

Dover School Committee Meeting
January 29, 2007
10:45-12:45

Administration building, Dover AM

Attending: Kathy Gill-Body, Maria LaTour Kadison, Susan Hackney, Bob Springett, James Stuart

Kathy Gill-Body called the meeting to order.

1. Discussed the four 2007 School Committee openings and the length of term. Determined which school committee members were interested in running again and for which term. Discussed alerting candidates who had expressed an interest in the last opening vacated by Kim Phelan.
2. School committee members were appointed to be representatives on the following committees: James Stuart and Bob Springett for Collective bargaining; Susan Hackney and Kathy Gill-Body for Superintendent Search Committee; Bob Springett for Transition Team.
3. Principal Candidate Interviews - There was a discussion about developing and circulating a list of questions for school committee members to ask of our candidates at the public meeting, Thursday, Feb 1.
4. Received an update on time on learning initiative by Ms. Gill-Body. The team was impressed by the consultant, Steven Gould, who was brought in to look at scheduling. He has experience in looking at whether there is enough time to teach the school's stated curriculum. He has helped schools ask the questions they need to ask about their curriculum, determine what is important and look at ways to create time to teach what is necessary. The consultant will spend time with Ginny Keniry and Pat Hamblett on scheduling and move to the deeper focus of time on learning. School Committee members will receive an update from Pat and Ginny.
5. Review of 05-06 initiatives - The committee felt that much progress has been made this year with curriculum work, using data to inform instruction more regularly and more easily, and with the principal search. It was agreed that further discussion re: student enrichment programs, school administration and management, and the use of technology for administrative and school management purposes should occur in 07-08. We need to have continued discussion this year on the use and maintenance of the Chickering website, and the effectiveness of parent-teacher communication. Sue and Maria need to distribute the final Strategic Plan for Communication from the DSC ASAP for all to review.
6. Kathy requested that another DSC member come to the meeting this Friday (8:30 am) with the Warrant Committee representatives, and also to the Warrant Committee on 2/12/07 when we present our budget. James agreed to attend the 2/12 meeting.
7. We deferred conversation about developing performance standards and benchmarks at Chickering, and follow-up re: teacher aide training to a future meeting.