

To: Dover City Council

From: Dorothea Hooper

Re: School Board Report

The Dover School Board met in regular session on Monday, May 9, 2011.

A resolution was read honoring the DHS Winter Color Guard.

No one spoke at Citizen's Forum.

Pulled from the Consent Calendar, Mrs. Grady's (on behalf of the Board) thanked those staff retiring or resigning for their dedicated hours with the students.

Superintendent Briggs-Badger gave the following information:

1. A reception was held to honor volunteers in the district
2. Celebration of Earth Day (the principal of Horne Street showed a video of volunteers from Timberland, city businesses, and the community landscaping the school grounds)
3. Testing dates
4. Banquets and trips
5. Athletic news
6. Charitable fundraising by Dover students
7. Award nights
8. Spring concerts

Board members gave reports on the JBC at Horne Street (working on punch list) and the McConnell Center (ordered white board and additional screens).

Board Member Appel reported on two Curriculum Meetings that heard progress reports from the Physical Education/Wellness, World Language, CTC and Guidance departments. Physical Education expressed a need for more class time and rooms in which to meet, World Language felt that Block Scheduling was a detriment to their program, and CTC was worried about losing the second year of

the firefighting program and the equine program. Guidance explained their method of individual and group counseling and their stress on bullying.

Mr. Appel also reported on the result of the March 18th professional development program which the teachers found worthwhile.

Although some of the items in the Business Administer Job Description were questioned by Board Member Grady (form repetitive and questions outdated), the description passed 4 to 2.

An updated job description which expanded the responsibility of the Dean of Instruction from grades 9-12 to 7-12 to better coordinate curriculum between the middle school and high school was introduced. This passed 5-1

Mrs. Migneault, principal at DHS, reported on her examination of the students who were below proper reading level. She found evidence that these students had intervention measures taken along the way. She also asked that the high school handbook be approved. There was some discussion on the handling of In-School Suspension (issues on expense and credit for work done). The handbook was approved 5 to 1.

Mr. Tirone reported on the district's testing results (NECAP and AYP) and concluded that we are doing pretty well . While we can always show more improvement, we continue to move up with the exception of high school math and students with disability and economic disadvantages. It has long been the opinion of the educational community that the goals of the No Child Left Behind Act are unrealistic.

The Woodman Park handbook was approved. Principal Boodey suggested a good savings could be made by printing limited handbooks but encouraging the majority of parents to go on line. This would save each elementary school approximately \$700 a year. The handbook was approved 7 to 0.

The last item on the agenda was the Superintendent's evaluation. Briggs-Badger was rated as good and deemed to be on the right track. The board chair read the evaluation into the record noting strong items and those that could be improved.

Under items of interest, Mrs. Grady wanted an audit of the School Board books as our Business Manager has left and a new person will be taking over eventually. The Superintendent noted that the city has been audited only 4 months ago. Mrs. Grady also suggested that applications for the position had to be submitted in too short a time frame. The board did not take action on either of these as they had not been placed on the agenda for discussion or motion.