

A workshop session of the Dover School Board was called to order by Chairperson Marjorie Fisher on Monday July 24, 2006 at 7:08 p.m. in the Office of the Superintendent.

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

Also present were Superintendent John O'Connor; Business Manager, Laurie Verville; Jean Briggs, Federal Projects, Mary Buese, Larry DeYoung, Principal, Dover Middle School (arrived at 7:25) and Larry Clow, *Foster's*.

**A. REALLOCATION OF TITLE I FUNDS:** Federal Projects Director, Jean Briggs, explained to Board members that the state distributes Title I funds to municipalities in New Hampshire with a population of 20,000 or above based on **census data** only. This year, the census count of children living in poverty in Dover has generated \$780,000 in Title I funds for the 06-07 school year allocation. The money the district receives can be spread among any of the district schools. The state looks at the allocation as a "whole" and does not care where the money is allocated within the district. The district makes those decisions.

Because Dover Middle School has been designated a Title I School In Need of Improvement (SINI), No Child Left Behind, the district is mandated to set aside 20% of total Title I allocation for outside tutoring. For the 2006/2007 school year, this would mean \$156,000 be taken from the Title I allocation of \$780,309.70. In order not to lose those monies, the district will allocate all Title I funds to Woodman Park School. Additionally, without Title I funds, the constraints and the "supplement not supplant" regulation will not apply and the school will have much more flexibility to provide services to additional students. To continue services at Dover Middle School will require only one tutor to be picked up by local funds.

Dover Middle School will provide supplemental services for all students in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math and Reading who are not on grade level. These services will be provided using NWEA pre- and post- testing data to determine current academic ability with progress checked quarterly.

Dover Middle School Principal, Larry DeYoung, outlined for the Board existing programs currently in place at Dover Middle School that will ensure students will receive all necessary services without Title I funds being allocated to the school.

**B. MENTOR PROGRAM:** Mary Buese provided an overview of the NEA sponsored Mentor/Mentee Program and some of the upcoming professional development opportunities being offered in August. Mentors and Mentees received books for use during training. Teachers are paired up – the program will be limited to new teachers only. Mentors and Mentees will attend a series of meetings throughout the school year to discuss topics such as legal requirements, class management, and differentiated instruction. They will also meet on an informal basis to observe lessons. The NEA has asked Mentors to respect confidentiality and support the new teachers. Title II provides \$200 stipends to Mentors. There will be 30 pairings this upcoming school year.

The Superintendent stated he felt the program provided a necessary consistency since it brings in a set curriculum. He noted that although few districts take advantage of this NEA service as part of an outreach program, it is a great program, partnering with the NEA to provide support in the classrooms.

**C. SUPERINTENDENT & SCHOOL BOARD GOALS:** School Board members stated all goals should be measurable, not subjective. Some of the suggestions made follow:

- Get out of District in Need of Improvement (DINI) status - improvements in math and reading
- Examine NWEA testing data – see what it is telling us
- 10 Step-School Improvement Process will be implemented with basic goals of achievement outlined
- Each teacher will be able to utilize technology
- Computer systems need to be upgraded
- The SAU will cross train positions
- The SAU will work on technology: Purchase orders on-line; MMS Student information available in SAU
- The SAU Upgrade the employee handbook – define roles of SAU personnel and who to call for which issues
- Update the teacher evaluation process (The Superintendent will meet with Andrea Elliot in the next few weeks to discuss this)
- The Superintendent will visit more schools more frequently – he will visit all new people to ask how they are doing

**D. ADJOURNMENT:** At 8:05 p.m., Kara Winton moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to adjourn the Workshop Session. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

Respectfully submitted,

KARA WINTON, SECRETARY  
Dover School Board  
KW/kgb  
July 25, 2006