Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
October 9, 2025

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 7:00pm in the David Douglas School District Boardroom, 1500 SE 130th Ave, Portland, OR 97233.

School Board members present were: Heather Franklin, Board Chair; José Gamero-Georgeson, Board Vice Chair, Althea Ender, Sara Epstein, Muriel Jordan, Stephanie D. Stephens, and Thomas Stephenson.

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; Aide Juarez Valerio, Director of Communications, Family Engagement & Strategic Partnerships, and Laurie Brunelle, Board Secretary.

The agenda included consideration of the following:

Call to Order / Native American Land Acknowledgement

Ms. Franklin announced the passing of Hoa Nguyen, former Board member. Full comments are located in the David Douglas Board meeting archives.

- Ms. Franklin shared: Hoa made a profound impact on our district, our State, and all of us individually. She shared her experiences and did everything she could for the community. Ms. Franklin is grateful to have learned from her.
- Donna Barber, former Board member wrote: she is grateful to have served alongside Hoa. She was a steady and compassionate presence who encouraged us all to consider the voices of marginalized students and families.
- Mr. Gamero-Georgeson shared: Hoa was a hard worker and taught him how you should be in certain spaces and to be the best you can be. She brought out the best in people because she exemplified that in what she did.
- Mr. Richardson shared: Hoa's kindness was sincere and the deep impact will be felt in our district because of her care for our community. She showed up in this space even when she was torn in many different directions.
- Ms. Ender shared: Hoa represented the best of our district in what a loving and caring individual can do here.
- Ms. Epstein shared that she ran for the School Board position with mentoring from Hoa and sees it as her duty to continue Hoa's values and dedication to the district.

Student Body President Report – Jacob Hall reported on high school activities.

- Homecoming was held on October 3rd with the biggest turnout of 736 people: Homecourt revealed at halftime.
- Club Fair was held on September 23rd with over 20 clubs: record number of sign-ups.
- Girls Soccer is top five in the State and Cheer Team received first in their events at the Mt. Hood Conference.
- The next Hype Night is October 13th for boys' soccer: encouraging students to come to the sports games.
- Shared student concerns of a newly formed club called Club America: established by the passing of Charlie Kirk.
    - Students expressed discomfort who did not share his views or were uncertain of the lesson plan.

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

- Stephanie Myhre, teacher spoke on behalf of DDEA and herself in Hoa Nguyen's passing. Hoa advocated for student needs and pushed for equitable practices. They're thankful for her dedication to progress and education.
- Amy Spencer, teacher shared about behaviors that have gotten significantly worse in the last six years.
- Joe Spinrad, teacher shared: this is his 3rd year experiencing difficulties with extreme behaviors in students.
- Joanna Friedman, teacher shared: her biggest challenge is not having support for one of her students.
- Jessica Juday, teacher shared: never thought she'd have to protect students from the violence of their own peers.
- Non Dodson, teacher wrote: extreme behavior makes it impossible for teachers to teach and students to learn.

DDEA Comment - Full comments are located in the David Douglas Board meeting archives.
Alice Eberharter, President expressed respect, condolences, and appreciation for Hoa Nguyen's service to our district.

- Disrupted learning is happening at all levels: ripple effect of staff and student moral and feeling safe.
- Continuum of Services Taskforce: trying to find creative solutions and proud of the work that's been done.
- Requests the district to take meaningful action to address the issues in our schools and community.

OSEA Chapter 40 Comment: Darla Black, President provided written comment regarding staff safety and student support.

Indigenous Peoples' Day - Menlo Park Elementary School: Sarah Phillips, Principal, Nick Erickson, Assistant Principal and Susy Bang, teacher provided a slide deck which included; who we're celebrating, where you can celebrate locally, reason for the celebration, and resources for staff, students, and families.

Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month Proclamation and Indigenous Peoples' Day Resolution - The Board shared in the reading of the Proclamation and Resolution.

Elevating Student and Family Voices – Aide Juarez Valerio and Oscar Campos, Assistant Principal at Lincoln Park shared a video of our community feeling fearful and anxious due to increased immigration enforcement nationwide.

Data Report: Math and Literacy - Brooke O'Neill, Rachelle Zimmerman, K-12 Math Specialist Francesca Aultman, District Language Arts Specialist, Cameron Cross, K-12 Reading Intervention TOSA provided the following information.

- OSAS achievement scores were provided for 2024-25 school year in Math and English Language Arts.
- iReady Diagnostic: an adaptive assessment that adjusts its questions for each student.
- Student Math Achievement for 2024-25 iReady: graphs were provided of BOY and EOY for grades K- 8.
- Beginning of year iReady Math from 2023-24 to 2025-26: graphs were provided for grades 1-8.
- Ahead for Math: increased and more systematized support of schools targeted for improvement.
- Acadience Learning Online: assesses some of the important skills needed to be able to read at grade level.
- Student Literacy Achievement for 2024-25 Acadience: graphs were provided of BOY and EOY for grades K-5.
- Beginning of year Literacy from 2022-23 to 2025-26: graphs were provided for grades K-5.
- Ahead for K-8 Literacy: increased and more systematized support of schools targeted for improvement.
- Capti ReadBasix middle school screener: built around six subtests that focus on a piece of reading development.

Division 22 Standards Report – Brooke O'Neill provided a presentation for the Division 22 Standards Report for the 2024-25 school year.

- Division 22 Standards Assurances is a yearly requirement for every school in the state of Oregon.
    - Newer rule categories were shared and requirements for each of the rules were provided.
- Local accountability: districts report to their School Board and make available on their website by November 1.
- State accountability: districts submit assurances to ODE by November 15.
    - When out of compliance: districts submit a report with corrective action.
- Report for 2024-25: waivers, rule revisions in effect, and new rule revisions in effect were shared.
- 57 standards were assessed with 55 in compliance and the 2 out of compliance: listed below.
    - Required Instructional Time: corrective action shared.
    - Substance Use Prevention and Intervention Plan: corrective action shared.
- Looking ahead for the 2025-26 school year: new/revised rules and requirements were shared.

Consent Agenda – Ms. Stephens moved approval of the following Consent Agenda items, seconded by Mr. Gamero-Georgeson. The motion approved in a vote of 7-0.

- Approval of September Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of September Board Workshop Minutes
- Contract and Purchasing Approvals
- Approval of Budget Calendar for the 2026/2027 Fiscal Year
- Approval for Lease with Parkrose School District for MECP
- Approval to Enter into Agreement with PGE for Net Metering and Interconnection Services at David Douglas High School

Bond Update – Ms. Komar provided the following information.

- Most of the renovation projects from the summer are wrapping up: a few punch list items left to finish.
- West Powellhurst: waiting on HVAC units and hoping we receive them by the end of the month for installation.
- CTE Center is on track for opening at semester break: issue with the conduits where overhead walkways meet.
- Auto shop furniture: there was a contracting issue with insurance requirements but it was figured out today.
- Working on our designs for next summer's projects and beginning to bid out on long lead items.
- Bond Oversight Committee's meeting will be in October or November: Board report in November or December.

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

- Enrollment is trending down - we are at 8,430 students which is down by 2%: will impact revenue and budget.
    - Elementary class size average: highest is 26.5 and lowest is 20.6.
        - Average across all the elementary schools is 23.6.
- Last bargaining session: implemented a $300,000 fund for class size reduction.
- Federal shutdown: possible long-term impacts.
- HR 1 and the impact to the State of Oregon is $888 million: impact specifically to education is $370 million.
- Governor Kotek spending slowdown requests: $2.15 million reduction to ODE.
- Legislative Financial Office reduction request: directed all divisions of the State to put together reduction plans.

- Mr. Richardson read a Proclamation in celebration of National Principal's Month
- Oregonian Education: students from David Douglas and Beaverton named U.S. Presidential Scholars.

Financial Report – Ms. Komar provided the following information.

- Business Managers meeting with the State: discussed Federal shutdown, HR 1, and CEP.
- Reminder: Economic Forecast in August was down: ODE is doing cut packages for this year.
- Enrollment: elementary numbers are down.
- General Fund: beginning balance budgeted at $22.5 million and is down to $21.5 million.
- Ending Fund balance: projected at $14.2 million.
- Capital Projects Fund: we have additional revenue and expenditures in this fund.

Board Policy – Second Read – Ms. Stephens moved approval of the following Board policy, seconded by Ms. Ender. The motion approved in a vote of 7-0. Policy CEA (administration) – Educational Equity Advisory Committee.

Board Policy – First Read – These policies are a first read for the Board.

- Policy DBEA (fiscal management) Budget Committee
- Policy GCBD/GDBD (personnel) – Leaves of Absences
- Policy IGBHD (instruction) – Program Exemptions
- Policy IIA (instruction) – Instructional Materials
- Policy JOA (students) – Directory Information
- Policy LBEA (community relations) – Denial for Virtual Public Charter School Student Enrollment

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

- All the concerns have been heard and understood: it feels like our hands are tied with the budget but will continue to advocate for the SPED cap to be raised. Better funding helps all students.
- Continuum of Services Task Force: hopeful of surfacing real ideas from impacted teachers and to put some things into practice. Also, hopeful to hear from everyone interacting with these behaviors.
- New and elevated levels are top of conversation in schools: grateful for the testimony and ongoing conversation.
- Would like to learn more: teachers are stymied by a system and kids are acting out the same helpless out of control feelings as adults. What could we do about it?
- It was nice to have the community step up and talk about Hoa's impact.

Mr. Richardson expressed appreciation to Jacob Hall for bringing up a serious topic on behalf of his high school peers. We love the positive stuff but we also want to know the topics you are navigating, struggling with, and celebrating.

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

- Ms. Franklin attended a DDEF meeting and learned about their process: they're looking for new members.
    - Attended Mill Park's Back to School Night and participated at the backpack giveaway table.
- Mr. Stephenson is looking forward to Cherry Park's Try It Tuesday.
- Ms. Ender visited Gilbert Heights and watched ECRI in the 4th grade level and visited a 30-kid 2nd grade class.
- Ms. Epstein visited Gilbert Park: learned about leadership support, large class sizes, and IEP accommodations.
    - Ron Russell: learned about decrease in referrals, safety forum, and issues with late start Wednesdays.
    - Alice Ott: learned about attendance, enrollment, math improvement, exclusion disparities and YouthTruth.
- Ms. Ender and Ms. Epstein visited MECP: learned families are feeling pressure around immigration status and services provided in their home.
- Mr. Gamero-Georgeson was invited to join the Immigration Committee and appreciates the work they're doing.
- Ms. Jordan visited with DDOA and learned their enrollment is showing trends of increasing.
    - Visited Early Learning and learned about Pre-School for All and North Powellhurst communication issues.
    - Visited West Powellhurst: toured the school and attended Back to School Night.

Heather Franklin

Heather Franklin, Board Chair

Ken Richardson, Superintendent / Clerk