth and pressure on facilities, and looking at creative approaches and opportunities for new partnerships, noting that schools need to emerge as centers of the community. They recommended changes in the way schools visualize themselves, saying new strategies are necessary which focus on how to meet needs of their broader community and provide a support network.

The panel worked under the assumptions that growth will continue in East Portland and will drive the need for new facilities; that funding uncertainties will continue to exist; that long range facilities planning is essential, and that the District will need to build partnerships to accomplish their goals. The panel conducted site visits of all district properties, toured the school district community, and interviewed stakeholders. Tonight's brief overview will be followed by a detailed written report, which will be made available to the community facilities task force as they begin their discussions.

The panel identified short-term, mid-term, and long range needs and potential solutions. They reviewed existing district property to determine which physical sites could support building expansion. They suggested developing strategies for district properties through partnerships or land sales. A list was compiled of privately held, currently vacant sites around the district which could support expansion. The panel encouraged the District to seek sustainable partnership opportunities, which will become part of doing business in the future. As part of their comprehensive final report, the team will put together information on a list of possible partnerships as well as potential funding sources, including new market tax credits, urban renewal, metro transit-oriented development, green/energy trust, public/private partners, and community development block grants. The report will be used by the community facilities task force as they begin their work. Mr. Stout thanked the site panel for the excellent work they accomplished in a short time frame, volunteering their expertise. He said their insights will be valuable as study and planning continue.

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

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – none

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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