

**Meeting of the School Board  
David Douglas School District No. 40  
August 8, 2024**

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, August 8, 2024 at 7:00pm in the David Douglas School District Board Room, 1500 SE 130th Ave, Portland, OR 97233.

**School Board members present were:** Heather Franklin, Board Vice Chair, José Gamero-Georgeson, Hoa Nguyen, and Stephanie D. Stephens.

**Also present were:** Ken Richardson, Superintendent/Clerk; Andy Long, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Taye Spears, Assistant Superintendent of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion; Patt Komar, Director of Administrative Services; Brooke O'Neill, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Florence Protopapas, Director of Student Services, and Laurie Brunelle, Board Secretary.

The agenda included consideration of the following:

**Call to Order / Native American Land Acknowledgement**

**Public Comment** - Full comments are located in the David Douglas Board meeting archives.

Jennifer Flagel, Gilbert Park Title I Reading Specialist added information in regards to the Board's request for the Principal of Gilbert Park to step down: in lieu of filing a formal complaint with the Board the following requests were made.

- Request an acknowledgement that this was mishandled and done without due process, and an apology to the principal, staff, and community for the harm this has caused.
- Request to clearly outlined protocol from the Board on how complaints like this will be handled in the future including assurance of due process with space for input from staff and community with multiple perspectives.
- Request to not use ARTIC in the future to inform decisions in our District.
- Request for greater transparency in this situation and in the future for similar complaints: would like a full written account of the complaints made, the process and steps taken, key findings that led to the decision, and the additional recommended actions from ARTIC.
- Request the number of non-administrative staff who were interviewed to inform ARTIC's recommendations.
- Request an opportunity for representatives of Gilbert Park to meet with the Board to discuss further.

**OSEA Chapter 40 Comment**

Kathe Lauderback, OSEA Chapter 40 Secretary shared that union leadership will be at the New Hire Orientation to welcome newly hired classified employees into the District.

- Shout out to the custodial staff for their work during the summer with all of the construction being done throughout the District.

**Board Applicant Presentations for Position 1** - Each applicant gave a five-minute presentation. The full presentations are located in the David Douglas School District Board Meeting Archives.

Matthew Cunningham is 40 years old, married to his high school sweetheart, and has eight kids.

- Has lived in Portland for 18 years and in the David Douglas District for 14 years.
- His kids are in community college, charter school, home school, and in our District schools.
- Previously, he was a pastor, has a bachelor's degree, master's degree, and is currently a doctoral student.
- He's a full-time teacher in the District through ESS from 2022 to the present and working in many of the schools.
- Served on the board of a non-profit organization and currently serves on the District Bond Oversight Committee.
- Why he wants to serve.
  - To see students, thrive and succeed in the District and be in a safe and healthy educational environment.
  - As a father and public educator, he brings a unique capacity to the table as a helpful perspective.
  - Has the acumen and experience to serve on a collaborative board and a desire to do so.
  - Wants to contribute to the future of the community through the success and thriving of the schools.

Althea Ender is a parent who loves soccer and community gardens, and believes in this community.

- Most important qualification for serving on the Board is her status as a parent.
  - Has enjoyed the Champions program, is active on the Parent Teacher Association, and is a proud soccer coach with the David Douglas Soccer Club.

- She began her career working with marginalized youth at Outside In which opened the door to spending the next decade being a patient advocate lifting up the voices of patients.
- Became a project manager in health care listening to community needs and helping to make funding decisions.
- Currently an attorney; she is proud of looking back when she has stood with individuals against oppression.
  - Working with VOZ Workers Rights and Education Project.
  - Worked with youth who were applying for the deferred action for childhood arrivals.
- Has experience as a Board member and President for Villages Northwest.
- Interest in serving on this Board.
  - Labor, employment, and food issues with access and quality.
  - Land use: for construction projects, capital projects, gardens, and updating facilities.
  - Special needs: equity and equal access concerns on how we treat students outside of the spectrum.
  - Looks forward to a discussion around policy on respect for gender as a spectrum.

Kyle Riggs has lived with his family in the District for two decades: his children graduated from David Douglas High School.

- Both him and his wife have been employees of the District.
- David Douglas school related and community activities.
  - Parent, volunteer, community sports, Parent Teacher Organization, and youth group leader.
  - Citizens Advisory Committee, Equity Committee, and School Board.
  - President of Parents for Public Schools of Portland.
  - Parent leadership conferences: helping parents learn how to navigate school and understand the systems.
  - Elementary Back to School Night presentations on College Starts Now.
- Qualifications and Experience for Appointment.
  - 30-year business career in operations and human resources: dealing with budgets.
  - Has an Oregon Teaching License and did his preclinical work and student teaching in the District.
  - District employment: elementary Instructional Assistant and high school Assistant Principal Secretary.
  - School Board Member for seven years: negotiated licensed and classified contracts, well versed in the District's budget, ran the Bond, and is fluent in Board policy.
- His need to serve regarding District challenges: uniquely qualified to help bridge some of the opportunities.

Dennis Secrest (via video) has lived in the District for 21 years and his two children attend David Douglas schools.

- He's a stay-at-home dad who was a previously a retail manager at Barnes and Nobles for 15 years and his wife is an ASL teacher at the high school.
- He's committed to the District: his kids love being here, his wife loves her job, and he loves being a volunteer.
- Experience in the District.
  - Served on the Site Council, Budget Committee, and walks the Band and Orchestra students from Ron Russell to Earl Boyles every morning: volunteers in both of these schools.
- He is seeking this position because he has grown to love so many of the teachers and kids in the District.
  - Wants to see every kid have the opportunity to seed and help create an environment that fosters success for both teachers and the students.
- Feels the District is under utilizing a valuable commodity which is parent volunteers.
  - He believes there are a lot of parents who would like to help.
  - He would like to use parents in helping teachers and students meet their goals.
  - Volunteers are free and do not need to be a budget consideration.
- Believes he can help in areas to be more efficient with limited resources in time or money.

**Consent Agenda** – Ms. Stephens moved approval of the following Consent Agenda items, seconded by Ms. Nguyen. The motion approved in a vote of **4-0**.

- Approval of July Board Meeting Minutes
- Personnel Recommendations
- Contract and Purchasing Approvals
- Resolution Setting Tuition for the School Year 2024-25
- Approval of Budget Calendar for the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year

**Resolution to Approve School Support Fee for Enterprise Zone** – Ms. Stephens moved approved of the Resolution, seconded by Ms. Nguyen. The motion approved in a vote of 4-0.

**Financial Report** – Ms. Komar provided the following information.

- General Fund: Projected ending fund balance has increased from \$22.5 million to \$26 million.

- Interest Earnings: budgeted \$500,000 and got about \$2.2 million.
- Decreased expenditures: for West Powellhurst playground and house demolition at Gilbert Heights.
- We did not receive busses by June 30th.
- Student Investment Account (SIA): notification from ODE that they need to tie it to their fiscal year.
  - We moved about \$740,000 for class size balancing into the SIA Grant for 23-24.
- Nutrition Services Fund: work at Cherry Park has been delayed into next year.
- Energy Projects Fund: delays at Deardorff and trying to wrap it up this month.
- Transportation Replacement Fund: we thought busses would be in but they are not.
- Capital Reserve Fund: this will go to zero due the football field being the last purchase.
- Capital Projects Fund: planned for more expenditures on starting the CTE building but we're still on the permit.
- We have done well in investments: balances were shared of the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP).

**Bond Update** - Adam Cormack, Project Consultant for R&C Management and Lisa MoonCat Stormler, Bond Oversight Committee Chair provided the following information.

- Currently nine projects under construction: five in design and one that's working in close out.
- A Bond Oversight Committee meeting: discussion of communication ideas and site visits scheduled.
- Bond Program Overview: design standards finalized and incorporated to all designs: update in November.
- Schedule: all projects are currently on schedule but there have been some permitting challenges.
- Budget: modifications have been done that bring money in from outside funds.
- Douglas High school - CTE: project status updates.
  - Anticipating getting the permit any day: meeting with legal and the City on some easements for the water.
  - Due to the delays, we are not going to open in the fall of 2025: targeting winter break.
  - General Contractor is doing great and students have been engaged throughout the construction process.
- Repairs and renovation work.
  - David Douglas High School: unforeseen issue when pulling off the roof which has been addressed.
  - Clocks and intercoms: will be done in the summer 2026 and will not impact students.
  - Cherry Park: challenges with contractors and sub-contractors.
  - North Powellhurst: on target to finish on schedule.
  - Alice Ott, Gilbert Heights, and Gilbert Park: all three sites had challenges and will finish on time.
  - Middle school tracks are done and striped.
  - Fir Ridge, Mill Park, Floyd Light, South Powellhurst: currently in the design phase.
- The David Douglas High School football field replacement is finished: non bond project.

**Full Year Discipline Review** – Ms. Protopapas provided the following information.

- Racial Equity Commitment II in our Equity Plan: the goal is to reduce disproportionality and not predict what outcomes will look like around discipline based on the color of a student's skin.
- Discipline data snapshots were provided.
  - Number of incidents by school: active and inactive students with major incidents only.
  - 8605 total incidents over the 23-24 school year:
  - Percentages of incidents compared to the percentage of enrollment.
  - Disposition type: active and inactive students with major incidents only.
- The top 5 incidents were shared in elementary, middle, and high school.
  - Overall: physical aggression, non-compliance, cutting class, disruption, fighting, drugs/alcohol.
- School Board Discipline targets adopted in 22-23: data includes active and inactive students.
- Exclusion graphs: David Douglas High School, Fir Ridge, Alice Ott, Floyd Light, and Ron Russell from 2018-24.
- Reviewing systems for discipline data collection and having administrator meeting work sessions.
- What's next: elementary behavior data meetings, review of training, and implicit bias training

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

- The new Gilbert Park Liaisons are Ms. Stephens and Ms. Nguyen: will meet with their educators and staff.
- Hopeful to see the new interim principal of Gilbert Park receive some support.
- Hears all sides of the Gilbert Park situation and the decision wasn't easy.
- Would like to see the requests from the public comment on paper.
- We hear them and are processing the asks from the last meeting.
- There is a need for a specific process

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

- Getting ready for school, open houses, and first days with kids.
  - Shout out to our amazing maintenance, custodial, and grounds teams.
- Update on upcoming dates.
  - Open House schedule will be sent out tomorrow.
  - New Hire Orientation: August 20th.
  - Next week is Administrator Academy.
- Summer School: DDOA - 134 students attended, 106 courses completed, and 6 more graduated.
- DDOA 24-25 enrollment: Grades K-5: 41 students, Grades 6-8: 51 students, and Grades 9-12: 215 students.
  - New teachers and we're adding a new component of the MakerSpace.
- Summer Academy: elementary school overall attendance 84% and middle school 82%.
  - 3.5 hours of academic instruction and 1 hour of enrichment such as Elevate Oregon, Oregon Ballet Theater, OMSI, and Drama.
- Summer school surveys: 84% of staff responded met or exceeded program goals and 94% had enough support.
  - Grow Your Own Candidates: 4.5 out of 5 responded the summer program impacted their decision to seek a career in education.
  - Family/caregivers: 88% responded summer school goals were met for their students.
- District Open Positions: 32 for classified and 24 for licensed.
- Memo from the Governor on Current Service Level (CSL): there has been a lot of disagreement over the CSL.
  - The Governor's scheduled a meeting: an additional \$515 million will possibly be added to the CSL.
  - Quality Education Model is at 13.5 billion: conversation to eliminate 11% cap for special education, redirect corporate kicker, increase poverty weight from .25 to .5, and add funding to high-cost disability.
- Budget impacts: unemployment increase, PERS increase, and Leaves vs Oregon Health Plan.
- Operating Levy: if the Board as a group wants to explore, we'll need a directive of the entire Board.
- Continued cell phone conversation with the Board.
  - Cost would be \$300,000: at this time, we do not have this in our budget.
  - The conversation can continue even though we do not have the specific tool.
  - Planning to bring this conversation to the student Presidential Council for input.
  - Board suggestions: anonymous youth survey, debate club topic, and have secondary pilot the program.
  - Possibility to prioritize in next year's budget.

**Other Business**

- Approval of Capital Expenditure for HVAC Replacement from ESSER funds for Menlo Park Elementary School Ms. Stephens move approval of the Capital Expenditure, seconded by Mr. Gamero-Georgeson. The motion approved in a vote of 4-0.

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Heather Franklin, Board Vice Chair

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Ken Richardson, Superintendent / Clerk