

Dover School Committee meeting minutes 7/30/2007

TOWN OF DOVER  
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Present: Darin Correll, Kathy Gill-Body, Susan Hackney, Robert Springett, James Stuart

Meeting called to order at 19:00 by Mr. Springett.

ARRIE H. CLOUGH  
TOWN CLERK

Minutes Approval

Minutes of 7/18/07 Dover School Committee meeting reviewed. Ms. Hackney made a motion to approve, seconded by Ms. Gill-Body.  
07-36 Vote: unanimous. Motion to approve passed.

Minutes of 7/18/07 Dover School Committee Executive Session reviewed. Ms. Hackney made a motion to approve, seconded by Ms. Gill-Body.  
07-37 Vote: unanimous. Motion to approve passed.

Updates

Ms. Gill-Body and Mr. Springett updated the committee on their meeting with Mr. Downing, Ms. Hallion and Dr. Davis on 7/27/07. Mr. Downing plans to move the Professional Learning Community model forward as a means of achieving a common vision and goals for Chickering with a student-oriented focus (i.e. determining what each individual student needs). There were conversations between Mr. Downing and Mr. Ferrari over the past months to keep Mr. Downing abreast of and allow his input into decisions that were made so he is starting with a solid background understanding. The committee has offered Mr. Downing the option of having small group meetings throughout the year to discuss ideas.

Mr. Springett updated the committee that Ms. Hunter of the Dover Warrant Committee was informed that a co-teacher has been hired to work with Ms. Weltman in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Discussions

The Chickering School Goals for '07-'10 draft document was reviewed.

The Committee feels that certain key "tactical" steps will need to continue (e.g. Everday Math, English Language Arts, data management to drive educational decisions, improved parent communication).

Mr. Downing will need to have time to formulate his decisions as to the most important aspects of the Goals. These will likely be included in his Entry Plan as well as the Action Plan for the '07-'08 school year. The committee would like to have a timeline as to when these will be prepared and an understanding of what assistance the committee can provide in the preparation of these Plans.

Committee would like to understand how Mr. Downing will measure the success of the Professional Learning Community model.

The Committee feels that it needs to increase communications with the community on various issues, but especially on topics that may affect the School's budget in the future.

Discussion ensued as to how the Committee can better support the Chickering Administration. Ideas posed:

- regular small group meetings (as mentioned above);
- additional topic-based meetings to obtain information and help develop plans;
- and having the Committee directly address specific items on the Goals document outside of the Administration's efforts.

#### Committee members' specific-item "leadership" positions

Dover Warrant Committee liaison – Mr. Springett

SPED liaison – Mr. Stuart

Finance/Budget issues – Mr. Springett and Mr. Stuart

SAC/TEC liaison – Mr. Stuart

Instrumental Music Program evaluation – Ms. Gill-Body

PTO liaison – Ms. Hackney

Community Communication and Political Lobbying – Dr. Correll and Ms. Hackney

#### Potential Subjects for Topic-based meetings

Time-to-Learn

Professional Learning Community

Power Standards

Chickering Benchmarks

Technology

Parent-Teacher communication

English Language Arts

Unanimous vote to adjourn meeting at 21:00.

Respectively submitted by: Darin J. Correll, MD