

APPROVED APRIL 7, 2020

**Dover-Sherborn Joint School Committee
Workshop Meeting of January 22, 2020**

Regional Members Present: Anne Hovey, Chair; Maggie Charron, Vice Chair; Judi Miller, Secretary; Kate Potter; Michael Jaffe; Lynn Collins

Sherborn Members Present: Angie Johnson, Chair; Megan Page, Secretary; Nancy Cordell; Amanda Brown

Dover Members Present: Henry Spaulding, Chair; Rachael Spellman, Secretary; Mark Healey; Brook Matarese; Leslie Leon

- 1) Call to Order: Ms. Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. in the Middle School Library.
- 2) Dr. Keough introduced Dorothy Presser, the Field Director of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees.
- 3) Ms. Presser explained that the purpose of the workshop was to help the joint school committee work together effectively by understanding goals and responsibilities and developing a set of operating norms for how the work of the joint school committee would be performed.
- 4) Ms. Presser explained that a school committee's most important responsibility is continued improvement in student achievement and discussed how a committee's practices impact that responsibility.
- 5) Ms. Presser explained the importance of the committee working as a united team along with the superintendent, and we discussed the importance of collaboration, trust and respect.
- 6) Discussed what practices effective school committees use: goal setting, monitoring progress, working collaboratively and conducting varied and purposeful meetings.
- 7) Discussed the distinct roles of the school committee (governance, goals, policy and budget) versus the superintendent (management, recommendations and implementation) and how best to respect those roles.
- 8) Discussed the difference between the committee and the individual member and the fact that individual members do not speak for the committee.
- 9) Discussed that operating protocols and norm setting are important as these set the ground rules for how the committee operates.
- 10) Ms. Presser provided the group with a handout on what these protocols/norms address and gave suggestions for how we might develop such protocols.
- 11) **Adjourned at 8:03 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by Judi Miller