

Dover School Committee Meeting

February 6, 2008

Chickering Music Room

10:30 A.M.

Present:

Dover School Committee

Darin Correll,

James Stuart

Robert Springett

Also

Robert Couture, Interim Superintendent

Andrea Hallion, Interim Assistant Superintendent

Kirk Downing, Principal

Richard Mathieu, Business Manager

Deb Reinemann, Curriculum Director

Caroline White, Warrant Committee

Call to Order—10:35 a.m. by Chairperson Springett

1. **Last Cut of Budget**—Mr. Mathieu shared and reviewed the current budget status including up-to-date adjustments directed by the School Committee. Chairperson Springett led the group through a line by line analysis of the updated budget

Mr. Downing described the recommendations he has made to add aide time to daily services. The new goal to add hours so that one aide could be assigned (30 hours) per two teachers. The goal to increase support for RTI and accelerated learning for students. School Committee approved the addition to the budget to accommodate Kirk's proposal.

Other considerations for budget increases were discussed. Accelerated learning and foreign language were subjects of interest. Kirk's aide proposal will help to address the need for accelerated learning opportunities for our students. The emphasis of the discussion was programs and services geared to improving instruction and learning opportunities in every classroom. A meaningful (robust) dialog about time on task and services in needed and should continue to occur as we plan for the future. We should examine the way we approach subject matter and consider how best to integrate 21st century information and experiences into the curriculum.

It is important to consider how to teach students to find answers to questions and take the initiative to process information and think creatively. These educational experiences should begin in our elementary school classrooms at. Curriculum and instructional innovation and experimentation facilitates the accomplishment of these goals. The T.L.C. concept is a vehicle for meaningful research, discussion and implementation of change.

Adjourn: 11:55 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Couture, Interim Superintendent of Schools