

Dover School Committee
May 1, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. in the Chickering Library

Attendance: Bob Springett, Susan Hackney, Darin Correll, Kirk Downing, and Louise Snyder

The committee brainstormed what preparations need to be made to help the incoming Superintendent, Valerie Spriggs, learn the culture of the district. The group discussed that Mrs. Spriggs will steer much of the discussion around her transition as she develops and carries out her entry plan. Also, she will learn about the school priorities by examining important documents like the School Improvement Plan and the Chickering Goals for 2010. From her entry plan we will learn about Mrs. Spriggs' vision for our school and we will work together to build a strategic plan for the future.

The Committee also spent time talking about how we can set high goals for student performance and develop criteria for measuring our success. Currently MCAS predominates as a primary data point and the school is working with staff to bring more data points into the educational story of each child.

Some questions that were brought into the discussion were:

- How do we define “best?”
- What are the benchmarks and standards?
- Does our vision look far enough down to compete in a world economy?
- Are we teaching the right things?
- Teacher qualifications/ Teacher performance
- Time to learn

The School Committee requested that the administration put together an initiative document that is focused on action items for next year and beyond. The document should address the six areas of performance as outlined in the Chickering Goals 2010 document along with any adjustments that are deemed necessary.

Meeting ended 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk Downing
Secretary pro tem