

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
November 20, 2008**

The regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, November 20, 2008, 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:

	Dawn Barberis, Board Vice Chair	
Bruce Burton		Donn Gardner
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 – Vice Chair Barberis opened the meeting, noting that Chair Christopher is absent due to a family funeral, and Ms. Mattson due to a conflicting work obligation. Mr. Centoni welcomed the teachers attending tonight’s board meeting. He said he appreciates their right to come to support their team and show their signs, etc. He said the board will continue to do what is best for the District and our staff. On Tuesday, Mr. Centoni participated along with Dawn Barberis and the superintendent in the first meeting to review our school board policy, with assistance from Peggy Holstedt from OSBA. He said discussion on the first section, regarding board governance, was very interesting. He said he enjoyed a great football playoff game in Medford last Friday night. While the Scots didn’t win, they represented the high school very well, as did the girls water polo team in their playoff match. Dawn Barberis participated in the high school’s mock interviews, which she said were enjoyable and thought provoking. She shared materials from an AVID presentation she attended in Vancouver. They will be available through Natalie Osburn for anyone interested.

Student Body President’s Report – Stephanie Lutz, ASB president, reported that planning is underway for the Winter Formal, to be held in January. This year’s theme is “Night on the Nile.” The high school’s food drive runs November 12-26. Food collected will go the Celtic Heart for distribution. Student Council is working with Officer Stroh on a project to clean up graffiti around the neighborhood. They plan to notify neighbors that they are willing to assist with cleanup as needed. Winter sports are underway. Boys and girls basketball teams, Tams, and cheerleaders will be highlighted at next Tuesday’s “Night with the Scots” event. The high school production of “Bye Bye Birdie” opens on December 4.

Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Rommel announced that David Douglas School District will receive the “Partner Pacesetter Award” from the Portland Police Activities League (PAL). Mr. Stout will accept the award on behalf of the district at a ceremony to be held December 11 at the Pittock Mansion. A group of David Douglas High School students is serving on the East Precinct Student Advisory Council. One of their assignments will be to operate a radar gun to help identify speeding vehicles. A representative from *The Oregonian* will cover this activity. Natalie Osburn

shared an article about the Scots PRIDE program written by DDHS Assistant Principal Elise Guest which was published in the electronic newsletter, "NW PBIS Network", which goes out across the state.

Mr. Stout reported that the Facilities Task Force has met twice and will meet again in December. They have been brainstorming various solutions to challenges facing the district. Four study groups have been formed to focus on policy solutions, scheduling solutions, facility usage solutions, and capital solutions. They will report on their recommendations at a board meeting in March. The final report from Innovative Partnership was distributed to board members. Barbara Kienle announced that the fifth annual Community Resource Fair is being held tonight at Fir Ridge. More than sixty service providers and vendors participated at this well attended event. Many cultural groups were also invited to provide information and presentations. She thanked the Fir Ridge staff, and Catherine Nyhan, Elizabeth Somo, and Cheryl Bland for their work on this outreach. The superintendent shared an invitation from Mayor-Elect Sam Adams to a discussion on drop out prevention. The meeting on December 1 will include Multnomah County Chair Ted Wheeler as well as a Board Chair and one board member from each school district in the county. Interested board members should notify the superintendent. Gilbert Park PE teacher Paul Crain has been active with the University of Portland women's tennis program. College players have been teaching tennis skills to Gilbert Park students. Ventura Park School celebrates its 50th anniversary on Friday, November 21 at 5:30pm.

Stadium Buildings Construction Price – Ms. Essenberg introduced this action item. Architect Terry Rommel presented updated drawings showing the stadium support buildings and entry pavilion which incorporates ticket booths, a new concession stand, and referee locker rooms. The design will provide a focal point to direct patrons into the stadium. He described the durable construction materials which have been selected and the red and grey color scheme. Two small buildings on the east side of the field are included in the project, one which will include restrooms for visitors as well as a small concession stand, and a storage building for athletic equipment.

Blaine Grover, Fortis Construction, presented the proposed guaranteed maximum price (GMP) of \$1,049,872, plus a 5% contingency, for the project. The project will go out to bid in January and should result in considerable interest and excellent pricing. Representatives from the construction company will meet with the track coaches to discuss their needs, in order to coordinate construction around the track and field season. The application for conditional use went to the City a week ago. The architect will make a presentation on the project to the Hazelwood Neighborhood Association as a required part of the process. Mr. Centoni made a motion to approve the Guaranteed Maximum Price as presented, seconded by Mr. Price. The motion carried in a vote of 5-0.

Azbuka Charter School Discussion – Olga Kaganova, Administrator of Azbuka Academy, updated the Board on the new charter school which opened in September. Two full time and two part time teachers have been hired. A building has been acquired at 10014 NE Glisan. Ms. Kaganova reported that most of the students they have enrolled came from other public schools, rather than being the home schoolers or dropouts their charter proposal targeted. She said a disagreement with the district about enrollment policy caused a rough start and some friction among parents of their close knit community. She said they are now back on track and would welcome visits by board members. Their community advisory board is taking shape at this time. She presented a financial statement, saying Azbuka still expects an adjustment from the district for six students under dispute.

Mr. Gardner said that questions and concerns from the charter committee include Azbuka's financial stability, and the ages of students as related to grade levels to be served per the charter contract.

He said the Board expects Azbuka's commitment to comply with all elements of the charter contract, noting that Natalie Osburn will continue monitor compliance on the District's behalf.

Ms. Kaganova said that Azbuka students are now entered on eSIS, which is helping to determine ages and grade levels. Their goal is still to target students who are not being served well in traditional settings. They have modified their enrollment practices so are now only enrolling students who appear as ninth or tenth graders in eSIS. Ms. Barberis noted that fewer than 50% of Azbuka's enrolled students are David Douglas residents, although state law requires 50% of a charter's students to come from the sponsoring district. Ms. Kaganova said it would be helpful to have the District's assistance in identifying dropouts who would benefit from their program. She asked whether in the near future the Board would consider an amendment to the charter contract which would allow them to stay truer to their mission.

Mr. Burton said he personally will want to see absolute compliance with terms of the charter before considering amending the contract. He said Azbuka has already received notice from the District that the contract is subject to revocation if all terms are not being met. He said a state audit could cause the District financial liability if ineligible students were paid for. He reiterated that the Board expects strict compliance with the contract and state law.

Mr. Gardner said the Board does want Azbuka to succeed. In approving the charter agreement, the District took on liability both financially and in terms of the education students are receiving. He said the Board is committed to giving Azbuka the support they can to help them succeed, but Azbuka needs to be committed to complying with terms of the original charter. Ms. Osburn said there have been regular meetings where the District's position has been reiterated regarding grade levels and credits. She said she appreciates that Ms. Kaganova is now using eSIS, which will be helpful for testing and reporting, but she continues to have some concerns.

Ms Kaganova said the school just started using eSIS last week and could then see students' ages and grades; prior to eSIS they relied on information that was unclear or misleading. She said it continues to be their intent to comply with the charter contract, and that earlier issues were due to a difference in interpretation. She said they have accepted the District's point of view going forward. She noted that it would have been very helpful to have had access to eSIS from the beginning.

Resolution for Adoption of 403(b) Plan Document – Janice Essenberg reported that the IRS put new regulations into effect for management of 403(b) plans. Ann Marie Rears has been working with Carruth Associates to bring our plans into compliance. The recommended plan document being brought forward tonight is being used by a number of Oregon school districts. The final requirement is board approval of a resolution adopting the formal plan no later than December 31, 2008. Mr. Burton made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Gardner. The motion carried in a vote of 5-0.

Audience Participation / Break – Vice Chair Barberis opened the meeting for public comment.

Kyle Riggs, Chair of the CAC, reported that he was invited to participate as a parent representative at the math adoption meeting today. He said it was a fantastic experience for a non-teacher to express his opinions and have them seriously considered.

There being no further remarks from the audience, Vice Chair Barberis declared a brief recess. The meeting was reconvened.

Request for OSBA Legal Trust Assistance – Superintendent Rommel presented a resolution, which, if approved, would be our request to have OSBA’s Legal Trust represent us in the appeal of an unfair labor practice. The Legal Trust is interested in representing the District through the appeals process since they interpret this as a student privacy issue which would have ramifications across the state. Mr. Gardner moved approval of the resolution, seconded by Mr. Burton. The motion carried in a vote of 5-0.

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

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

Other Business / Future Agenda Items – Mr. Centoni suggested the Board revisit the issue of student fees and the burden being put on many of our families, either as a future agenda item or as part of the next budget process.

Superintendent Rommel distributed an update of general fund revenues and expenditures.

Adjournment – There being no other business, Vice Chair Barberis 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.



Dawn Barberis, Board Vice Chair



Barbara Rommel, Superintendent / Clerk