

Organizational Meeting
January 7, 2008
Dover School Board

Dover, New Hampshire 03820 **DRAFT**

An organizational meeting of the Dover School Board was called to order by Superintendent John O'Connor at 6:03 p.m. on Monday, January 7, 2008, in the Superintendent's office.

ROLL CALL: Present were Beth Setear, Britt Ulinski Shuman, Carolyn Mebert, Dorothea Hooper, Audra Lurvey, Marjorie Fisher, and Doris Grady.

Also present was Superintendent of Schools, Dr. John O'Connor.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REMARKS: After welcoming the new Board, Dr. O'Connor outlined what he believed to be some of the major challenges the Board will face in the upcoming two years.

He stated the next two years will be the most challenging to the School Board in the last decade due to the passage of the Tax Amendment. It will be a challenge to accomplish the Board's goals and priorities given the financial resources available to the District. The Superintendent wondered how the District would be able to economize in areas that will still allow growth in programs. Outside reports (NEASC's accreditation) noted an area of weakness in the District is budget cuts made over the past few years for funding books and supplies. He then cautioned that future budget cuts of significance would have to be made in the area of personnel.

All-day Kindergarten is on the January 14th School Board Agenda for the Board to reaffirm its earlier vote to include this as an option in the 2008-2009 school year. If the Board votes to implement all-day kindergarten, the Superintendent will need to fund it from the existing budget.

Another area of challenge over the next 18 months will be Contracted Custodial Services. A decision will need to be made before the budget is passed to the City Council in mid-March.

Superintendent O'Connor then shared "good news" with the Board. He noted that teachers and administrators are using data from tests to make program and instruction changes to help students improve.

The numbers of students taking SAT's and looking and applying to colleges have been increasing.

The District is "doing more with less". There has been a reduction of 3 or 4 additional administrators over the past five years.

At 6:10 PM, City Clerk, Karen Lavertu, unofficially swore in the seven Board members so they could conduct business prior to the official 7:00 p.m. inauguration.

Dr. O'Connor then reviewed the evening's agenda.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: Carolyn Mebert moved, Dorothea Hooper seconded, to accept the evening's agenda. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON: Carolyn Mebert moved, Doris Grady seconded, to nominate Marjorie Fisher for chairperson.

Britt Ulinski Schuman moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to nominate Dorothea Hooper for chairperson. There were no further nominations.

The Superintendent put the nomination of Marjorie Fisher before Board members. An oral **VOTE PASSED 5/2 (Hooper, Ulinski Shuman opposed).**

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON: Marjorie Fisher moved, Dorothea Hooper seconded, to nominate Audra Lurvey for vice chairperson. There were no further nominations. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

ELECTION OF SECRETARY: Marjorie Fisher moved, Audra Lurvey seconded, to nominate Beth Setear for secretary. There were no further nominations. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

Superintendent O'Connor turned the meeting over to Marjorie Fisher, Chairperson.
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POLICY BCA – SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER CODE OF ETHICS: Policy BCA was distributed to each Board member in accordance with the policy's direction.

ADOPTION OF BYLAWS: Audra Lurvey moved. Carolyn Mebert seconded, to adopt Policy BA – By Laws. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: Committee assignments were reviewed and Board Members indicated the committees upon which they wished to serve. The following are the committee assignments for 2008:

Dover Vocational Trust	<u>Carolyn Mebert</u>
Dover Adult Learning Center Liaison	<u>Doris Grady</u>
Joint Fiscal Committee	<u>Marjorie Fisher</u> <u>Britt Ulinski Schuman</u> <u>Dorothea Hooper</u> <u>Doris Grady</u>
City Council Liaison	<u>Audra Lurvey</u>
Curriculum Planning Committee	<u>Carolyn Mebert</u> <u>Dorothea Hooper</u>
Discipline Committee	<u>Carolyn Mebert</u> <u>Beth Setear</u>
Joint Building Committee	<u>Carolyn Mebert</u> <u>Doris Grady</u>

Legislative Representative with NHSBA

Carolyn Mebert

DPA Negotiation Committee

Dorothea Hooper

Beth Setear

Health, Wellness, & Nutrition Task Force

Dorothea Hooper

Professional Development Master Plan
Committee

Audra Lurvey

Dorothea Hooper

Standards Policy (IKE) Review Committee

Dorothea Hooper

Carolyn Mebert

ADJOURNMENT: At 6:35 p.m., Audra Lurvey moved, Doris Grady seconded, to adjourn the meeting. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

Respectfully submitted,
JOHN O'CONNOR, SUPERINTENDENT
Dover School District
JO/kgb