

To: Dover City Council

From: Dorothea Hooper

Re: School Board Report

The Dover School Board met in regular session October 3, 2011.

No one participated in Citizen's Forum.

The Consent Agenda passed with no comment.

Superintendent Jean Briggs-Badger reported on the success of Homecoming at Dover High School. She also announced NCAP testing this month. The Dover High School Band won first prize at the Old Orchard Competition. Two high school students with top SAT scores are semi-finalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition. Elementary schools have had or are planning Walk to School Days.

The Student Representative announced a canned food drive in November.

Under Committee Reports: 1) Dr. Appel reported on the Professional Development Committee which is focusing on Early Release Days activities. There is an emphasis on enhancing professional growth and teachers learning from each other. 2) Mrs. Grady reported on DALC which is offering computer literacy to its clients. Their High School Graduation program is in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year and offers either a GED or high school diploma.

There were some concerns about liability raised when the policy concerning extended travel was discussed. The policy was about changing suggested fundraising for students unable to come up with the funds for the trip to required fundraising. After much discussion, the policy was tabled so the wording could be studied further.

The board approved requesting monies from the impact fees collected by the city for automotive equipment (alignment) for the CTC program (\$38,000). Questions arose as to whether this type of program would be eligible for impact fees. The district's business manager had run it by the Planning Department and thought it would be. The board approved a motion to bring it to the City Council for approval.

Patty Driscoll gave the board an update on the Math In Focus Program. She reported that 90% of the teachers attended the summer training for this program. There were also training sessions for Paras as well as Special Ed. Teachers. The program is up and running and specialists will be coming from the publishing company to give assistance. There are plans for good on-line resources to be used by students and parents. There will be several parent nights for informational purposes. Right now the Math Improvement team is working on providing good transition between grades. Staff will be looking at core standards and competency. Pre-testing will give teachers an idea on what students need to be helped with in math. Some of the challenges reported were late workbooks at the Kindergarten level and back-ordering of some materials for other grades. Teachers are sharing materials until that can be straightened out.

The Budget Adoption Schedule 2012-13 was approved by the board.

Tuition rates were set for out of district students:

1) Barrington and Nottingham -- \$10,225.18 - elementary

\$9,681.96 – middle school

(B) \$10,966.85 – high school

(N) \$10,946.92

Students coming from other in-state districts as well as out of state students will have a higher fee.

Under Matters of Interest, board member McCrory questioned how much it would cost to add an additional teacher to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade at Horne Street School. The Superintendent noted that it would cost between \$50,000 for a beginning teacher (this includes health/retirement) and \$75,000 for an experienced teacher. She noted that the budget was so lean the funds were just not available. The Horne Street principal reported that the teachers, even with large numbers of students per class, were handling the situation well and did not want to see students taken from their classes (now established) to equalize the numbers.

