

David Douglas School District School Board Meeting Notice

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 7:00pm in the David Douglas School District Board Room, 1500 SE 130th Ave, Portland, OR 97233.

School Board members present via virtual meeting were: Donna Barber, Board Chair; Gabriela Saldana-Lopez, Board Vice Chair; Aaron Barrow, Frieda Christopher, Heather Franklin, Hoa Nguyen, and Stephanie D. Stephens.

Also present were: Ken Richardson, Superintendent/Clerk; Candy Wallace, Assistant Superintendent; Patt Komar, Director of Administrative Services; Derek Brown, Director of Assessment & Technology; Kelly Devlin, Director of Multilingual Programs & Equity; Brooke O'Neill, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Andy Long, Director of PK-12 Education; Taye Spears, Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and Laurie Brunelle, Board Secretary.

The agenda included consideration of the following:

Call to Order / Native American Land Acknowledgement

Student Body President Report – Dora Hussein gave a shout out to Ms. Spears for being her Black inspiration throughout the years and reported on the following high school activities.

- Black Student Union: hosting Black Culture GALA to celebrate and recognize Black culture.
- Student Council releasing a segment of interviews with individuals to bring acknowledgement to diversity.
- Official start of 2nd semester: Kicking it off with Polaroids with Love and Dollar Grams.
- Fundraiser for homelessness: purchase candy and stuffed animals to be delivered on Valentine's Day.
- Presidential Council discussion items: bathrooms, student hangouts in common areas, I See You Center, Erin's Law, advisory lessons, staff training, social media accounts, and Bond Oversight Committee.

Public Comment – Full comments located in the David Douglas Board meeting archives.

Katherine Sherman, district parent:

- Supports the transition to Restorative Practices in schools and the adoption of the three-year Discipline Goals.
- Requested the removal of subjective insubordination language on referrals.

Gavin Bradley, district student:

- Requested a dress code change for students to be able to wear hats and hoodies.

Invited Public Input - Full comments located in the David Douglas Board meeting archives.

- Black Student Union (BSU) students: Jeremy Njuguna and Aysiah Clinton spoke about the black teachers who have helped them throughout their journey and made an impact on them.
 - Jeremy: highlighted Muhammed Rahman, 8th grade Social Studies teacher.
 - Aysiah: highlighted Cameron Retherford, SEI Coordinator.
- Alice Ott Middle School students: Laylah Hussein, Jaionna Frison, Nuurto Gedi, and Abeny De Piok spoke about what Black History means to them.
- Mr. Richardson thanked the students for their voice, leadership, and courage.

Proclamation – Black History Month – The Board read the Proclamation.

- Onry Henreid, district teacher via video recording: shared the student mantra he uses every day before and after his music class at Floyd Light Middle School.

Consent Agenda – Ms. Stephens moved approval of the following Consent Agenda Items, seconded by Ms. Saldana-Lopez. The motion approved in a vote of 7-0.

- Approval of January Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of January Board Workshop Minutes
- Personnel Recommendations
- Contract and Purchasing Approvals
- Resolution for Construction Manager/General Contractor
- Appointment of Budget Committee Member Position 3 – Chris Piekarski
- Adoption of MESD Programs and Services for 2023-2024
- A Resolution of David Douglas School District No. 40, Multnomah County, Oregon Amending Resolution No. 22/23:04

Appointment of Budget Committee Member - Position 2

- Ms. Stephens appointed John Knight due to his experience in education and education budgeting. His previous work history includes Executive Director for a charter school and the Department of Human Services.

Health Presentation (Human Sexuality Education) – Ms. O'Neill, April Kayser, Health Education Program Specialist at Multnomah County Health Department, Carrie Foster, Online Curriculum Integration Coordinator, and Geoff Gailey, Science and Health Coordinator provided the following information.

- Board Policy IGAI states: The Board shall approve the plan of instruction and require that it be reviewed and updated biennially in accordance with new scientific information and effective educational strategies.
- Sexuality Education Instruction shall enhance students' understanding of sexuality as a normal and healthy aspect of human development.
- The Curriculum is designed to promote healthy, safe, and violence-free communities which includes: promoting concepts and fostering skills for healthy individuals and healthy relationships in age-appropriate ways.
- Elementary School Health Curriculum: The Great Body Shop.
 - Reviewed annually ensuring it's medically accurate and in line with current guidelines.
 - Skills focused: communication, decision making, advocacy for self and others, practicing refusal skills, and identifying trust of adults.
 - Lesson examples for Kindergarten and 4th grade that align with state standards.
- Child Sexual Abuse Prevention (Erin's Law) lessons for K-5th grade.
- Teen Pregnancy Prevention Grant: Adolescents and Communities Together (ACT).
 - Collaboration between school districts and culturally specific community based organizations.
- Middle School Health Curriculum is supplemented with Get Real.
 - Get Real is designed to delay sex and increase correct and consistent use of protection methods.
 - Basic biology of reproduction, abstinence and postponement, and disease transmission.
 - Child Sexual Abuse Prevention (Erin's Law) lessons for 6th-8th grade.
- High School Health Curriculum is supplemented with Positive Prevention Plus.
 - Focuses on specific protective behaviors using a variety of peer-based and interactive strategies.
 - Topics include life planning, human trafficking, teen pregnancy, and understanding HIV / AIDS epidemic.
 - Child Sexual Abuse Prevention (Erin's Law).
 - Lessons are revisited and revised annually.
- Continued work: Comprehensive Human Sexuality Education Plan.
 - Family notification, opt-out letters, and focus groups with students and parents.
 - Focus group responses: partnering with community organizations and updating teacher training.
- Ms. Christopher moved approval of the Human Sexuality Education, seconded by Ms. Nguyen. The motion approved in a vote of 7-0.

Graduation Report – John May, IT Special Projects Analyst provided a presentation on graduation rates, on track correlations and current cohorts for the graduating class of 2021-22. The following information was shared.

- ODE Graduation Summary of four-year graduation and five-year completers for 2021-22.
- 2018-19 Cohort: the year the students began the 9th grade.
 - Four-year graduation rate: 76.5% (District) and 78.3% (DDHS+FRC).
 - Five-year completer rate (2017-18 cohort): 80.0% (District) and 81.8% (DDHS+FRC).
- Charts were provided:
 - Neighboring district's four-year cohort graduation rate since 2009.
 - District graduation and non-completer rates since 2013-14.
 - Four-year cohort rate since 2008-09: disaggregated by race/ethnicity, gender, Ever ELL, and Special Ed.
 - 2018-19 cohort four-year graduate rate gender gaps: districts with 200+ cohort size.
 - Non-completers.
- Antecedents (predictors): status of cohort moving through their high school years. Charts were provided.
 - Grade 8 on track 93.2% / off track 57%.
 - Grade 10 on track 98.1% / 44%.
 - Graduation rate by 8th, 9th, and 10th grade attendance (525 students).
- Connections: the more connected to school, the more likely to graduate.
- Looking ahead: Graduation progress monitoring: chart of 2019-20 cohort after seven semesters.
- COVID impact on students and their credits: it will take several years for the graduation rate to recover.

Teaching and Learning Report – Ms. O’Neill, Elise Hall, Assistant Director of Title Programs, Francesca Aultman, District Language Arts Specialist, Cameron Cross, Reading Intervention Coach, and Rachelle Zimmerman, District Math Specialist provided a K-8 Winter Benchmark Review for DIBELS, Reading Inventory, and Math Inventory. The following information was shared.

- Elementary School: charts were shared of fall and winter data.
 - Math Inventory Performance Levels: fall and winter performance levels by grade.
 - Proficient and Advanced has increased / Below Basic has decreased.
 - Math Inventory Mid-Year Expected Growth:
 - Below Basic group has met or exceeded their expected mid-year growth.
 - Advanced group has deviations across all four grade levels.
 - DIBELS Composite Status Levels: beginning of year and middle of year by grade.
 - Kinder, 1st, and 5th grade increased their percentage of students at or above benchmark.
 - DIBELS Pathways of Progress.
 - All grade levels are above 50%.

Elementary Principals Matt Soule, Heather Craig, and Susan Olds provided the following information on the work that’s happening in individual buildings and across the District.

- Team Meetings: 100% and 20% data team meetings.
 - 100% meetings are geared around our core instruction: agreement on a shared reading strategy.
 - 20% meetings are geared around intensive supports: design instruction that meets the specific needs.
 - Small group instruction is prioritized.
 - Mill Park: exited school improvement status the fall of 2022.
 - Ms. Craig explained the strategies created and implemented to be removed from this status.
 - West Powellhurst: entered into a targeted status.
 - Ms. Olds explained the focus areas and strategies for improvement.
- Middle School: charts were shared of fall and winter data.
 - Math Inventory Performance Levels: fall and winter performance levels by grade.
 - All middle school grades show an increase in middle school students at or above proficient.
 - Math Inventory Mid-Year Expected Growth:
 - 8th grade has demonstrated the most growth across all proficiency groups.
 - Below basic groups in 6th and 7th grade are exceeding their expected growth.
 - Reading Inventory Performance Levels: fall and winter performance levels by grade.
 - Small incremental growth and staying roughly flat.
 - Reading Inventory Annual Growth Goals:
 - Met end of year growth goal: 8th grade 45%, 7th grade 40%, and 6th grade 45%.

Middle School Principals Holly Schauer, Doug Pease, and Vice Principal Angie Ortiz-McNeese provided the following information on the work that’s happening in their buildings and across the District.

- How they make students, caregivers, and families feel welcome at school; and making connections.
 - Relationship Centered Learning, Mindfulness, Restorative Practices, and Culturally Responsive Teaching Practices.
- Implementation of programs and practices.
 - Utilize Learning Specialists and Case Managers.
 - Transition Mentors for academics, attendance, behavior, and home connections.
- ESSER funds to bridge the gaps: tutoring in reading, math, and social skills using existing school staff.

Integrated Plan – First Read – Mr. Brown provided a presentation on the District’s Integrated Plan. The Board was provided a draft plan and budget for a first read. The following information was shared.

- Background: requirement from ODE.
 - Combines six different initiatives into one.
 - Common processes: engage community, look at data, create priorities, and build our plan.
- Six Programs Combined into One with Four Common Goals:
 - Programs: High School Success, Student Investment Account, Continuous Improvement Planning, Career and Technical Education, Every Day Matters, and Early Indicator and Intervention Systems.
 - Goals: Well-Rounded Education, Equity Advanced, Engaged Community Strengthened Systems and Capacity.
- Required Planning Process: everything is done with a focus on equity.
 - Use of an equity lens, community engagement, needs assessment, and specific outcomes and strategies.

- Our Equity Lens and Decision Making: alignment with our mission and vision, breakdown systems of oppression, and close gaps.
- Community Engagement Highlights: 12 community forums, online survey, and YouthTruth Survey data review.
- Needs Assessment Highlights.
 - Trend data shows gaps in key metrics for underserved students.
 - YouthTruth data from students indicated a need to focus on: building and maintaining relationships, providing social/emotional supports, and facilitating engaging learning activities.
 - YouthTruth data from parents indicated a need to improve school culture and safety.
 - Online survey with over 2000 responses on areas of strength and areas of need.
- Our Plan priorities, outcomes, strategies, what's missing, and tiered approach.
- Performance Metrics:
 - Seven performance measures and processes used in the monitoring and evaluation process.
 - Each district will develop Longitudinal Performance Growth Targets (LPGTs).
 - Other measurements include: high school success eligibility requirements and Perkins performance target
 - ODE will collaborate with districts to develop applicable LPGTs.
- What happens next:
 - Application window: until March 31st.
 - Next week: post the draft plan on the website for review and feedback.
 - ODE review: through June.
 - Sign off on the approved application at the end of June.

Discipline Goals – This agenda item has been tabled until the March Board meeting.

Bond Update – Ms. Komar and Mr. Richardson provided the following information.

- Bond Sale is February 23rd: request of Board interest to attend.
 - Review of the Preliminary Official Statement.
- Construction selection.
 - BRIC Architecture for high school CTE Center.
 - BBL Architects, Axis Design Group, and Soderstrom Architects for repairs and renovations.
- Bond Oversight Committee: 15 community members and staff members are willing to participate.
 - We are recruiting students.

Board Policy – First Reading – The following policies were reviewed as a first reading.

- Policy IGDJ (instruction) – Interscholastic Activities
- Policy IK (instruction) – Academic Achievement
- Policy JEA (students) – Compulsory Attendance
- Policy JGAB (students) – Use of Restraint or Seclusion

Reflections on Public Comment - Board members had a chance to give comments/feedback on what they heard during public comment. Full comments/feedback are located in the David Douglas Board meeting archives.

- It is time for the hoods and hats policy to go away.
- The hoods and hats are an unnecessary confrontational point.
- Dress code in general: more black and brown students are pointed out for violation.
- No concrete data evidence of what the policy has specifically achieved. Next steps for making changes.
- Appreciates and values the student who shared feedback on the dress code.

Board Liaison and Committee Reports - Full comments are located in the David Douglas Board meeting archives.

- Ms. Christopher reported the David Douglas Educational Foundation is doing a fundraiser March 20th-April 14th titled "Marching to the Beat of a Different Drummer" raising money for calming corners.
- Ms. Saldana-Lopez reported she attended a protest at the high school regarding sexual assaults: focused on recent events but also student to student sexual assault.

Financial and Investment Report – Ms. Komar provided the following information.

- Governor's recommended budget for the State School Fund (SSF) is \$9.9 billion.
- Provided a table chart of updated enrollment numbers for 2021-22 final and current 2022-23.
 - Enrollment is flattening and anticipating an increase in our poverty ADMw.

- Table chart: current year's ADMw and what the SSF is currently funded on prior year's budget.
 - Anticipated SSF allocation and reduction in funding from current year.
- At the \$9.9 billion level, we are anticipating a \$7 million reduction to balance the General Fund Budget.
- General Fund: the ending fund balance has increased to \$17.6 million.
- Nutrition Services Fund: the ending fund balance has increased to \$2.2 million.
- Capital Projects Fund: will bring a budget amendment next month after the sale of the bonds.
- Investment Report: 3.75% interest rate.
 - We will need to invest some of our general fund dollars in short-term items as well as our bond proceeds.

Superintendent's Report – Mr. Richardson provided the following information.

- Thankful we went from a \$9.3 to \$9.9 billion State School Fund.
 - Advocating for current service level at \$10.3 billion. QEM is \$11.5 billion.
- Legislative: we are tracking around 600 bills.
- Change in standard response protocol in school safety.
 - We are putting together and adopting the I Love You Guys Program: the high school is currently piloting.
- Provided the Board with a packet of student enrollment numbers.
- Highlights from Administrators, Cabinet, and Managers:
 - 500 plus attendees at our first Lunar New Year celebration.
 - 200 plus attended Menlo Park's Multicultural Night.
 - The administrator team reviewed YouthTruth data to talk about plans: follow-up next month.
 - Met with the Staff of Color Team: provided updates and needs. Vision for new Freedom Dreams.
 - Math Adoption: starting community engagement session. The first night there were over 43 participants.
 - 2 staff members coordinated a Somali community forum to address myths and concerns about medication.
 - We are the only district in east Multnomah County who have job placements in the Vocational Rehabilitation Office: paid and unpaid employment for our Community Transition Program.
- Follow-up communication to the community: full statement in the David Douglas Board meeting archives.
 - The District was informed by Portland Police of allegations of sexual abuse by a now former employee who has since been arrested. The District is fully cooperating with the Portland Police Bureau in the ongoing investigation. Our concern now is the health and well-being of our students and especially those impacted either directly or indirectly. We are working with offering support for all affected students. Counselors in all of our schools have been notified and have resources available.

Donna Barber, Board Chair

Ken Richardson, Superintendent / Clerk