

To: Dover City Council

From: Dorothea Hooper

Re: School Board

The Dover School Board met in regular session July 9, 2012.

Citizen's Forum: No one spoke

Approval of Minutes: Approved

Consent Agenda: Approved without comment

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Jean Briggs-Badger began her report with a 7 minute video made to promote Dover High School to surrounding communities. Student Anetha Williams produced the video as an independent study project. It showed all the various opportunities, both academic and enrichment, that Dover High offers to students. Varied students discussed what they liked the best about their high school experience. Photos of cosmetology classes and the barnyard animals (sheep and Llamas) in the CTC program pointed out the variety of choices students have. It was a great idea! Their catchy slogan was "jump on board and ride the wave." The Superintendent continued with announcements concerning summer school programs and the various school activities that took place at the end of the school year.

Committee Reports: there were none

Policy Changes: Three policy changes were brought forth concerning the accepted use of electronic instruments by 1)school, 2)personal and 3)student. They were adopted in the first reading.

Resolutions:

- 1) the Special Ed Dept. requested approval of \$900,000 to be spent from federal funds for use in pre-school which covered various jobs and services. There was some discussion and questioning about why this could not be tabled for more information. It was pointed out that when applying for federal grants (and if we do not get them the city pays the bill for mandated services) you have to have prior board approval. It was approved.
- 2) Next Era Seabrook referred to the storing of decontamination equipment at the South End Fire Station. At the present time, DMS is cited as an emergency shelter. While the Fire Dept. will store 2 trailers on their property, they are requesting permission to use one of the school's parking lots to set up equipment if needed in an emergency. This was approved.

3) Creation of Capital Reserve Funds: In addition to the 3 capital reserve funds already requested by the School Board, there is an additional request for such a fund to be set up for the CTC program. These funds await approval by the City Council. This was approved.

Old Business: A representative from the Strafford Learning Center introduced the new Director of the Dover Alternative School, Mr. James Carver. Mr. Carver commented on the supportive reception he received from staff. He noted he is in the informational gathering stage of his new job.

New Business: Ms. Lyndes gave the board an update on the DMS schedule. The new master schedule will include 60 minute classes, grade level teachers will all have the same planning period, 10 minute vocabulary lessons daily at the same time, 30 minute lunch, and a 30 minute Encore period. Everyone will get related arts and both public speaking and creative writing have been added to the curriculum.

Mr. Amara gave an update on the JROTC program. Two instructors have been improved, Portsmouth and Dover students have been lined up but the district has not heard from the military as yet. The board has reached out to politicians and citizens for help with recruiting students. Mr. Amara also mentioned some programs offered that did not run due to low enrollment.

Food Services bids were discussed. Mr. Lammani mentioned the volume of bids and suggested the board view a presentation by the recommended 3 best bids. Suggested presentations be held at a workshop on July 23rd

Matters of Interest: Vice-Chair Amanda Russell noted the accomplishments made by principal Malcom Forbes and thanked him for his service.

Board member Ken Appel brought up the recent state law passed allowing transfer of money to private schools. He wondered what affect that would have on our local school budget. Mr. Lammani said he would be keeping a close eye on the issue.

Meeting Adjourned.