

# DOVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## MEETING MINUTES

April 2, 2008

Members Present: Robert Springett Chairperson  
Kathleen Gill-Body  
Susan Hackney  
Darin Correll

Also Present: Dr. Robert E. Couture, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
Kirk Downing, Principal  
Deb Reinemann  
Andrea Hallion

1. Call to order at 10:45 p.m.
2. Instrumental Music - Mr. Downing described his plan to incorporate instrumental music/general music program in the schedule of "specials" for the fourth and fifth grade. Library and technology would be integrated into the regular academic program for the fourth and fifth grade in order to make space for the new instrumental/general music opportunity. The Committee gave Mr. Downing the green light to implement this model for the next school year. Dr. Correll suggested that the performing arts, dance, debate, etc., would have value as an option for these grades. The Committee also discussed the instructional hours issue in order to be certain the State's requirements were not compromised.

The "time" challenge requires attention in the short and long term. A strategic plan for Chickering should include goals associated with planning time, instructional time, professional development time, etc. Mr. Springett recommends the first question to be asked should be: How much time do we need to accomplish all the expectations we have for instruction and learning in our school?

3. Business Manager - The Committee discussed the need to reorganize the way the Business Manager and School Committee manage the budget planning process for next year. How best to deal with the multitude demands made of the Business Office and Superintendent need to be considered.
4. Strategic Plan - Unifying the mission of the Dover-Sherborn three part district is an important expectation for Superintendent Spriggs for next year. The question posed is how much should Dover do collectively with Sherborn and the Region and what needs to be addressed individually by each of the three parts. The effort should be broadbased including all the elements and audiences of the Dover-Sherborn school community.
5. Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Couture  
Interim Superintendent