

**Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
September 14, 2017**

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, September 14, 2017 at 7:00pm in the David Douglas School District Board Room, 1500 SE 130, Portland, OR 97233.

School Board Members present were:

Christine Larsen, Board Chair	
Bryce Anderson	Kyle Riggs
Frieda Christopher	Stephanie D. Stephens
Ana del Rocio	Andrea Valderrama

Also present were Ken Richardson, Superintendent/Clerk; Candy Wallace, Assistant Superintendent; Patt Komar, Director of Administrative Services; Derek Edens, Director of Assessment & Technology; Brooke O'Neill, Director of Curriculum; Kelly Devlin, Director of ESL & Equity; Barbara Kienle, Director of Student Services; Andy Long, Director of Education, and Laurie Brunelle, Board Secretary.

The agenda will include consideration of the following:

Call to Order / Flag Salute

Ms. Larsen informed the Board and attendees that agenda item number ten, Approval of Purchase Sale Agreement for Surplus Property at Elks, is being removed at this time.

Student Body President's Report – ASB Student Body President, Anwar Sheikh reported that the high school is gearing up towards homecoming, the dance, and back to school night. This year's homecoming theme is The Wild Hunt. He said school is going well at this time.

Attendee's Input

Silke Akerson, district parent – Ms. Akerson said she is following up on the prioritizing of hiring and retaining teachers of color. She expressed gratitude in regards to seeing a new African American teacher at her son's school. Ms. Akerson brought up the new school start times. She said there is research about high school and middle school students having health and academic problems when starting before 8:30 am. She said the Board needs to think about who the kids are, where they are developmentally, what's happening in their bodies, and what's actually functional for them to learn.

Craig Rogers, district resident – Mr. Rogers said he has lived next to Floyd Light Middle School since 1978. He shared the safety and quality of life issues he's been dealing with living in this area. Mr. Rogers said he has recently witnessed assaults, acid thrown on cars, break-ins, delivery boxes being stolen from porches, and homeless people yelling at residents. Mr. Rogers voiced his frustration towards Mayor Ted Wheeler for not taking care of east Portland and the homeless issues. He showed pictures of the trash being left in neighborhoods by homeless people and said nothing is being done about it.

Heather Franklin, district parent – Ms. Franklin thanked the Board for adding a level of transparency by posting the board packet on the District website. She also thanked Ms. del Rocio for bringing up the accessibility issue of the meetings in regards to a shortened time span and providing childcare. Ms. Franklin brought up the issue of public testimony questions not being answered. She said this is an accountability issue since board policy states that questions in a public forum will be answered in a reasonable amount of time. Ms. Franklin presented a dress code policy called Oregon NOW Model Student Dress Code. She said the model was created to improve dress code policies and will keep them more consistent. She hopes the Board will consider adopting this model.

John Bentley – Mr. Bentley commented on Mr. Anderson’s request to have students participate in a Naturalization Ceremony during Constitution Week. He said this is an attack on immigration status and an unnecessary way of highlighting a student’s citizenship. Mr. Bentley said he is pleased with Ms. Stephens and Ms. del Rocio’s initiative in creating an equity plan for the District. He asked that the equity plan would end racial disparities, hire racially diverse staff, seek advice from the City of Portland’s Office of Equity and Human Rights, and create a sense of urgency in our District.

Cam Coval, representing Pueblo Unido – Mr. Coval thanked the Board for their recent health equity initiatives and improving the transparency of providing the minutes on line. He expressed support for creating an Equity Sub Committee and said there’s a lot of potential for it being impactful. Mr. Coval addressed the proposal of holding a Naturalization Ceremony in our District. He said he is sure it’s a well-intentioned gesture but would suggest a school is not an appropriate place to have this Ceremony. He said not everyone is eligible for citizenship, and a Naturalization policy could cause fear and anxiety. Mr. Coval said the School Board should not feed into this fear in the community and they should reject this proposal.

Christina Crow, district employee – Ms. Crow said she was here to reiterate the call for censure of Mr. Anderson. She said Mr. Anderson’s comments reflect a lot of cultural ignorance and a lack of understanding of what’s going on in our society. Ms. Crow said this is the time in our society where we should have zero tolerance for racist and toxic ideologies. She is requesting equity training for the entire Board.

Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Mr. Richardson said the school year got off to an interesting start with the smoke and the heat. He thanked everyone involved for doing the best they could to make a great environment and the best days possible for our kids.

Mr. Richardson shared that the Legislature adopted Senate Bill 20, which implemented ESSA. He said we are required to follow ESSA, and it states that once a student earns a modified diploma, we are no longer able to provide services and count them within our ADM. This is an issue for students in the Community Transition Program that earn diplomas and we continue to serve them until age 21. He said we have to explore what this means, and how do we serve these students. Mr. Richardson gave a follow-up report on Floyd Light Middle School’s wooded area and the violence, abuse and drug issues occurring there. He said the Principal tries to do a walk through every day, and we are in contact with Portland Police and asking for their assistance. We are also asking our Maintenance Department to help clean up the area. Mr. Richardson said House Bill 3267 will have an impact on our District. This bill states that for any student that does not meet a certain district’s high school requirements if they are either a foster child, homeless, runaway, child of a migrant worker or military family, we can no longer require our District’s graduation requirements. Only the state requirements will apply to these students. He said this change will take place January 2018, and we will be looking at bringing a different criteria to the Board in our graduation requirements and alternative diploma options.

Mr. Richardson reported that we changed times around transportation to solve a specific issue around bus shortage, driver shortage, and getting students to school and home on time. A committee will be formed at the end of this month to review and look at how we serve our District and the community. The intent is a long term study and looking at what is the best options. The Superintendent drew everyone’s attention to the display of Calligraphy in the back of the Boardroom featuring DDHS award winners from the Oregon State fair. He read off all the winner’s names and thanked them for sharing their artwork at the board meeting. Mr. Richardson said we had Auditors in the District Office this week and there were no indications of anything to worry about.

Mr. Richardson said we have been invited to the Oregon Student Voice Initiative. This is a student lead organization that empowers students to be authentic partners with education. They are launching a statewide survey and will visit and talk with delegations of students at the high school. Mr. Richardson reported on Safe Dividends. He said we just received an email through our workman's compensation insurance that we will be receiving dividends back. We are excited about this because anytime we receive money back, it can go back into the classrooms, and it shows that our employees are being safe and taking precautions. Mr. Richardson shared an email on a new scholarship opportunity called Touchdown Backer to recognize and honor a member of the Scots Football Program. The applicants have to write an essay answering one question: What does it mean to be a Scot? The winner will earn up to a \$1,000 scholarship to a college of their choice. The funding for this scholarship can be from anyone who would like to make a pledge or donation.

Ms. Devlin reported on our ELL Program, which is a requirement per state law to share this report every year. Ms. Devlin said we annually turn in data to ODE and they compile all the data from 197 districts and post this on their website. We post this information on our District website along with last year's report. Ms. Devlin shared some of the highlights of the report. The Platt Graph shows we have one of the largest ELL programs with over 2000 students. She said we have a high needs index at 87.1 and a high outcomes index at 92.3. 74% of active ELL learners are at the elementary level. We have approximately 23 native languages represented in our ELL program. If we add in the other languages column, we now have 67-74 native languages spoken at home. Students stay in the ESL program for approximately 2.9 years, and our 4th, 5th, and 6th graders have the highest numbers of students who exit our program. Ms. Devlin thanked the staff that works with the ESL students. She said we still have work to do to continue to improve and grow.

Financial Report – Ms. Komar said the Auditors were here this week and there were no major things to discuss. The General Fund ending balance has remained at \$11.6 million. The Capital Projects Fund ended at \$1.9 million as most of the Lincoln Park expenditures occurred after July 1.

Consent Agenda – Ms. Christopher moved approval of the following consent agenda items, seconded by Mr. Anderson. The motion carried a vote of 7-0.

- Approval of August Board Meeting Minutes
- Personnel Recommendations
- Contract Approvals 2017-18

Board-Superintendent Working Agreement – Mr. Richardson said this was brought forward at our last Board Workshop. This working agreement helps communicate how the Board and Superintendent will work together. Mr. Riggs moved approval of the Board-Superintendent Working Agreement, seconded by Ms. Stephens. Mr. Riggs said it was a great opportunity to work together as a Board and setting guidelines. Ms. Christopher said it was nice to have Board members who wanted to work on educating themselves. The motion moved approval in a vote of 7-0.

Superintendent's Goals 2017-18 – Mr. Richardson said tonight is the opportunity to discuss his goals on managerial, political, and instruction. He asked the Board if they had any thoughts or feedback. Mr. Riggs moved approval of the Superintendent's Goals, seconded by Mr. Anderson. Ms. Stephens said she would like Goal 1, Strategy #4 to be framed different because we don't have an equity plan yet and the communication is a separate issue. She would like to develop the plan in conjunction with the community. Ms. Stephens motioned to postpone the Superintendent's Goals until the next meeting, seconded by Mr. Riggs. Ms. Valderrama said for clarity purposes she would like financial planning added to Goal 1, Strategy # 6. In Goal 2, she would like an additional subset around overall student achievement and healthy outcomes. Mr. Riggs would like to see the

Superintendent's Goals with the requested changes before the packet. The motion to postpone the Superintendent's Goals until the next meeting moved approval in a vote of 7-0.

Resolution declaring a portion of the Elks property as surplus – Ms. Christopher moved approval of the Resolution, seconded by Ms. del Rocio. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

Enrollment Update – Assistant Superintendent Candy Wallace reported on the District Enrollment Report. She said on day one we had a negative 6.2% in enrollment and day two that was cut in half. Elementary schools are down by 213 students and the high school is down by 23. In middle school we are up by 19 students. Ms. Wallace said overall we are down by 2.1% in enrollment and we have a lot of really nice lower class sizes. She said we are working on hotspots right now, with Kindergarten being hard to predict. Currently, we are looking at busing West Powellhurst Kindergarten students to Ventura Park and some Cherry Park 4th grade students are being bused to Mill Park. Ms. Wallace said every year they look at class sizes and try to balance as much as possible and reasonable for our families. We will continue to monitor them as we hopefully grow in the next week or two.

Inter-District Transfer Recap – Ms. Wallace reported on the Inter-District Transfer Recap. She gave a reminder that by law the Board determines in the spring the amount of students we release and accept, and the process opens in mid April and closes on August 1st. The August 2nd report shows that all 32 who applied in were approved and we did not have to active our lottery system. Our lottery was activated for students who applied out and we released 57 students, giving priority to continuing students and their siblings. Ms. Wallace also indicated we accepted 118 students through our Open Enrollment in March. She shared the September 7th report, which shows an increase in the student numbers because of hardships. She said there is a provision in the law for hardship cases such as death of a parent, access to safe and affordable childcare, homelessness, medical conditions, and military deployment. In this report it shows 53 students accepted in and 94 students released out. Ms. Wallace said we continue to get these types of cases all year long and she makes personal contact with the parents and follows the law.

First Reading: Board Policy BFE – Ms. Larsen introduced Board Policy BFE: Administration in the Absence of Policy. Ms. Stephens moved approval to move this policy to a second reading, seconded by Mr. Riggs. The motion carried a unanimous vote. Ms. Stephens moved approval of Board Police BFE, seconded by Mr. Riggs. The motion carried a vote of 7-0.

Other Business / Future Agenda Items

Ms. Larsen opened a discussion for the possibility of adding a second monthly board meeting for board workshops, presentations, etc. All Board members expressed their opinions, suggestions and concerns around adding an additional meeting. Ms. Larsen made a decision to have the special meeting on October 5th with the executive session from 6:00pm-7:00pm and the special meeting from 7:00pm-8:00pm. October 19th will be the business meeting. Ms. Larsen requested an update on the Student Health Center. Ms. Kienle will not be able to do this for the October 5th meeting but will present at a future special meeting.

Ms. Larsen reminded the Board that they decided not to attend the NSBA Spring Conference. Mr. Riggs informed the Board they can download the apps to see the presentations. Ms. Larsen gave a reminder to please turn in registration forms to the Board Secretary if they are planning on attending the OSBA Annual Conference, and RSVP if they are planning on attending the OSBA Fall Regional Dinner meeting. Ms. Larsen said the Board Committees are not ready at this time but will be voted on in the October 5th meeting.

Ms. Stephens requested that Board members talk into their mics so the attendees can hear what is being discussed. She would like the next board meeting to be online for public viewing and requested this for each meeting thereafter. Ms. Stephens thanked the District for its statement around DACA.

Board Member Reports -

Ms. del Rocio said her son started kindergarten and he's had a wonderful transition. He's been fully supported by administration, teachers, and other parents and families.

Ms. Stephens said she testified at Metro on affordable housing issues. She gave them a picture of what's happening in David Douglas and our need for a regional strategy. She said we need to address homelessness in our community and housing for our families as gentrification is moving east. Ms. Stephens enjoyed the White Glove Tour and said it was great for a new Board member to see every building in the District. She would like a chance to talk about community gardens and is looking for funding to support them.

Ms. Christopher said she had the opportunity to take her granddaughter to school at Gilbert Heights this week. She said with the Administrator Academy being focused on making kids feel welcome, she saw the difference. There was an energy she witnessed when walking into the building and seeing the principal, counselors, teachers and assistants greeting students with high fives and hugs. Ms. Christopher said the Stakeholders group for the Housing Bond has their draft framework out and taking public comments on it. This is on the Portland Housing Bureau's website. She said they are focused on four populations, where things are located, 1300 new units of affordable housing, and 650 new units for families that have 2-3 bedrooms. The meeting is on September 27th to look at the comments and make any changes before it goes to the City Council in October. Ms. Christopher said she did get into the criteria and they are looking at putting only one family unit into each school catchment area and giving people the opportunity for transportation.

Ms. Larsen said she has a high school student starting her sophomore year. She said she feels like she's looking at the light at the end of the tunnel and will need to find a hobby in 3 years.

Adjournment - There being no other business, Chair Larsen declared the meeting adjourned.



Christine Larsen, Board Chair



Ken Richardson, Superintendent / Clerk