Meeting of the School Board
David Douglas School District No. 40
December 11, 2025

A regular meeting of the David Douglas School Board was held on Thursday, December 11, 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, Muriel Jordan, and Thomas Stephenson.

Also present were: Ken Richardson, Superintendent/Clerk; Andy Long, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; 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

Student Body President Report – Jacob Hall provided high school activities.

- Threats were made to the school: deemed not credible so school was not cancelled.
    - More threats made for tomorrow and for Winter Formal.
        - Winter assembly postponed to next week and Winter Formal postponed to January.
        - Winter Formal Theme: Enchanted Bayou.
- Scot's Angel Fundraiser has begun for Tucker, Gresham HS student: he was injured at one of our home games.
- Next week is Winter Week: holiday goats, photos with the Grinch & Santa, Spaghetti eating competition, and more fundraising for Schnitzer Care and Scot's Angel.
    - Schnitzer Care Mission Statement: to help immigrants & refugees get basic necessities and legal support.
- Recently held events: Holiday Bazaar by the PTSA and Night with the Scot's.
- Try it Tuesday takes place every month: a meal with significant cultural roots to a culture in our community.
- No Scot Left Behind scholarship: for students who have trouble accessing the necessary funds for sports.

Public Comment - Full comments are located in the David Douglas Board meeting archives.
Topic: Teacher Retention and reasons for staying in the district.

- Cindy Bradley, teacher: fellow colleagues and administrators, stimulation of growth opportunities, ability to change positions, and fun with students.
- Annie Harrell, teacher: high school environment was accepting, collaborative, and deeply student centered.
    - Inspired by diversity of the community and rich opportunities available to students.
- Luke Ramirez, teacher: experience with the GYO Program, student teaching at Mill Park, and the New Teacher Mentor Program.

DDEA Comment - Full comments are located in the David Douglas Board meeting archives.
Alice Eberharter, President is meeting with members: positives and concerns on workload, student behavior, and support.

- Important to be aware of what's happing at the national level: deprioritizes education as a whole.
    - Respond by doubling down on our strengths.
- Teacher retention is about people, relationships, fun, and connections.
- Request to prioritize educators when making decisions.

Data Report - 9th Grade on Track: John May, Senior Data Analyst, Angie Ortiz-McNeese, DDHS Assistant Administrator, and Jen Buscher, DDHS Principal provided the following information.

- The State has an accountability measure that every district is responsible for 9th grade on track.
    - High school students should earn a quarter of their credits before the start of grade 10.
        - Percentage of students in 2024-25: 78.4%.
    - The following graphs were shared.
        - 2013-14 to 2024-25: achievement data.
        - 2024-25: student groups.
        - 2024-25: 9th grade credits by end of school year.
        - 2017-18 to 2024-25: comparison with neighboring districts.
        - 2009-10 to 2024-25: internal data from before the State began tracking. Includes math credits.
        - 2011-12 to 2024-25: 9th grade with the corresponding graduation rate.
        - 2017-18 to 2024-25: grad rates of intact cohort by grad year and 9th grade status.

- Integrated Plan: High School Success (HSS) Eligibility Rubric.
    - 9th grade prep for 2024-25: DDHS is part of MESD/HSS Consortium with neighboring districts.
        - Four teams with core teachers, HSS Coach, 9th grade strategies and advisory teachers.
    - Roadmap for 9th grade success: DDHS is in phase one which is established structures and foundations.
    - Implementation 25-26: team & weekly structure, common grading practices, and implementation cycles.
    - Schedule for the week: what it looks like in practice.

Bond Update - Bond Oversight Committee (BOC), Derek Morgan, Project Manager from R&C Management LLC and Lisa Stormler, BOC Chair provided the following information.

- General Bond Items: next Board update is in March and next BOC meeting will be held in January or February.
- Capital Bond Improvement Summary: DDHS projects.
    - CTE is going well and the moves are occurring over winter break.
    - DDHS Repair and Renovations: winter break work will be happening on south vestibule and intercoms.
- Capital Bond Improvement Summary: Summer of 2025 projects.
    - Fir Ridge Campus is all wrapped up: just working through the closeout documents.
    - Mill Park: substantially complete.
    - West Powellhurst, Floyd Light and South Powellhurst: doing well and all in commissioning.
    - Intercom and Clocks: everything is on track and training for administrative, IT, and maintenance staff.
- Capital Bond Improvement Summary: Summer 2026 projects.
    - Lincoln Park: HVAC upgrade through PCEF, secured vestibule, and roofing repair.
    - Mill Park: HVAC upgrade through PCEF and new solar system.
    - Earl Boyles: secured vestibule, siding, and roofing repair.
    - Gilbert Park: HVAC through PCEF.
    - Menlo Park and Ventura Park: secured vestibule and new fire alarms.
    - Ron Russell: secured vestibule and new roof.
    - Intercoms and Clocks: started on procurement.
    - North Powellhurst: HVAC for the administrative offices and PTAC units in the classrooms.
- Capital Bond Communications: continue to meet with the communications team regularly.

A recess was called in order for Ms. Komar to conduct a public hearing on the Student Investment Account Grant Agreement: there was no public comment as no members of the public appeared.

Approval of Student Success Act – Student Investment Account (SIA) Grant Agreement – Mr. Stephenson moved approval of the SIA Grant Agreement, seconded by Ms. Jordan. The motion approved in a vote of 5-0.

Consent Agenda – Mr. Gamero-Georgeson moved approval of the following Consent Agenda items, seconded by Mr. Stephenson. The motion approved in a vote of 5-0.

- Approval of November Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of November Board Workshop Minutes
- Contract and Purchasing Approvals
- Approval of Disposal of Surplus Property

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

- Implementation of new start time for Board meetings: If no Executive Session, Board meeting begin at 6:00pm.
    - Communication will be sent out to the community regarding the change.
- New policy: a representative from the district-wide Equity Committee will need to serve on the Budget Committee.
- CTE Program Fundraiser: CTE Center's grand opening is being held on January 23rd with a fundraiser dinner.
    - Table cost, paddle raise, and specific levels of support sponsorship.
    - The official ribbon cutting will be held on January 24th: sneak peek of the CTE Center with no cost.
- Last Board meeting of the year: thanked the Board for their service and looking forward to 2026.

Board Policy – First Read – This was a first read for the Board.

- Policy JHCA (students) Immunization, School Sports Participation, Concussions and Other Brain Injuries

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.

- Topic: Teacher Retention.
    - Nice to hear teacher's reflections and perspectives.

- Would like to learn more about retention and how we can help.
- Liked the New Teacher Mentor Program.
- Grow Your Own Program: keep in mind what the district can keep doing in the light of funding changes.
- It's fun to hear testimony that gives insight to how a teacher would be in the classroom.

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

Ms. Epstein visited Gilbert Park: grateful for new staff, and staff and student safety is forefront of their minds.

- Visited Ron Russell: had their first Safety Committee meeting in November.

Mr. Gamero-Georgeson attended Presidential Council's attendance discussion: students trying to find creative solutions.

- The immigration group is doing good work and having good discussions: getting the right resources for families.

Mr. Stephenson reported: Cherry Park's food pantry is being cut due to funding cuts from the Oregon Food Bank.

- PTA is stepping up to run the food pantry with food support from Urban Gleaners.

Ms. Ender toured the Transportation program and did a bus ride-along that was an amazing experience.

- Reported: Lincoln Park met with Floyd Light on expanding the Dual Language program into the 6th grade.

Ms. Jordan reported: North Powellhurst is going to OMSI to do play labs with the pre-school.

- Reported: DDOA is having their winter celebration tomorrow.

Ms. Franklin reported: the Continuum of Services Taskforce is doing incredible work.

- Reported: DDEF is involved with the CTE Fundraiser and the No Scot Left Behind scholarship.
  - Hoa Nguyen's family asked for donations to DDEF in lieu of flowers: for a memorial scholarship.

Heather Franklin

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Heather Franklin, Board Chair

Ken Richardson

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Ken Richardson, Superintendent / Clerk