

A workshop session of the Dover School Board was called to order by Chairperson Marjorie Fisher on Monday, June 26, 2006 at 7:37 p.m. in City Council Chambers.

Present were, Marjorie Fisher, Dorothea Hooper, Audra Lurvey, Carolyn Mebert, Kara Winton, Brandon Foye, and Doris Grady.

Also present were Superintendent John O'Connor; Barbara Szabunka, Principal, Horne Street School, Chris George, Principal, Dover High School; Murray Ingraham, Curriculum Director; Jackie Adams, Director of Special Education; Lt. William Simons, Dover Police Department; and Larry Clow, *Foster's*.

A. NWEA TEST DATA: Dr. Murray Ingraham presented testing data comparisons for 2003-2004, 2004-2005, and 2005-2006 school years. He reviewed some of the highlights of the comparisons and explained how the information could be used to assist teachers, and the district, in identifying areas of concern in reading, mathematics, and language usage curricula. It might also identify areas in which teaching methods need to be improved.

Reviewing the three years of data collected for Dover so far, Dr. Ingraham noted there seems to be a general upward trend in overall achievement national percentiles. (most in the 50, 60 & 70 percentiles). The district goal is to increase all areas to 70% or above in these national percentiles.

Dr. Ingraham then provided Board members with a sample report showing the Fall 2003 to Spring 2004 Reading Growth Factor Summary. Data is provided for each student by grade and compared to a national group to arrive at a growth target. The growth target identifies how many points the student is expected to achieve between the fall and spring tests. It also identifies whether the growth target is met or not. For those students who do not meet the growth target, teachers may review the student's tests to identify areas of weakness. A last sample report showed percentiles for students who transition from 4th (elementary) to 5th (middle school) grades.

Dr. Ingraham stated it was of note that the higher scoring groups tended not to meet their growth percentiles (30%) compared to the lower scoring groups. He stated that might be an area in which the curriculum should be reviewed to be sure it meets the needs of the higher scoring students. Ms. Mebert asked if the scores included identified students. Dr. Ingraham stated they were included unless they were in self-contained classrooms.

B. ADJOURNMENT: At 8:35 p.m., Kara Winton moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to recess back to non-public session. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/1** (Mebert opposed).

Respectfully submitted,

KARA WINTON, SECRETARY
Dover School Board
KW/kgb
June 27, 2006