

A special session of the Dover School Board was called to order by Chairperson Marjorie Fisher on Monday, October 22, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers.

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

Also present were Superintendent John O'Connor; Laurie Verville, Business Manager; James Amara, CTC Director, and Richard Barrett, DTU President.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Audra Lurvey led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. CITIZEN'S FORUM:** No one addressed the Board.

**D. POLICY CHANGE – EEAEC – SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION POLICY:**

Chairperson Fisher explained that the Transportation Policy, EEAEC, was submitted with changes to clarify the District's rights and responsibilities of the students, transportation provider, and the administrators of the schools.

(RECORD NOTE: Recommended Policy Changes are available for review on-line at [www.dover.k12.nh.us](http://www.dover.k12.nh.us) under "School Board," "School Board Policies," Draft Policies.")

Audra Lurvey moved, Carolyn Mebert seconded, to table the policy in its first reading until the November 5<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0**.

**E. AWARD FLAT SCREEN MONITOR BID:** Business Manager, Laurie Verville, recommended the Board approve a bid for seventy-nine 17" flat screen monitors to CDW Government, Inc. for the amount of \$155.00 each for a total award of \$12,245.00.

Ms. Mebert asked if there was a significant difference in the quality between the two models of monitors submitted for bid. Ms. Verville stated there was not and all bids were submitted for "generic" 17" flat screen monitors.

Audra Lurvey moved, Carolyn Mebert seconded, to award the bid for 79 17" flat screen monitors to CDW Government, Inc for a total of \$12,245.00. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 7/0**.

**F. AWARD PAINT BOOTH BID:** Ms. Verville requested the Board award a bid for a Semi-Downdraft Paint Booth to Managed Air Systems, LLC to replace an existing unit that has been unusable for "years" (according to the CTC director), and which is not in compliance with current industry standards. Ms. Verville noted that existing equipment, purchased in 1992 at a cost of \$60,945.00, is deemed unsafe; there is no brake cycle, the roof mounted air assembly is rusted out, and the air circulation is improperly vented. The bid from Managed Air is for \$40,640.63 for all equipment, dismantle and removal of old equipment, and installation of the new unit. Ms. Verville also recommended the Board approve the purchase of a fire suppression system in the amount of \$5,655.00, for a total award of \$46,295.63.

Ms. Mebert asked Mr. Amara if there were students working with the unsafe equipment at this time. Mr. Amara stated there were not. Ms. Hooper asked how long it had been since the

equipment was last used. Mr. Amara stated it could be years. Ms. Fisher asked how the program worked last year and previous years. Mr. Amara stated they would open the garage doors and do spraying outside. Ms. Lurvey asked if there were opportunities in the community to use this resource to return funds to the program. Mr. Amara stated that once it is in operation, perhaps an individual with a small body shop would wish to rent out the equipment and that would generate some revenue. Ms. Hooper stated she would vote for the purchase and noted her pleasure with Mr. Amara because he “finds more ways to give us a payback for our buck.”

Ms. Setear asked Mr. Amara if the safety issues recorded in an October 12<sup>th</sup> letter from Mr. Lee Cozzens of Managed Air Systems would be addressed by the \$6,295.63 purchase. Mr. Amara stated they would all be resolved by this purchase. Ms. Setear asked when Mr. Amara expected the equipment to be installed. Mr. Amara stated his hope was that it would be within the next two months. Ms. Mebert asked if, by the spring, students would then be able to use the equipment. Mr. Amara agreed they would.

Audra Lurvey moved, Carolyn Mebert seconded, to approve the Business Managers request to award the bid for a Semi-Downdraft Paint Booth with fire suppression system to Managed Air Systems, LLC for the total amount of \$46,295.63.00. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 7/0**.

**G. AWARD SMART BOARD BID:** Ms. Verville requested the Board approve a bid for two model SB680i Smart Boards with Projectors in the amount of \$8,443.52 (using Carl Perkins Vocational Education grant funds) to Headlight Audio Visual Inc.

Ms. Hooper asked if someone would explain what a Smart Board was for the public and whether they were movable from classroom to classroom. Ms. Verville stated that the units are mobile. She further explained that the interactive boards connect to a wireless laptop to project all computer strokes on the screen. Ms. Hooper asked if the goal was to install one Smart Board in every classroom or if they would be used as mobile units. Mr. Amara stated his goal was to have a Smart Board installed in every CTC classroom. He added that they are a “great teaching tool” loved by teachers and students. Ms. Mebert asked which CTC classrooms currently had Smart Boards installed. Mr. Amara stated Animal Science and Business Programming courses currently have them installed and the new boards are to be installed in Construction Technology and one additional classroom. Ms. Mebert asked how the boards might be used for Building Trades. Mr. Amara noted that architecture programs could be accessed that would allow students to change architectural plans with the touch of a finger. Ms. Fisher asked how many Smart Boards are currently installed throughout the district with Ms. Mebert noting it would be ideal to install one in every classroom.

(RECORD NOTE: Superintendent O’Connor asked each building administrator to provide a list of all Smart Boards and their locations throughout each school. This information will be provided to the Board shortly.)

Audra Lurvey moved, Doris Carolyn Mebert seconded, to award the bid for two model SB680i Smart Boards with Projectors to Headlight Audio Visual Inc. in the amount of \$8,443.52. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 7/0**.

**H. AWARD CANOPY ENTRANCE CONCRETE REPAIR BID:** Business Manager, Laurie Verville, requested the Board award the bid for Repairs to Concrete Columns on the Dover High School Canopy to low bidder, Costa's Masonry, in the amount of \$6,500.00.

Ms. Grady questioned the price differential between the three bidders, ranging from \$6,500.00 to \$19,600.00. She asked the business manager why there was such a great difference between the low and high bid amounts. "Are they offering something different? I just have a fear of, 'you get what you pay for', and I'm a little afraid of the \$6,500 not necessarily involving the amount of work that the other two do."

Ms. Verville explained, "I'm not surprised in talking with others in the construction field that the high bidder did come in so high. But the way it has been explained is that in the specifications, it is considered a short-term repair. We're not looking for the entire columns to be removed and rebuilt. That is how the specifications were written – as a short-term. We knew that there was a concern about how to fund this; the financial constraints..."

Ms. Grady added, "All the \$6,500.00 one says is, 'We propose to furnish all materials and labor necessary to complete the following: Repair it.' ...It just doesn't tell me anything."

Ms. Verville responded, "This is written in accordance with the specifications. The specifications involve... cording off the area (we don't want pedestrians around and students and staff), . removing the concrete down to a core... and then rebuilding it back up. Building the forms around it so that it does adhere to the existing concrete surface."

Ms. Grady noted, "But there's concrete and concrete. If we look at the Big Dig in Boston, there's concrete and concrete. I don't know, but I'm just a little afraid of it."

Ms. Hooper added, "This is essentially a patch job. What is underneath that concrete they're going to patch? What is the core made of? Is it more concrete?" The Superintendent stated the core is made of cement with reinforcement bar.

Ms. Hooper then added that repairs would be made for safety reasons and asked, "How long is it going to be before we actually renovate the high school? What do we have on the CIP?" The Superintendent reported that NESDEC is working on this study and a report will be coming back within the next 45 days. He anticipated that over the next 10 years the high school will undergo some sort of major renovation but that date is still to be determined. The facilities committee indicated Dover High School should begin renovations in approximately 7 years from today. Ms. Hooper asked if the repairs would hold up for the next 7 years. The Superintendent stated he has been advised that it will, provided additional work is done on the roof structure itself. A proposal will be coming before the Board in November to resurface the "bubbles" and repair drainage to stem the erosion and corrosion that has taken place on those columns.

Ms. Hooper asked if it is economically wise to save the columns. Dr. O'Connor stated, "I would not say it is economically wise to do so. I would say it is prudent for the Board to do so. The cost of ripping down the domes is probably close to what we are going to spend to repair them. The problem is, you just don't rip them down and leave an open area. You then would probably have

to think about installing some sort of canopy over those doors... Those will be costs that will have to be incurred as well and those costs may be ongoing on a regular basis.”

Ms. Hooper stated she was “...just trying to get a handle on which would be the least expensive way and yet the most practical way to do this...but I’m trying to figure out whether or not it’s worth the patch job, and hopefully we won’t have to go in again in six years and patch it again before we renovate the high school.” Dr. O’Connor noted, “That’s always the risk you take when you do something like this on a structure if its that old. I can’t guarantee that what we would do will preserve the structure for the next 7 to 10 years where we have to put no additional money into it. I can’t tell you that would be the case. We’re going to do our very best to get a product on that roof, and to address the drainage issues, that will preserve them for that many years. My fear is that if we rip it down, we then have to start thinking about a structure that will cost us a lot of money that we don’t have and I would not recommend that we add that to our CIP. I would rather do that whole area, that whole portico - the front - as part of the renovation to the high school when we may be thinking the whole parking area, the bus delivery system, and so forth, that will be part of the renovation process.” Ms. Setear asked if painting was included in the repair. Dr. O’Connor stated the district would do the painting.

Ms. Grady recalled that an inspection had been done and, “We were told that the (columns) are dangerous, and at some of those columns, the structure had been destroyed farther into the column than we felt. And I just wonder if that \$6,500.00 is going to cover that inside of the column.” Dr. O’Connor stated his belief that the degradation of all of the columns up for repair have not exceeded beyond the rebar stage (where the rebar is) and all are repairable.

Audra Lurvey moved, Doris Grady seconded, to award the bid for repairs to the Dover High School Canopy Columns to Costa’s Masonry for the amount of \$6,500.00. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 6/1 (Grady opposed**, stating she was not convinced \$6,500 would be enough to perform the required work correctly).

**I. ADJOURNMENT:** At 6:55 P.M., Audra Lurvey moved, Beth Setear seconded, to adjourn the Special Session. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0**.

Respectfully submitted,

BRANDON FOYE, SECRETARY  
Dover School Board  
October 23, 2007