

Dover School Committee meeting minutes 4/1/2009

Committee Present: Darin Correll, Jennifer DaSilva (arrived 1040), Bob Springett, James Stuart (left 1110)

Others Present: Kirk Downing, Deb Reinemann, Valerie Spriggs, Dave Stapleton

Called to order at 1035.

Updates:

Ms. Spriggs updated the committee that the Warrant committee has requested that the FY10 Dover schools capital budget request be reduced by \$10,000. Pricing reductions for equipment and a reduction in the number of teacher desktops from 24 to 18 will allow a reduction of \$10,317.

Motion to accept the Administration's proposal to decrease the FY10 capital budget request by \$10,317 made by Mr. Correll, seconded by Mr. Stuart. Vote: unanimous (Mr. Correll, Mr. Springett, Mr. Stuart).

Sally Winslow, SPED Director, has put in her resignation to take an assistant superintendent position in another district. The process for a replacement has begun with ads already posted. Question raised of having a combined SPED director position for the district, Ms Spriggs does not recommend this as a possibility at this time.

Steven Bliss has accepted the Assistant Superintendent position. He is planning to use up his accrued vacation at his present position to come to the Dover-Sherborn District one day a week until the end of the school year and then he will start full time on July 1st.

Mr. Springett asked if we were going to lock into the present oil rate for next year. Ms. Spriggs will follow up with Mr. Mathieu on this as there was some issue regarding meeting a minimum volume requirement.

New Items:

Administration presentations for upcoming general school committee meetings discussed:
April – have some teachers discuss their “use” of instructional aides
May – Response-to-Intervention (RtI) model planning for next year
June – technology presentation

Mr. Springett raised the issue of adding “New Revenue Opportunities” to the strategic initiatives. Need to determine how the school can offer value added “for-profit” services to the community at large.

Foreign Language at Chickering

Will need time and funding as well as an actual program. At this time this cannot be addressed operationally. Suggestion is to have SAC begin to investigate the options/programs that other primary schools utilize.

“Accelerated” Learners Program

Suggested that a specific “program” be developed and be communicated to parents. Mr. Downing pointed out that this fits directly into the various initiatives already in place and planned, e.g. RtI, differentiated instruction and increased use of instructional aides.

Need for Comparative Analysis

Look at other schools that are considered the “best”; locally, nationally and internationally. Determine what they are doing to get there and then evaluate where we want to go and what we can take from these schools to help us get there.

Motion to adjourn at 1200 by Ms. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Correll. Vote: unanimous (Mr. Correll, Ms. DaSilva, Mr. Springett).

Respectfully submitted by:
Darin J. Correll, M.D.
Secretary DSC