



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

## JOINT BUILDING COMMITTEE – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting – **Horne Street School**  
 Meeting Location: Horne Street School – Staff Room  
 Meeting Date: **Thursday, June 10, 2010**  
 Meeting Time: **5:30 pm**

### MEETING # 91A

- A. **CALL TO ORDER:** A meeting of the Horne Street School Addition & Renovations Joint Building Committee was called to order on Thursday, June 24, 2010 at 5:27 p.m. at office of the Superintendent’s conference room.
- B. **ROLL CALL:** Present were Karen Weston, Robert Carrier, Doris Grady, Mark Geuther, Carolyn Mebert and Ray Bardwell. Also present were Laurie Verville, Business Administrator; John Urdi, Dennis Mires P.A.; Rob Garand, Dennis Mires, P.A.; Keith McBey, BPS; Jans Wayne, BPS; Malcolm Forsman, Principal HSS; Patrick Boodey, Principal WPS; John Steele, Longchamps; Michael Chames, SimplexGrinnell; and Dave Gibson from Bayring. Absent was Dr. John O’Connor, Superintendent. Michael Bliss, Clerk of the Works arrived at 5:45 p.m.
- C. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
- D. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 10, 2010:** Mr. Geuther stated under “I” the progress report should be changed to read Dan Golden and not Keith McBey. Ms. Grady asked if they had accepted change order #25; Ms. Weston said they did. Carolyn Mebert moved, Robert Carrier seconded approval of the June 10, 2010 meeting minutes as amended. An oral **VOTE PASSED: 5/1 (Grady opposed)**

#### Horne Street Elementary School

- E. **Intercom System Discussion:** Ms. Verville said they started reviewing for the intercom system back in mid April along with Mr. McBey, John Steele from Longchamps, Mike Chames from Simplex and Bayring. They needed to make sure that this particular intercom could be fully integrated with our telephone system and she’s expressed her concern that she doesn’t want to purchase new telephone equipment. Having all players here they need to have an open discussion on the system. Mr. McBey said he knows the committee has concerns on the cumbersome nature of the system and what they talked out was that they are a windows based system versus the Williams system at WPS. At the time the system at WPS was top of the line and with their software you typically need a tech to change anything. Mr. Boodey stated even now he can’t shut off the bells during the summer and can’t justify the expense to have them come out and turn the bells on or off. And he’s lost the ability to make any changes to the bells during early release etc. He said he didn’t feel it was adequate because there were no speakers in the hallways or some of the classrooms. He also stated there was so much interference because the security of the doors was tied into the same system as the intercom and phones. Mr. McBey asked if he was right to say for the day-to-day workings of the school it’s adequate; Mr. Boodey said it’s adequate but not ideal and wouldn’t recommend this system. Mr. McBey asked if the most cumbersome area is in the programming; Mr. Boodey said the most cumbersome part for him is when you pick up the phone and they can’t hear you or you can’t hear them in the classroom and it’s not convenient for him to have the bells go off all summer. All-in-all do they have a better system than what they had, definitely, but it’s not perfect. He said the bells used to go off 7 days a week but the techs found a way to go around it. Mr. Boodey said when he makes an announcement everyone can hear him and he likes that. Mr. McBey said he wanted to paint a picture about the previous generation. Rist, Frost Shumway was the engineer on the job and they tend to be cutting edge and you have a sophisticated system for the time. Ms. Mebert asked if Mr. Boodey could get a list or run down the 5 worst aspects that any other school shouldn’t deal with. Mr. Boodey suggested they make sure that anyone in the building can hear an emergency drill or announcement and doesn’t care where in the building you are, and if you have something that does that everything else is livable and wants to preface that.

Mr. Chames stated he tries to it’s work with the budget that’s established and say here’s what you can get with the levels and work on how elaborate you want it. Everything he’s been listening to with the problems at WPS he’s saying to himself that isn’t a problem at HSS. He’d assign a project manager from start to finish and during that



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process he'd work with people from the school on how do they want the system to work, what's the schedule, how many schedules do they want and will incorporate that into the system and do all that work themselves and then give the keys to the system and train those needed on how to use it and everything can be done on the computer. There are 2 systems, PBX and intercom; the job of the intercom is to do announcements, anything audible and speakers and PBX is anything to do with the phones. Ms. Verville stated they will be continuing with the same phone system instead of having to purchase additional equipment and not lose that integration. Mr. Chames said they shouldn't lose the integration; Mr. Gibson stated it's a managed digital phone that is pervasive throughout the district, as well as city locations, and gives them the integrations they've been looking for. The question is if their system is compatible with school intercom systems and the short answer is yes. It's compatible with any system that has analog ports and they currently provide interfaces at the middle and high schools. Mr. Carrier stated he wanted to back up and go back to Mr. Boodey's issue stating a tech comes out with a laptop and he tweaks the system many times in the past what he does and what he has for a program, why doesn't Mr. Boodey have this himself that the program was transferred to WPS and have a couple of people trained and it's pretty much trouble free. Mr. McBey said at the time the software they were selling is not Windows based and word from Cantwell was it was so cumbersome was that most people didn't want to learn the system. Mr. Bardwell asked how much they would spend to upgrade the system. Mr. Boodey stated some of it is if he knew the codes with the 4-digit number he thinks this would help alleviate the problems to shut down/change bells. The other issue is the ticking of the clocks and he doesn't think there is a fix for it but a lesson learned. He also stated he's happy he has a working system and doesn't want to spend a dime. Mr. Steele from Longchamps said he was asked by BPS to entertain upgrading the system and piece things back together. He talked with Mr. Boodey and Mr. Forsman and the problems at WPS aren't problems they will have at HSS. Mr. Gibson said he only became part of this starting this week so he's not sure what they are looking for and asked if the set up at the middle school is working because he believes it's the same system they are looking at. Mr. Chames said they are talking about 2 separate approaches and asked if they are currently running digital Centrex lines; Mr. Gibson said they are. Mr. Steele said Simplex put together a system where they own and manage the equipment on site. Ms. Verville said they will lose the ability to transfer voicemail etc. if they changed phones. Mr. Gibson said they can do the PBX if they want but HSS would become an island and as long as they have the intercom system and can accept an analog system there's no reason to change the phones. Ms. Verville said they don't want to change the phone system and is the reason for this meeting. She stated the solution they came up with isn't going to work and they don't want HSS an island. Mr. Chames said the phones from Simplex programmable so the most common numbers used you can program into your phone. Mr. Gibson said there's no pre-programming with their phones so when someone leaves and the next person comes, no phones will be touched. Mr. McBey stated he's totally confident they can make this work. Mr. Bardwell said he respects what they are saying, but he recommends what they need to do as the experts, along with the users, is do an inventory of what's at HSS and what's going to work and what's not, decide and come back with a program that's already designed. Mr. McBey stated this system has been presented to the administration but the one issue that Ms. Verville warned them about is to make sure the phones integrate seamlessly with the intercom system and thinks that's the only issue they didn't address. They surveyed WPS and talked with Mr. Boodey, talked with Mr. Forsman about the needs of HSS and have a system that works and it was presented to Ms. Verville, Mr. Forsman and the architects. Mr. Garand said at the last meeting the field tech from Bayring said it was ok to use. Mr. Chames said when he was thinking about the system, he was thinking if they could do everything, and believes they can. But he would want to know specifically where they think they may not be getting an operation or capability. Mr. Forsman said at the previous school he was at they had two phones and he found it easy to operate because he knew one was for the intercom and the other was for calling outside the building and feels it simplifies the use. Ms. Weston questions why they couldn't have a system designed like what's at the Middle School for HSS. She said there were 3 items that came up from



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Bayring and are: (1 If you go with a PBX you will lose the ability for others to do 4-digit dialing in the District. (2 You will no longer be on integrated voicemail. (3 You will be tied to “that system” for all other locations should you wish to integrate. She asked why they were adding a Simplex part and what are they giving that they don’t already have. Mr. Chames phoned a co-worker named TJ and went over the list of items to get more information; TJ said the system could be configured to either phone system. Mr. Steele added additional things that could be added to make Bayring’s system work but it could cost more money, but was told if they went with adding a PRI card they would lose the ability to have 1:1 voicemail for employees. Ms. Weston asked why all of this wasn’t discussed prior to this evening’s meeting. Ms. Mebert stated at the last meeting Ms. Grady brought up she would like to see the bids and they aren’t seeing any bids tonight. She also stated she really doesn’t understand a lot of what they are saying and that isn’t useful to her. She would like to see something in writing telling them what systems they should be considering and what the integration issues is and if they should be using someone other than Bayring. Mr. McBey said he can talk about the bids if they want then stated they started tonight with Mr. Boodey and the issues at WPS and the members asked for justifications on the system. Now they are talking technical terms trying to explain the issues at WPS and the members want to look at the bids. He would like to discuss what they’re getting and suggested they go to the Middle School to look at the system and see what’s needed. Mr. Chames stated he was just presented with 3 things tonight and is trying to get answers for them. Ms. Verville stated she thought she was pretty clear on what they were looking for back in April. Mr. Gibson said they have a proposal for 2 products from the same company. First is to integrate intercom and traditional phone system. It came back to him saying it won’t work and he’s here to tell them the phones integrate with any system and in 12 years of doing this he hasn’t found an intercom system they couldn’t integrate with. His only goal is to clarify and tell them not to make a decision under the guise that you have to use a specific phone system to work with the intercom; this isn’t true.

Ms. Grady said she brought up at the last meeting that it’s the JBC’s responsibility to provide an intercom system that works. They received a letter from Mr. McBey and her only question at the time was is this the only system compatible with Bayring phones. Mr. McBey said he sent out bid documents for an expansion of the intercom system then it was brought up about upgrading the whole system. Three bids were received and Mr. Steele contacted the three explaining they wanted a new design. Simplex came in with the best numbers for what they were providing and met more of the specs than the other two companies did. The information was given to the design team and they moved forward from there. Mr. Bardwell asked what design team he gave it to because the JBC didn’t receive anything. Mr. McBey said he gave the designs to the architects. Mr. Boodey stated a change order was done for their system at WPS because there was a problem getting people into the building, calling rooms and calling out; it was just too busy to have one line. He suggests being practical and for them not to lose sight of what the person at the desk does because something may sound good but might not work in that setting. He also stated he didn’t believe the Middle School’s intercom system was the same line as the phone system. Mr. Chames asked if it mattered if they used Bayring or Simplex; Ms. Verville said it did because they have a master contract with Bayring with the schools and city. Mr. Geuther mentioned it sounded like Simplex was pushing their phone system; Mr. Chames stated he wasn’t, it’s just that a lot of school systems want to own their own equipment so they don’t have to call a tech to make changes or fix it. He stated they could use anyone’s system. Ms. Weston asked if Ms. Verville could go to the Middle School and look at their system and see how it’s integrated; Mr. Carrier suggested seeing if the proposed system for HSS paralleled what’s at the Middle School.

Meeting was postponed due to a power outage.



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### Other Business:

- F. Schedule next JBC Meeting:** The next JBC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 1, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. at the Superintendent's office in the conference room.
- G. Adjournment:** Carolyn Mebert moved, Mark Geuther seconded to postpone and adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m. because of no power in the building. An oral **VOTE PASSED: 6/0**

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen Weston/pb*

Karen Weston, Joint Building Committee Chair  
Joint Building Committee  
KW/pb