

DOVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
October 21, 2008

Members Present: Bob Springett, Chairperson
Darin Correll (arrived at 7:07pm)
Jennifer DaSilva
Susan Hackney
James Stuart (arrived at 7:05pm)

Also Present: Ms. Valerie Spriggs, Superintendent
Dr. Claire Jackson, Interim Assistant Superintendent
Kirk Downing, Principal
Ginny Keniry, Assistant Principal
Richard Mathieu, Business Manager
Dr. Deb Reinemann, Curriculum Coordinator
Wendy Darragh, PTO President

1. **Call to order** – Mr. Springett called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Chickering School Library.
2. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a) Dover School Committee minutes of September 16, 2008.
Mr. Springett requested a motion to accept the September 16th minutes. Ms. Hackney moved, Ms. DaSilva seconded.
08-33 Vote: Unanimous
 - b) The minutes were noted of the Sherborn School Committee for September 11, 2008
3. **Community Comments** -- None
4. **Reports**
 - a) **PTO Report** – Wendy Darragh, President PTO
 - Chickering clothing line introduced this year
 - Harlem Wizards Basketball game vs. Chickering Faculty and Parents on November 15th.
 - b) **MCAS Overview – Dr. Jackson**
 - MCAS Overview distributed, information includes Chickering rank vs. state and comparison vs. other schools.
 - District scores included children not in the building. Mr. Stuart asked if the data is available for the district with non-Chickering students excluded. Dr. Jackson has been working with the state for this report.
 - MCAS Basic Report distributed and reviewed. Mr. Springett noted that when comparing Grade 3 at Chickering to the five comparisons schools in the % advanced category we were the lowest in Reading, while we were the highest for Math. Need to look at variables such as changes in curriculum and implementation of new programs and their impact to the scores. Dr. Reinemann will present more detailed data at the November meeting.
 - Many students are obtaining supplemental Math services outside of school, the committee would like more information about how much additional time these student receive math instruction and compare those students test scores vs. students not receiving the additional instruction.
 - c) **Business Manager's Report** – Mr. Mathieu
 - FY'09 Budget Update – SPED on budget, report included in packet
 - Utility report included in packet, oil price has been locked-in for the year. Mr. Correll noted that the electricity costs continue to rise.
 - Classroom temp report distributed and reviewed. Need to assess the cost/benefit of mitigating the system.

- Capital Budget FY10—requesting \$80,000 for Computer Technology Equipment. Also noted that in 2011 when Chickering is 10 years old that building improvements will likely be needed.

d) **Principals Report** – Mr. Downing

- METCO Program Overview – 15 METCO students in the school. Representation will be sent to the METCO conference. Mrs. Newton travels on the bus with the students in the morning and supports the students while they are at Chickering and at home.
- ELA Update – Dr. Reinemann—Balanced Literacy continues—7 consulting days so far. DIBLES has been administered in grades K-3. Grades 4 and 5 have completed the first round of Galileo testing, data debriefing tomorrow. DRA being used to assess student understanding and reading skills in grades 1-5.
- RTI – Ms. Keniry—Working to develop consistencies this year. Student Instructional Support Team will work with teachers and data presented to help teacher identify targeted interventions. Working on processes and documentation for the Student Support team, what interventions we already have and what we can expand. Some staff have attended the “Read Naturally” workshop.

e) **Superintendent’s Report** – Ms. Spriggs

- Technology Director —Mr. Leo Brehm has been hired, starting date TBD. Thank you to Ted Mosher and Ken Corning for their assistance during the interviews. Also thank you to Mr. Stuart for his feedback.
- MASC/MASS Conference being held November 19-22 in Hyannis.
- Computer Network Policy for Employees – First draft included in packet, the policy was taken from the *School Law of Massachusetts* and has been edited to include feedback received to date.
- High Achievers Grant—Grant summary distributed. The grant is now on hold due to state budget reductions.
- Communication/Newsletters—Ms. Spriggs has researched communications from neighboring towns. Samples have been gathered for DSC review.
- Budget reductions—Ms. Spriggs has received communication from the Commissioner of Education regarding the governor’s budget reductions, some of the reductions noted were to circuit breaker funding, special education transportation, new full-day K grants (this does not impact existing full-day K). Mr. Springett noted that we have budgeted to cover special education costs.
- Mr. Springett asked for an update on the ASPEN student information system. Mr. Downing reported that staff have attended training to support their duties. Trying to identify how to best utilize system for Chickering.

5. **Special Items** -- None

6. **Future Business**

- a) November School Committee Agenda Items – Mr. Springett
 - MCAS—Dr. Reinemann
- b) FY10-FY12 Capital Budget Request – Ms. Spriggs

7. **New Business** -- None

8. **Routine Business**

- a) Enrollments as of October 1, 2008—report distributed

9. **Adjournment**-- Mr. Springett requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Hackney motioned, Mr. Correll seconded. Meeting Adjourned at 8:49p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deb Savastano