

A meeting of the Dover School Board was called to order by Chairperson Marjorie Fisher on Monday, July 10, 2006, at 7:05 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

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

Also present were Superintendent John O'Connor; Laurie Verville, Business Manager; James Verschuere, Director of DALC; Larry DeYoung, Dover Middle School Principal; Dustin Gray, Garrison School Principal; Patrick Boodey, Woodman Park School Principal; Joanne Eaton, Facilities Manager; Bailey Rigg, Network Manager; Chief Perry Plummer, Dover Fire Department; Director of Curriculum; Jean Briggs, Director of Federal Projects; Peter Wotton, Athletic Director; Richard Barrett, DTU President; and Larry Clow, *Foster's*.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Marjorie Fisher led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

- a. **Nonpublic Session #25, June 12, 2006 (Personnel & Contract Negotiations)**
- b. **Regular Session #6, June 12, 2006**
- c. **Nonpublic Session #26, June 26, 2006 (Personnel & Contract Negotiations)**
- d. **Special Session #3, June 26, 2006**
- e. **Workshop Session #3 June 26, 2006**

An oral **VOTE PASSED 5/0**.

**E. CONSENT AGENDA:**

Audra Lurvey moved, Brandon Foye seconded, to add sheet 5, to nomination for a Girls' Varsity Basketball Coach, Michael Gile, to the consent agenda. An oral **VOTE PASSED 5/0**.

Doris Grady moved, Brandon Foye seconded, to accept the amended consent agenda items. An oral **VOTE PASSED 4/1 (Winton opposed)**.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Correspondence: None.**
2. **Resignations/Retirements:**
  - a. Heidi Hutchinson, Language Arts, Dover Middle School
  - b. Anna Parrill, Principal, Garrison Elementary School
  - c. Heather Boucher, Elementary Health Teacher
  - d. Kyle Repucci, English Teacher, Dover High School
3. **Leaves of Absence: None.**
4. **Nominations:**

Sheet 1: Nominations and Election of Administrative Personnel (Boodey to Gray)

Sheet 2: Nomination and Election of Teachers (Lawrence to St. Pierre)

Sheet 3: Nomination and Election of a Secretary, Aide, Custodian, Non-Union, Substitutes, and Summer School Staff (Fredericks to Wisminiti)

Sheet 4: Nomination and Election of a Secretary (Osburn)

5. **Professional Development Waiver: None.**

6. **Extended Travel (Student Trips): None.**

## **F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

### **1. Educational Information:**

Superintendent O'Connor reported on the following items:

- Summer Reading Program for all schools
- *The Long View Review* June 2006, poetry prepared and published by the Dover High School Inkspots. (Record Note: Extra copies have been placed in the Dover Public Library, City Hall, and the SAU per the Board Chair's request.)
- Introduction of new Principals: Patrick Boodey, Woodman Park School and Dustin Gray, Garrison Elementary School
- Patrick Boodey thanked the Board and expressed his excitement in taking his new position at Woodman Park School.
- Dustin Gray also addressed the Board and stated he is honored and privileged to take the position at Garrison Elementary School.
- Peter Wotton addressed the Board for Principal George. He reported new lockers are being installed at the high school. Anticipated openings: One social studies position and possibly a second position (maternity), chemistry, biology, physical science, Spanish, culinary arts, and English. A yard sale has been running the past week to benefit Lindsey Kennell who is in Boston recovering from an accident. Proceeds going to help the family travel back and forth to Lindsey who is recovering.
- Superintendent O'Connor noted there is only one elementary (health) position open. We are advertising again.
- Jean Briggs presented information on Camp Tecnocality that was held last week. 19 teachers attended the 3-day camp (1 High School, 11 Middle School, 4 Horne Street School, 1 Woodman Park School, 2 Garrison Elementary School). Linda Smart and Nancy vonWahlde presented the course and Ms. Briggs thanked them for doing a great job. She read many positive teacher comments collected after the course completion. Ms. Briggs then reported on additional summer staff development. 17 high school teachers will attend a differentiated instruction workshop at Pinkerton Academy in August; the Math Improvement Team will attend a training session for 4 days in August; there will be literacy training at Woodman Park School and Garrison Elementary School.
- Ms. Briggs reported that because of the NCLB and AYP sanctions, in consultation with staff, Mr. DeYoung, and Dr. O'Connor, it was decided it would be best to pull the small amount of Title I services that remain at the middle school for the next school year. She then provided a rationale for the decision. Because Dover Middle School would be a

school in need of improvement for year two, they would be mandated to take 20% of the total Title I funding (\$150,000) and put it to an outside agency for tutoring services. The middle school budget the past school year was about \$77,500. It didn't seem to make a lot of sense if the state was going to mandate a \$150,000 set-aside for year two sanction. Since Woodman Park, it is a school-wide Title I school and it is much freer how the money can flow to the students. At the middle school, they were faced with a lot of restrictions. It did not give the administration at the middle school much flexibility as to whom they could serve. Right now, we have locally paid reading and math teachers in grades 5 and 6. When we put a Title I tutor in that room, it then became a Title I program and had to be streamlined for only Title I eligible students. By pulling Title I away, it frees up who can go into the room and when they can go in the room. There is no flexibility when it is a targeted assisted school and the program is so small. Ms. Fisher questioned how the middle school could decide not to be a Title I school. Ms. Briggs explained to be eligible to receive Title I funds requires a poverty count over a certain threshold. She noted, however, that the district has the option to take all Title I funds and target them to the greatest need. At the Middle School, the poverty count is about 27%. At Woodman Park, it is about 43%. Any school that is over 40%, the school is designated as a school-wide Title I school. Under 40% and the school is designated as a targeted assistance school, you have to target your services and the state is very particular in how that money is used. The district would not lose any money previously targeted for the middle school. The amount for which the district is eligible will remain the same. The district can decide how the money is allocated.

## **2. Education Achievements:**

Audra Lurvey moved, Doris Grady seconded, to accept the Superintendent's report. An oral **VOTE PASSED 5/0.**

**G. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:** There was no student representative report.

**H. COMMITTEE REPORTS:** There were no committee reports.

**I. POLICY - CHANGES – PROPOSALS:** None.

**J. POLICY ADOPTION:** None.

**K. SUBMISSION AND PAYMENT OF BILLS:** Audra Lurvey moved, Kara Winton seconded, to direct the Business Manager to pay manifest #07-A in the amount of \$5,1437,735.33. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 5/0.**

**L. RESOLUTIONS:** None.

## **M. OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Kindergarten Staffing and Enrollments :** The Superintendent reported current kindergarten registrations at each elementary school:

- Woodman Park School 77 (space for 3 more)
- Horne Street School 75 (space for 5 more)
- Garrison Elementary 66 (over by six students)

This means there is a net of 2 additional spots in the District for Kindergarten enrollments. The Superintendent recommended the Board add an additional ½ day kindergarten teacher at

Garrison Elementary School at the approximate cost of \$25,000. When enrollments at Horne Street and Woodman Park reach 80, they should tell parents there is a possibility that their student will attend Garrison School.

Kara Winton moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to add an additional ½ time kindergarten teacher at Garrison School. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 5/0**.

#### **N. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Staffing Needs and Concerns:** The Superintendent addressed Horne Street School enrollments. Many of their classrooms are nearing the maximum capacity procedure that is in place. He will monitor the situation very carefully and keep the Board apprised. Ms. Grady stated it might be time to review redistricting to even out our elementary school numbers. The Superintendent noted there will be a district-wide review of the three elementary schools. The committee will meet over approximately 18 months and make recommendations for the future. The Superintendent stated he will place the item on the September agenda.

**2. Dover Fire and Rescue Safety Festival Update:** Chief Perry Plummer addressed the Board. He thanked the District staff for their help in organizing the fire safety festival. They reached 1800 students in grades K-4. Students were provided with CD's, DVD's, and tee-shirts to promote safety topics. This is the 12<sup>th</sup> year of the Safety Festival.

**3. Shepard's Driving School Presentation:** DALC Director, Jim Verschueren, requested the Board approve a contract for the next two years for the Shepard's Driving School. They have been working with the driver education program for 2-1/2 years. 400 students were served over the last year with only 2 complaints. He stated there it has been a wonderful relationship working with Shepard's. The cost is also comparable to other local providers.

Kara Winton moved, Brandon Foye seconded, to accept the 2-year contract for Shepard's driving school. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 5/0**.

**4. Establish AFSCME Negotiating Team:** Superintendent O'Connor asked Board members to volunteer for the upcoming custodial contract negotiations. Their contract expires at the end of the 2006/2007 school year and they have requested negotiations begin as soon as possible.

Kara Winton and Brandon Foye volunteered to participate on the custodial negotiating team.

**5. Award Bid for URL Filtering Renewal Subscription:** Kara Winton moved, Brandon Foye seconded, to award the bid for URL Filtering Renewal Subscriptions, to Higgins Office Products in the amount of \$5,315.00. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 5/0**.

Doris noted that many of the technology bids come in lower with Lyme Computers and asked if we ever awarded them a bid. Bailey Rigg stated Lyme Computer has been awarded contracts in the past. However, his opinion and that of his technicians is that Higgins offers superior support services. Ms. Grady noted the technology bids should be looked at more closely in the future.

**6. Award Bid for Desktop Computers:** Kara Winton moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to award the bid for Desktop Computer Systems to Reason (a.k.a. Nor-Tech). A roll call **VOTE PASSED 5/0**.

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**7. Award Bid for Anti-Virus Subscription Renewal:** Kara Winton moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to award the bid for anti-virus subscription software to low bidder, Higgins, in the amount of \$8,610.00. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 5/0**.

**O. ADJOURNMENT:** At 8:00 p.m., Kara Winton moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to adjourn the meeting. An oral **VOTE PASSED 5/0**.

Respectfully submitted,  
KARA WINTON, SECRETARY  
July 11, 2006