

A meeting of the Dover School Board was called to order by Chairperson Marjorie Fisher on Monday, January 9, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

**A. ROLL CALL:** Present were Marjorie Fisher, Dorothea Hooper, Audra Lurvey, Brandon Foye, Kara Winton, and Doris Grady. Absent was Carolyn Mebert.

Also present were Superintendent, John O'Connor; Business Manager, Laurie Verville; DHS Teacher, George Dailey; Barbara Szabunka, Horne Street School Principal; Anne Watson, Garrison School Principal; Anna Parrill, Garrison School Principal; Larry DeYoung, Dover Middle School Principal; Patrick Boodey, DHS Dean of Students, Bailey Rigg, Network Manager; Murray Ingraham, Director of Curriculum; Richard Barrett, DTU President; Philip Loud, DTU Vice-President; Kathy Latchaw, DTU Secretary; Chris George, Principal Dover High School; Jaclyn Adams, Director of Special Education; Joanne Eaton, Facilities and Operations; Jean Briggs, Federal Projects; David Bennett, Nancy Wood, Debra Hackett, Peter Driscoll, Doug Fortier, Teachers; and Marcus Weisgerber, *Foster's*.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The entire Board led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. CITIZENS' FORUM:** No one addressed the Board.

Audra Lurvey moved, Doris Grady seconded, to suspend the rules and bring item N.1., Dover Teachers' Union Contract forward at this time. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**N.1. Dover Teachers' Union Contract:** Kara Winton moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to accept the Dover Teachers' Union contract.

Ms. Winton read the following note from Carolyn Mebert for the record regarding her position on the DTU contract: "First, I apologize for being unable to attend this meeting. If I were here, I would certainly vote in favor of this contract. As a member of the negotiating team, I am very proud of the contract and the process by which it was achieved. This was a true negotiation, with considerable give and take and a great deal of respect displayed for both the process and the participants. I believe that the compensation plan we have agreed to is very fair and reflects the union's understanding of the financial constraints within which the district operates. For that, I think we should all be very grateful."

"To address a concern raised by one of my school board colleagues, I want to emphasize the point that the stipends proposed for the teachers at the highest step do not amount to an additional step. Step increases become part of the salary base; stipends do not. The salary plan in this contract is specific to the removal of the first step in the salary range. I do not think our vote on this contract should be based on what may happen in negotiations three years from now when a variety of conditions could be different."

"To reiterate, this contract has my complete support and I thank the members of both teams for their efforts."

Doris Grady stated that she liked some items in the contract including the increase in salary for entering teachers since that will help to attract the best teachers into the system. "However, on page 10, Article V, Section A, under the stipend (it says), the stipend language in my opinion is a permanent part of future contracts. There is no expiration date in that particular paragraph. I have difficulty with that. That sets a situation where, if you were at the top with the extra ½, 1, and 2%, teachers at the top are getting 12-1/2% while the regular staff members are getting

their 8%. The cost of those stipends alone will run about \$350,000+. Because of the cost, and because they couldn't find it suitable to put an expiration date, I will probably find it necessary to vote against it."

Dorothea Hooper stated that she understood Ms. Grady's concerns but, "It is my opinion that this is a fair contract; that it was negotiated in good faith; I don't expect teachers to work for nothing, any more than I expect anyone else in society to work for nothing. I think their raises are modest. I think we have addressed the problem of not being able to attract teachers at the bottom level to Dover by increasing that first step and I think that's a wise move, so I will be voting in favor of this contract."

Marjorie Fisher stated that she had also been a member of the negotiating team and thanked the DTU and District's negotiating committees "for conducting bargaining in a cooperative, professional manner. I believe both the DTU and the District achieved a number of important objectives." Chairperson Fisher then listed the names of all committee members: DTU – Peter Miller, NEA UniServ Director; Richard Barrett, DTU President; Carol Andre; George Dailey; Debra Hackett, DTU Treasurer; Philip Loud, DTU Vice President; Elizabeth Lynch; and Ann Marie Petrin. District – Marjorie Fisher, School Board Chair; Carolyn Mebert, School Board; Edward Kaplan, Esquire; Larry DeYoung, Principal; and Sue Daudelin, Human Resources.

Ms. Fisher then highlighted some of the changes to the contract:

- "Salary schedules are being increased 2%, 3%, and 3% annually over the three years of this contract. We have also included stipends of 1%, 1.5%, and 2% for teachers at the top of the salary scale. Our current salary scale includes 18 steps.
- There will be a higher employee contribution rate for health insurance incrementally over the next three years.
- Teachers will be required to attend an additional evening meeting.
- Curriculum Advisors (CA's) at the High School will now be called Academic Coordinators, while at the Middle School, they will be called Team Coordinators.
- We are providing domestic partner rights.
- Longevity pay has been increased.

In the first year, the "new money" in this contract is \$644,142, less the increase for employee contribution for health care of \$70,462, which brings the figure to \$573,680.

Again, I would like to congratulate all who participated in negotiations. I believe we have a fair and fiscally responsible 3-year agreement. Tonight, I am looking for your support."

After all Board member comments, a roll call **VOTE PASSED 5/1** (Grady Opposed). Board members and DTU officers signed two copies of the new contract.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Audra Lurvey moved, Kara Winton seconded, to accept the following minutes:

- a. **Nonpublic Session #41, December 12, 2005 (Personnel)**
- b. **Nonpublic Session #42, December 12, 2005 (Discipline)**
- c. **Regular Session #12, December 12, 2005**
- d. **Nonpublic Session #43, December 19, 2005 (Discipline)**
- e. **Organization Meeting, January 3, 2006**

**f. Nonpublic Session #1, January 4, 2006 (Discipline)**

An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

**E. CONSENT AGENDA:**

Audra Lurvey moved, Kara Winton seconded, to approve the consent agenda. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

1. **Correspondence:**
2. **Resignations/Retirements:**
  - a. Susan Daudelin, Human Resources Coordinator, SAU
3. **Leaves of Absence:**
4. **Nominations:**

Sheet 1: Nomination & Election of a Secretary, Aide, Custodian, Non-Union, Substitute, and Summer School Staff: Conway to Meffen  
Sheet 3: Nomination and Election of Coaching Positions: Houlihan  
Sheet 4: DALC Staff Nominations: Briand to Hernandez  
Sheet 5: HUB Nominations : Dugmore to Weete
5. **Overnight or Out-of-State – Staff Travel Requests:**
  - a. Candace Hall, Advanced Placement Institute for Experienced AP Calculus Teachers, March 23 and 24, 2006, Burlington, VT
  - b. Joanne Eaton, Northern NE Chapter of Association for Physical Plant Administrators, March 12 to 16, 2006, Standish, ME
6. **Professional Development Waiver:**
7. **Extended Travel (Student Trips):**

Ms. Fisher took a moment to note that Susan Daudelin's resignation from the Dover School District was on the evening's agenda and that she will be going to work for the City. "We're going to miss her in the Dover School side, let me tell you."

**F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Superintendent O'Connor reported on the following items:

- **Educational Information:**
- The Horne Street Enrollment Issues Committee will begin to meet. Members include Brandon Foye, Marjorie Fisher, and Kara Winton, School Board members; Principal Barbara Szabunka and Amelia Chapman, David Goldsmith, HSS teachers; and parent Amy Enneking. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 25, 2006 in the Horne Street School. (RECORD NOTE: The date has been revised to January 26<sup>th</sup> since the 25<sup>th</sup> is City Council meeting night and Board members will be in attendance.)
- The Superintendent invited administrators to address the Board:
  - **Larry DeYoung reported** that two buses of over 125 students, coaches, and parents participated in the Gunstock Ski Program during the first outing in January. The program runs for 6 consecutive Thursdays.

- A sixth grade class won a Student Stock Market game put on by Fidelity and the *Union Leader*. Ms. Bessett's class was the state winner in the category of skit/play videotapes. Out of many entries, they were #1. This past week, they went to Merrimack and received an award.
- January 20<sup>th</sup> over 75 parents, students, and staff will be taking the DownEaster' to attend the Boston Celtics.
- Over winter break, 12 students enrolled in DMS. Out of the 12, six were 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Class numbers are averaging 26 and 27 at this time.
- **Chris George reported** that the Mr. Dover High School event that was cancelled due to snow and will be held Thursday evening at 7:00.
- The semi-formal will be held on Friday.
- An Alternative Scheduling committee has begun meeting to look at ways to better serve the needs of our students. He added that the committee is looking for parents and students to participate on the committee if interested.

1. **Education Achievements:** See above.

Doris Grady moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to accept the Superintendent's report. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

**G. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:** Erica Sgrignuoli reported that the Student Council collected 900+ cans of food during the December food drive. The food was donated to the Dover and Nottingham Food Pantries. She then asked about the change in the fine arts requirement which was changed so that language does not count towards that credit. "Does that apply to the class of 2007?"

Dover High School Principal, Chris George, responded that the new state requirements for credits and the NCLB Requirements for Highly Qualified Teachers, has diminished some of the things that were allowed for part credits. "The new Program of Studies reflects those changes, but they do not impact the class of 2007. It would be only those passed for this current freshman year."

**H. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**1. Curriculum Planning Committee - Dorothea Hooper reporting:** Ms. Hooper reported that she attended a meeting of the Curriculum Planning Council at Dover Middle School on January 5<sup>th</sup>. Mr. James Stopa, Director of the DHS Regional Career Technical Center, gave a progress report on curriculum and programs offered to both Dover students and students from surrounding communities. Dover High School students have the opportunity to choose from 28 exploratory programs that range from foods to woodworking to car works. Both Dover High students and students from other communities can enter any one of 13 approved programs that are career oriented which range from computers to cosmetology. Students who choose from one of these career paths may leave fully qualified to take licensing exams. Just as a point of interest, cosmetology students are prepared for their exam as part of their program while the same program at a beauty school would cost between \$28,000 to \$30,000.

There are 20 staff members implementing the Career Technical Center programs. They apply academic skills and instruct with the purpose of meeting statewide core competencies. They also prepare students to go on to advanced training as 85% of the jobs out there will require some advanced training.

The staff goal is to make learning relevant. Aiding in this is a Program Advisory Committee made up of community members.

Mr. Stopa reported on information he had gained by attending state and national conferences. He noted that this type of program is in constant need of updating with a corresponding need for professional development to keep teachers up to speed. Since this makes it an expensive program, he is always looking for sources of funding.

Mrs. Jan Hennessey presented a recommendation from the World Language Department. In the 1990's language became available to all students. This changed the way students were taught. While the curriculum remains the same, classes are run at different paces. Some students will take 2 years to cover what others will complete in 1 year.

During a summer workshop, teachers examined the curriculum offerings and decided that parts 1 and 2 of the French/Spanish courses were working successfully. Some students, however, were not reaching curriculum goals in the "advanced beginner" course so the recommendation is to break instruction into segments called Fundamental II, Fundamental III and CP IV. Staff also determined that there was a need to examine new materials and ,on an ongoing basis, assess different approaches to instruction.

To gain more information, all World Language teachers attended the N.H. Association of World Language Teachers conference to gather new ideas and review the newest texts and materials. A follow-up summer workshop is planned to make plans for Sept. 06.

Mrs. Hennessy discussed some budgetary needs that will be required to support instruction. Our next Curriculum Planning Committee meeting will be on Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> when science will be on the agenda.

## **I. POLICY - CHANGES - PROPOSALS**

**Policy Changes Proposals:** Kara Winton moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to table the following policy changes until the February 13, 2006, Regular Meeting. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

1. **ACE – Procedural Safeguards Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap/Disability**
2. **BID – Compensation for School Board Members**
3. **GBA – Equal Opportunity Employment**
4. **GBEC – Drug-Free Workplace**
5. **GBJ – Personnel Records**
6. **GCG – Part-time and Substitute Professional Staff Employment**
7. **GCO – Evaluation of Professional Staff**
8. **IC/ICA – School Year/Calendar**
9. **IF – Instructional Approach**
10. **IHCD – Advanced College Placement**

## **J. POLICY ADOPTION:**

**1. Policy IHBAE-E – Policy for Independent Evaluation of Students:** Audra Lurvey moved, Kara Winton seconded, to adopt the policy in its second reading. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

**2. Policy AD – Educational Philosophy:** Audra Lurvey moved, Kara Winton seconded, to adopt the policy in its second reading. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**3. Policy AE - Accountability:** Kara Winton moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to adopt the policy in its second reading. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**4. Policy BBA – School Board Powers and Duties:** Audra Lurvey moved, Kara Winton seconded, to adopt the policy in its second reading. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**5. Policy BGA – Policy Development System:** Audra Lurvey moved, Kara Winton seconded, to approve the policy in its second reading. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**6. Policy DJ - Purchasing:** Kara Winton moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to approve the policy in its second reading. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**7. Policy DN – School Properties Disposal Procedures:** Audra Lurvey moved, Dorothea Hooper seconded, to adopt the policy in its second reading. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**8. EB – Safety Program:** Audra Lurvey moved, Dorothea Hooper seconded, to adopt the policy in its second reading. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**9. Policy EBCD – Emergency Closings:** Audra Lurvey moved, Kara Winton seconded, to adopt the policy in its second reading. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**10. Policy EFC – Student Participation in School Lunch Program:** Dorothea Hooper moved, Brandon Foye seconded, to adopt the policy in its second reading. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**11. Policy JLF – Reporting Suspected Child Abuse:** Kara Winton moved, Brandon Foye seconded, to adopt the policy in its second reading. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**K. SUBMISSION AND PAYMENT OF BILLS:** Kara Winton moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to authorize the Business Manager to pay manifest 06-G in the amount of \$2,946,133.89. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 6-0**.

**L. RESOLUTIONS:** None.

**M. OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**N. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Dover Teachers' Union Contract:** See above.

2. **Social Studies Curriculum Adoption:** Dr. Murray Ingraham provided Board members with an overview of the process followed during the review of the Social Studies Curriculum. The last time the curriculum was reviewed was in 1999-2000. Three sub-task forces worked over the past two years with administrators and teachers to prepare the proposed curriculum. He then thanked Kathy Latchaw, grades K-4; Dean Lyndes at the middle school, grades 5-8; and Patrick Boodey, Dean at the high school for grades 9-12 for coordinating the reviews at their schools. Also working on the review were

Principals Larry DeYoung and Chris George, and Doug Fortier, Curriculum Advisor at the High School. The following recommendations proposed:

K-4 Level: Teachers and principals thought the existing text, "*We the People*" had been an excellent resource as a basic text and recommended holding that for the next cycle. However, during the review, it was found almost consistently across all grades that there was a severe lack in the geography supplement of the program. An inventory was taken and it was found that some classrooms had old (1967) maps, some rooms had no globes, and there was an inconsistent picture across all grades in the geography component. The committee is hopeful to address that in this adoption. Also, reading research suggests an emphasis on non-fiction trade books in the lower grade levels. This will help students gain in the skills they will need later on at the secondary level to be able to read, interpret, and analyze non-fiction types of materials. The recommendation is to support that effort for K-4 at this time. Lastly, the K-4 task force looked at the unit objectives in the original adoption and made adjustments in classroom time and appropriateness for the K-4 level mapped to the newer draft of state standards.

Patrick Boodey addressed middle school and high school curriculum new state standards. The new state standards specifically emphasize, civics, economics, geography, and history. Those requirements are largely based on best practices in social studies and recommendations by the National Council for Social Sciences. The proficiencies are new and it will take a lot of work to make what we will teach workable inside the classroom on a daily basis. The social studies curriculum on the state level is also going through some modifications that will be up for official adoption in the spring or next fall.

Kim Lyndes addressed proposed changes to middle school grades 5-8 social studies curriculum. The middle school is proposing a curriculum shift. Currently, they teach US history in fifth grade, world history in seventh grade, world history continued in eighth grade, and then US history again in eighth grade. The proposal is to teach US history in grades 5/6 and world history in grades 7/8. The social studies teachers in the middle school feel this is a more developmentally appropriate approach and it also closes the gap between US history in fifth grade and eighth grade, as it is a long time for them not to receive instruction in US history. All social studies teachers agreed on the changes on what they felt was best practice for the students in middle school. Because it is just a shift, they can shift textbooks and supplemental materials. The budget will ask for a new textbook for all sixth grade students since it would not be appropriate to bring the eighth grade texts down to sixth grade due to readability levels.

Doug Fortier, high school curriculum advisor, discussed the new scope and sequence for Dover High School. The changes came about due to the restructuring of credits required by the State Department of Education in social studies. Currently, the requirement is three credits in American history and government. That is being reduced to 2 ½ in the upcoming school year. In order to reflect that reduction, the proposal alters the scope and sequence. Currently, freshman have world cultures and economics. Sophomores and juniors have 2 years of American history and government, and seniors are freed up for electives. How that will change is, freshmen will have world culture and economics. Their sophomore year will change to a half-year course in civics. The junior year will be one full year of American history and government. It's a plan that they feel best addresses the needs of our students.

Dr. Ingraham asked Board members if they had any questions. Dorothea Hooper asked when the state planned to conduct social studies testing. Patrick Boodey explained that there are a couple of different plans currently being reviewed. It will take at least two years, even if there was an immediate federal mandate for testing, to design and implement a test. However, it will

probably be determined by when states are willing to fund it. Mr. Boodey stated, "The earliest will be 2008; I would say no later than 2011. The good thing about what we are proposing tonight is that it has taken that into consideration. We are going by the frameworks, which are national, the National Council of Social Sciences and what they recommend. We're also doing the state frameworks so we're going to be on line, state, nationally, and locally will follow suit as well. So we'll be prepared for it so we won't have to jump through any hoops in 2008 or 2011."

Ms. Hooper stated she had heard the presentation twice and noted there was a tremendous amount of work that went into it and that she felt it was a very fine program. Ms. Grady also agreed and congratulated them on their presentation. "It appears there's been a great deal of thought and input into the project. There are some very fine educators who worked on this curriculum who I have great respect for. Whatever decisions you've made, certainly meet with my approval. Doug, I've spent quite a lot of time with. It was a pleasure to see you stand there and present it. I just really thought it was one of the better presentations that I've seen in the past ten years. Thank you."

Chairperson Fisher also thanked the committee for all of their hard work and asked for a motion.

Dorothea Hooper moved, Doris Grady seconded, to adopt the Social Studies Curriculum. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**3. Rescind Resolution for Staff Travel** Superintendent O'Connor requested the Board to rescind the following resolution:

#### **RESOLUTION**

**RE:           STAFF TRAVEL**

**WHEREAS**   the Dover School Board is attempting to find avenues to reduce our costs, and

**WHEREAS**   the District has spent considerable funds on staff travel, and

**WHEREAS**   the School Board controls those funds associated with certain travel, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that, beginning today, July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006, all out of state travel and overnight travel to conventions, seminars, conferences, and/or retreats taken by any member of the staff and paid for with local, State, or Federal funds shall be first posted and approved through the consent calendar at each monthly Board meeting. The request to travel will include a detailed summary of all expenses.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the following non-overnight exemptions apply:

- Conferences and Meetings called by the Commissioner or State Board
- Conferences within New Hampshire of the Associations to which we currently belong
- Day travel between buildings and School Districts within the state of New Hampshire

**SUBMITTED BY:   Marjorie Fisher, Chairperson  
Dover School Board  
Ward 6  
BY REQUEST**

**June 13, 2005**

Dorothea Hooper asked the Superintendent to explain why he was requesting the resolution be rescinded. The Superintendent indicated that the evening's budget proposal contains line items for staff travel identified by area or by buildings. These figures are approved by the Board. Generally, it's the role of the Superintendent to place the final approval on a principal's recommendation for any type of staff travel. In the past, the Board asked to take on the responsibility. Dr. O'Connor stated he would like to be given the opportunity attempt to work with his administrators to meet the School Board's goal – to find avenues to reduce costs, to look at how much is being spent and keep those figures in line with what we can reasonably afford. Additionally, types of workshops will be reviewed to see if they fit in with district, building, and personal goals.

Ms. Grady asked if information would still come to the Board on the consent agenda. Dr. O'Connor stated that it would not, but that he could provide information to Board members about staff travel in his weekly emails to keep them informed. Ms. Grady stated it would be important to go back and explain to the public why the resolution was originally adopted. "This came about because in some past situations, we had some trips with administrators and wives in groups of six, who took a trip to New Orleans; we had an athletic director taking trips to California and Alaska; and because of that the Board at that time found it was necessary to create the resolution. What happens if we rescind the resolution, what happens if the Board has another Superintendent decides to do the same thing."

Dorothea Hooper stated she was in favor of rescinding the resolution. "There was a time when we felt there was a need for this kind of oversight, and I fell that time has passed. I think that if the time resurfaces again, then another Board will take action just as we did when we thought it was being abused. A lot of people look at administrative and teacher conferences as frills. They are not. This is where our administrators and our teachers get some of the very creative ideas that they bring back to our district. This is where they get a chance to meet with people from all over the country or all over the state and find out what is going on out there. I am highly in favor of taking whatever opportunity is available within financial reason to do this. This is something I don't really want the responsibility of deciding. I think it is better off in the hands of the building administrators making their requests to the Superintendent because they know what is really necessary and what kind of follow up is really necessary for this kind of a trip. I would be in favor of rescinding it, but I wanted the information out there for the sake of the public."

Kara Winton moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to rescind the June 13, 2005, resolution on staff travel. An oral **VOTE PASSED 5/1** (Grady opposed).

**4. Policy DD – State and Federal Funding:** Business Manager, Laurie Verville, reported that as of December 31, 2005 total expected state and federal funding was \$3,262,670.99 with \$1,559,911.37 total obligations and expenses leaving approximately 52% of funds remaining to be obligated and expended.

Dorothea Hooper moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to accept the quarterly state and federal funding update. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**5. Policy DIC – Special Funds Update:** Business Manager, Laurie Verville, reported the following fund balances as of December 30, 2005: Field User Fees \$1,155.65; Facilities \$8,928.12; Athletics \$15,424.60; Parking Lots \$14,229.87; with a total fund balance of \$39,738.24.

Chairperson Fisher asked the Business Manager to give a brief explanation of what kinds of expenses would be charged to each of the funds. Ms. Verville stated the field user fees most recently went towards funding the installation of sprinklers in the fields; the facilities funds go towards the improvement and renovations of the buildings; athletic funds purchase athletic equipment and fund repairs to fields; and parking lot funds most recently paid for parking lot lighting.

Ms. Verville also reported the food service fund balance as of December 31, 2005 was \$6,761.62.

Dorothea Hooper moved, Doris Grady seconded, to accept the quarterly special funds update. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**6. Request for Repair Funds:** Business Manager, Laurie Verville, requested the Board approve an expense, not to exceed \$400, from the facilities athletic fund for the repair of two training cycles at Dover High School. Both bikes are of considerable value and must be repaired to maintain their usefulness and safety.

Dorothea Hooper moved, Brandon Foye seconded, to approve an expense, not to exceed \$400, from the athletic fund to repair the two training bikes. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

**7. Everyday Math – Parent Survey:** Dr. Murray Ingraham provided Board members with the results of a parent Everyday Math Survey taken in grades 1-4 in the spring of 2005. He explained that this will be used as baseline date. He noted that the return was only 25-30%, but stated that is “within normal survey bounds.” He noted the trend from all three schools seemed to be “quite positive.” The Math Improvement Teams will be looking closely at the surveys to monitor how Every Day Math is doing and will continue to send surveys home to query how parents feel about the curriculum. Additionally, math information nights will be held and quarterly assessment results will be reviewed to monitor how the students are doing. Several Board members noted their disappointment with the low response figures and asked Dr. Ingraham what he felt they might do to increase the numbers. He stated that Mathematic Improvement Teams have been formed for each of the elementary schools and they will be working with DINI coordinators to come up with ideas to help promote the program and get interactive feedback.

Kara Winton asked if the family letters were the same as “home links” that go home. Dr. Ingraham stated they were. She asked if teachers required they come back, “like occasional home work,” as that might increase home participation. Dr. Ingraham stated it was something they could try.

Doris Grady asked Dr. Ingraham to think about ways to increase the response to the surveys at Woodman Park School. Dr. Ingraham agreed, they need to look at ways to get higher responses. Audra Lurvey suggested they try to send the surveys via email noting that some students do not bring their papers home. Dr. Ingraham stated he would work with Bailey Rigg to look at coordinating with EdLine to accomplish this.

**8. Fiscal Year 2007 Budget Presentation:** Superintendent O'Connor made the following Superintendent's budget presentation to the Board:

About one month ago, the School Board provided the Superintendent with a goal – to bring in a budget with moderate growth above contractual obligations. Dr. O'Connor stated he had received many requests for new staff, but worked with his administrators to come up with a



<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$259,205</b>	<b>\$262,287</b>
<u>Replacement Textbooks</u>	<u>2006/07</u>	<u>2000/01</u>
o Garrison	\$3,500	\$16,500
o Horne	\$3,500	\$12,375
o Woodman	\$3,500	\$14,025
o Dover Middle	\$5,000	\$5,470
o Dover High	\$18,000	\$69,529
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$33,500</b>	<b>\$117,899</b>

The facilities budget being recommended is level funded for 90% of all requests. There is an increase in new and replacement equipment for \$180,000.

The overall budget increase for 2006/2007 is 9.22%. That breaks down into 6.06% in contractual obligations and 3.16% in Superintendent recommendations. Dr. O'Connor stated his belief that he had achieved the goal of the Board, moderate growth above contractual obligations.

The Superintendent advised that he and the administrative staff would work with the Board to develop a realistic, defensible, and fiscally sound budget to present to the City Council. At the January 23<sup>rd</sup> Budget workshop, the Superintendent will present additional information concerning the debt service and the overall tax impact provided he has a definitive answer from the City treasurer.

Dorothea Hooper asked for clarification on the monies (\$25,000) for the middle school summer school – “Do we fund that entirely or is that supplementary?” Dr. O'Connor stated that unlike the high school that charges a fee, there is not charge at the middle school. The Board has a policy that states if students fail, they must attend summer school. “If we are requiring them to go, it’s difficult to ask for a fee.”

Dorothea Hooper then asked who we are legally bound to provide transportation in the district. The Superintendent stated we are required to transport students in grades 1 through 8. There is Board policy that states we will provide transportation for students in elementary 1-5 who live one mile from school, 6-8 who live 1 ½ miles from school, and 9-12 who live 2 miles from school.

**O. ADJOURNMENT:** At 8:35 p.m., Doris Grady moved, Brandon Foye seconded, to adjourn the meeting. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

Respectfully submitted,  
 KARA WINTON, SECRETARY  
 Dover School Board  
 January 10, 2006