

**Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee**  
Meeting of December 2, 2008

Members Present: Ellen Williamson, Chair  
Rainie Pearson, Vice-Chair  
Beverly Madden  
Claire Graham  
Richard Robinson  
Nate Van Duzer (arrived 7:03 pm)

Also Present: Valerie Spriggs, Superintendent  
Richard Mathieu, Business Manager  
Page Hamilton, Student Representative

**1) Call to Order**

Ms. Williamson called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm in the Middle School Library.

**2) Approval of Minutes**

a) Regional School Committee – November 4, 15 and 19, 2008

Ms. Madden made a motion to approve the minutes of November 4, 2008. Ms. Graham seconded. Under Reports b) remove extra space in “Report”.

08-63 VOTE (as amended): Unanimous

Ms. Pearson made a motion to approve the minutes of November 15, 2008. Mr. Richardson seconded. Under Present: Region, add Nate Van Duzer.

08-64 VOTE (as amended): Unanimous

Ms. Pearson made a motion to approve the minutes of November 19, 2008. Mr. Richardson seconded. Under Others Present correct spelling of Page Hamilton. Under 3 – Budget Overview remove the dash before 5% in second sentence. In third sentence change 7% to 7-10%.

08-65 VOTE (as amended): Unanimous

b) The Sherborn School Committee minutes of October 16, 2008 and the Dover School Committee minutes of October 21, 2008 were noted.

**3) Community Comments**

None

**4) Reports**

a) Presentation of Superintendent’s Academic Excellence Award – Ms. Spriggs awarded the Superintendent’s Academic Excellence Award to Anna Gaissert.

b) Student Advisory Council – Ms. Hamilton updated the Committee on recent and upcoming Student Council events.

c) Business Manager’s Report

- FY ’08 Audit Report – Mr. Eggert and Mr. Haynes presented the Fiscal Audit to the Committee. Ms. Pearson made a motion to accept the Fiscal Audit Report as presented by Hirbour & Haynes, P.C. Mr. Richardson seconded.

08-66 VOTE: Unanimous

- Finance – The monthly report by function code was provided.
- Building Project – The parking lot project has been completed. The Administration thanked the Dover Town Engineer for his help (and cost savings) with the project. The locker room will be completed over Christmas vacation.

- FY10 Budget – The budget will be provided to the Towns without this year’s numbers for the statutory assessment because they will not be provided by the State until January. Once they are known, the assessment will be updated.

Ms. Pearson made a motion to approve the FY10 budget of \$19,702,752 subject to changes to the assessment numbers as the formula numbers are provided by the State. Ms. Graham seconded.

08-67 VOTE: Unanimous

- d) Superintendent’s Report – Ms. Spriggs reviewed enclosures provided to the Committee including:

- Open Campus – Ms. Spriggs recommended keeping the policy as is based on conversations with the Insurance carrier concerning liability to the school as well as meeting the “Time in Learning” requirements from the State.
- Middle School and High School Class Size Reports – The Middle School report was provided, the High School report will be presented in January.
- Overnight Field Trips:

- Middle School Field Trip to Washington DC – Mr. Randall requested permission for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class to travel to Washington DC. There was a lot of discussion about the trip as well as comments from parents.

Ms. Madden made a motion to approve the 8<sup>th</sup> grade overnight field trip to Washington DC for May 27 – 29, 2009 provided no student is denied attendance due to inability to pay. Mr. Van Duzer seconded.

08-68 VOTE: 4 – 1 (Ms. Williamson abstained)

- Project Close Up, Washington DC – Ms. Pearson made a motion to approve the Project Close Up overnight field trip to Washington DC for the week of March 8, 2009. Mr. Robinson seconded.

08-69 VOTE: 5 – 0 (Ms. Madden abstained)

- Winter Leadership Trip – Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the Winter Leadership overnight field trip for March 1 – 4, 2009. Mr. Van Duzer seconded.

08-70 VOTE: Unanimous

- Proposal for Strategic Planning Process – to be discussed at the Joint School Committee meeting in January.
- Policy Update – Mr. Hardy is collecting documents and will be ready to meet with the policy subcommittee in January or February.
- Assistant Superintendent Position – Ms. Spriggs asked for permission to post the position of Assistant Superintendent of the district. The Committee agreed.

## 5) Special Items

- a) Building Project Reallocation: Warrant Article – The Committee directed Mr. Mathieu to create a warrant article asking both towns to reallocate remaining building project funds to be potentially used for capital improvements at the Administration Building.

Ms. Madden made a motion to submit the warrant article(s) to Dover and Sherborn. Mr. Robinson seconded.

08-71 VOTE: Unanimous

- b) Communication – The Committee discussed the content of the proposed town-wide mailing.

## 6) Future Business

- a) January Agenda Items – Waste water treatment update, Warrant article, Budget, High School class size report, Building project priority list, Assistant Superintendent, Extra-compensatory
- b) Proposed School Calendar 2009-2010 – Ms. Spriggs presented the proposed calendar with the start date for students on August 31, 2009. The calendar will be approved at the Joint School Committee meeting in January.

7) **New Business**

None

8) **Routine Business**

- a) Enrollments as of December 1, 2008.

9) **Adjournment**

Ms. Pearson made a motion to adjourn at 9:25 pm. Ms. Graham seconded.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Davis