Dover School Committee
Meeting Minutes of 11/4/09

Present: Jennifer DaSilva, Kirk Downing, Ginny Keniry, Deb Reinemann, Carolyn Ringel, Valerie Spriggs, Bob Springett, James Stuart.

Meeting was called at 9:10am.

Mr. Springett said that he would like to go back to the spirit of teamwork and collaboration that we agreed upon during our July meetings. We have a terrific district with eager students, a hardworking administration and supportive, involved parents. There is no reason why we cannot reach the heights of success.

The Capital Budget Committee needs a number by the end of November. How much are we asking for? They have a $90,000 estimate in their capital budget from us. We currently have a preliminary estimate of $234,000. We must prioritize our spending. Ms. Spriggs is going to provide a written explanation of our spending needs by November 16. Ms. Sprigg’s report will also set forth the budget estimates vs. actual spend.

There should be a better procedure with accountability of student activity accounts. Mr. Downing will investigate and report back at the November 17 meeting.

Mr. Stuart made a motion: to authorize the school principal and assistant principal to receive money in connection with the conduct of certain student activities and to deposit such money, with the municipal treasurer into an interest bearing bank account, hereinafter referred to as the Student Activity Agency Account, to be used for the express purpose of conducting student activities.

Mrs. Ringel seconded the motion.

Vote: DSC unanimously approved.

Initiatives 2009-2010:
1. Accelerated Learning Program - language arts and math
The update from Mr. Downing is as follows:
   K-1: reading academy, no math program yet
   2-5: math pre-assessment tools are being utilized before each unit is taught
   3-5: Galileo pre-tests
   4: math re-grouping occurs once per week across the grade
   5: utilizes a variety of enrichment methods

Dr. Reinemann reports that Galileo is working well for the school and should be part of the budget renewal.

Mr. Downing collects data and is determining whether the methods that the staff is using are having the intended outcome for the students.

Goal is for the students to achieve MCAS scores in the top 25 elementary schools in MA.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45am.
Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Bancroft DaSilva