Dover School Committee meeting minutes 7/18/2007

Present: Darin Correll, Kathy Gill-Body, Susan Hackney, Robert Springett
Absent: James Stewart

Meeting called to order at 19:10 by Mr. Springett.

Mr. Springett updated the committee on his conversation with Mr. Downing regarding new teacher hirings. An additional teacher has been hired to work with Joanne Weltman in 5th grade. With the change of Louise Snyder to Literacy Specialist a new 5th grade teacher will need to be hired. The new teachers for Kindergarten, 1st, 3rd and 4th grades have already been hired.

Mr. Springett informed the committee that the Dover Warrant Committee is interested in exploring ways to revise the accounting practices for Circuit Breaker monies. The committee agreed that any proposals for changes in the accounting practice for the FY09 budget process will need to be in writing and officially submitted to the committee for consideration at a future meeting.

Mr. Springett informed the committee that Selectman Kathy Weld approached him to let the committee know that members of the Caryl School Project would be looking to work with the school committee in the fall. They may want to explore the use of Chickering’s gymnasium or grounds as an alternate site for a town gymnasium. Dr. Correll noted that the gymnasium floor has a finite life. It can only be stripped and resurfaced 3 times before it will need to be replaced completely. Therefore only appropriate activities should occur in the space (i.e. sports activities with properly soled footwear) not activities that require “street” shoes, tables, chairs or other things that would cause excessive wear to the floor surface. Mr. Springett will talk to the head custodian about this matter.

Mr. Springett informed the committee that work has begun in the school, based on the recommendations of the Energy Task Force. Will need to follow-up with Mr. Mathieu on exactly what is being done (e.g. window films being removed, energy contractor evaluating what is feasible to improve ventilation in the building).

At 19:40 a verbal poll was taken to enter Executive Session: Dr. Correll – Yes, Ms. Gill-Body – Yes, Ms. Hackney – Yes, Mr. Springett – Yes.

Open Session resumed at 20:00.

The Chickering School Goals for ‘07-’10 draft document was reviewed. This has already been sent to Mr. Downing for his review. Decision made that individual committee members will determine a priority list for what they consider to be the most important goals for the upcoming year, then a discussion will need to be had with Mr. Downing to come up with a finalized Goals document and the prioritized initiatives list for the ’07-’08 school year.
Discussion ensued regarding the role/level of involvement of the DSC in the “day-to-day” activity at Chickering. A number of issues were raised and debated without reaching agreement and a follow on meeting will be scheduled for July 30th to continue this discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 21:00.

Respectively submitted by: Darin J. Correll, MD