



**DOVER SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

DOVER SCHOOL BOARD – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting #10
Meeting Location: Media Ctr. (Room 306) McConnell Center
Meeting Date: **Monday, October 1, 2012**
Meeting Time: **7:00 pm**

Chairperson Rocky D'Andrea called a meeting of the Dover School Board to order on Monday, October 1, at 7:05 p.m. in the McConnell Center Media Center.

A. ROLL CALL: Present were Rocky D'Andrea, Amanda Russell, Doris Grady, Kathy Baker, Ken Appel and Paul Butler. Betsey Andrews Parker was excused.

Also present were; Superintendent Jean Briggs Badger; DMS Principal Kim Lyndes, Woodman Park Principal Patrick Boodey, DHS Principal Christine Boston, Federal Projects/CIA Director Paula Glynn, DTU President Maybeth Anderson and Fosters.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Kathy Baker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. CITIZENS' FORUM: Greg Brown, 6 Arbor Dr, PE Teacher at GES addressed the Board. He informed the Board of the continuation of the "Boot Camp" that he has been running with Mike Romps at Garrison School. He stated that it has provided positive health benefits to students and their families. He also commended special education paraprofessionals Hazel Tilton and Doug Conway for their service to the students of Garrison School.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Nonpublic Discipline Session #27, September 5, 2012
2. Nonpublic Session #28, September 10, 2012
3. Regular Session #9, September 10, 2012
4. Nonpublic Student Discipline Session #30, September 27, 2012

Amanda Russell moved, Kathy Baker seconded to pull D. 4. from agenda. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

Amanda Russell moved, Doris Grady seconded approval of the remaining minutes. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

E. CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Correspondence:**
 - a. Request for Waiver of Policy, Transportation EEAC, Shannon Mitchell and Brenda Daigle
2. **Resignations/Retirements:** NONE
3. **Leaves of Absence:** NONE
4. **Nominations:**
 - Sheet 1: Nomination and Election of Aides and Secretaries (Anderson-Swartzendruber)
 - Sheet 2: Nomination and Election of Coaching Positions (McBride)
 - Sheet 3: Nomination and Election of Summer School Paraprofessionals and Teachers (Withka)
5. **Extended Travel (Student Trips):** NONE



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Amanda Russell moved, Kathy Baker seconded pulling E.1. a. from the consent agenda. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

Kathy Baker moved, Amanda Russell seconded to approve the remaining consent agenda items. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

Mrs. Grady stated that even though there is a policy, she has trouble with having middle school students, especially girls, walk to school in the dark from Henry Law Ave to DMS. She continued to say that in the past, exceptions have been made allowing students to ride the bus for the winter months if there is seat availability.

Ms. Baker asked if there are sidewalks along their walking route. Mr. Limanni responded that there are sidewalks the entire way. He added that the policies are set for bus capacity and the routes are established for safety. There are many other students who are in the same situation. His recommendation is to uphold the policy for consistency throughout the district. He suggested changing the policy if a change needs to be made.

Ms. Russell agreed with Mr. Limanni stating that if one exception is made, the Board would be asked to make additional exceptions.

Dr. Butler asked if many requests are made at this point. Mr. Limanni responded that there are few, but may increase if an exception is made in this case. Mr. Limanni recommended making sure that sidewalks are plowed and all safety issues are addressed.

Mrs. Grady also recommended revisiting the policy.

Mr. Limanni added that a safety issue can also occur when a bus does not stay on the scheduled timetable.

Dr. Appel stated that he would have preferred to have a recommendation from the Business Administrator accompany the request.

Amanda Russell moved, Ken Appel seconded to deny the request to provide bussing to two students who are currently walkers. An oral **VOTE FAILED 3/3** (Grady, Baker, Butler opposed).

Amanda Russell moved, Ken Appel seconded to table the request until the next meeting. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Superintendent Briggs Badger spoke on the following items:

- Update on testing dates (NECAP-Oct 1-Oct 23) and upcoming no school days (Teacher Workshop and Columbus Day)
- Update on activities at all schools including Halloween/Autumn parties and events, parent-teacher meetings. Details may be found on school web sites.



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- Update on DHS Planning Committee which will meet monthly throughout the year to develop a vision that will be used to help facilitate the design of the physical structure.
- Commendation of the DHS Marching Band and Drum Majors. Thank you to director Michele Boulanger for all of the time and efforts given to music students
- 43rd annual DHS band show will be October 13th at DHS

Amanda Russell moved, Kathy Baker seconded acceptance of the Superintendent Report. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

G. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Dover High School student representative Matthew Palczynski reported on the following items:

- Spirit Week, including a pep rally was successful. Seniors students won most of the contests.
- Update on DHS sports including win of the football team over Spaulding, but loss to Winnacunnet. Girls' Volleyball and field hockey are having winning seasons so far.
- Matt Dudley finished 23rd in the statewide Division I portion of the Manchester Cross Country Invitational.
- Marching Band is doing well and winning awards.
- Project Search will be seeing Former President Bill Clinton when he visits the Seacoast area.
- Interact will be volunteering at Apple Harvest Day and the Key Club will be helping to clean up the beach at Newcastle Commons this weekend.
- Student Council will be coordinating a Voter Registration Drive on October 9.
- Wait lines for lunch at the cafeteria have been reduced as the student body has begun to figure out the system.

Paul Butler moved, Ken Appel seconded acceptance of the Student Representative Report. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ms. Russell provided the following report on the Relocation Committee:

- The committee will be bringing their findings to the Board in November and another meeting is scheduled in 2 weeks.

Ms. Russell provided the following report on DHS Planning Committee:

- The DHS Planning Committee had their initial meeting and will meet monthly until the initial analysis and plan has been completed which should be sometime next spring.

Dr. Butler provided the following report on the Wellness Committee:

- Long lines in the cafeteria were discussed. They seem to be getting better as time goes by.



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- Students who are unable to pay for meals are able to run a tab for a certain number of meals and then are given an alternative meal

Mr. D'Andrea provided the following report on DTU negotiations:

- The School Board discussed negotiations since the first session will be occurring in October.

I. POLICY -- CHANGES – PROPOSALS: none

J. POLICY ADOPTION:

- ACAA Harassment and Sexual Harassment of Students
- ACAA-R Student Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Procedure
- ACAB Harassment and Sexual Harassment of School Employees
- ACAB-R Employee Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Procedure
- AC Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity

Dr. Appel commented that “is prohibited” in policy ACAA-R does not seem to make sense. Ms. Crosson responded that she would be in agreement with dropping those words from the policy to make it clearer. Dr. Appel also asked about the word, “when” on policy ACAB, Sexual Harassment. Ms. Crosson responded that it was part of the legal definition of sexual harassment and should remain.

Amanda Russell moved, Kathy Baker seconded approving all policies as is with the exception of striking the words, “is prohibited” from ACAA-R (Section A.). An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

K. SUBMISSION AND PAYMENT OF BILLS: Amanda Russell moved, Kathy Baker seconded to direct the payment of manifest #13-D in the amount of \$103,896.84 for FY12 and \$2,326,748.46 for FY13 for a total of \$2,430,645.30. The time period for payments was from 9/11/12 to 10/1/12. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 6/0**.

RESOLUTIONS: None

M. OLD BUSINESS: None

N. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Adequacy Letter Approval

Ms. Briggs Badger discussed adequacy history with the Board from information she received from Dean Michner, an employee of the New Hampshire School Board Association. She also discussed the letter that she would like to send from the Board which requests that Commissioner Virginia Barry initiate the process to rectify the disparity that exists between calculated preliminary grant amounts and the adjusted adequacy grant received. Even though the district is growing, the amount is capped.

Ms. Russell read the letter into record.



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Ms. Briggs Badger stated the District is asking that the cap be lifted and adequacy be fully funded for Dover and the other communities involved.

Ms. Briggs Badger stated that they could take either a legislative or legal approach to the situation, but would recommend sending the letter to Commissioner Barry.

Mrs. Grady is definitely in favor of Dover receiving their fair share of money. She wanted to be sure that the District doesn't end of "standing alone", similar to the Claremont situation. All districts should be prepared to share costs that may occur.

She asked if the District is trying to recoup past money or for the readjustment of the formula so that Dover receives their equitable share.

Ms. Briggs Badger responded that the calculation would need to be changed, and not the formula. It is a complicated formula and is determined by the legislature.

By going forward with this letter, there could be relief for Dover taxpayers.

Mrs. Grady reiterated that this is only communication to the Commissioner and any communication will come back to the Board. She wanted to be sure this is a starting point, but not the beginning of a court case.

Ms. Briggs Badger confirmed that this is only exploratory at this time and there is much more work to be done.

Ms. Briggs Badger offered her thanks to Nick Skaltsis and Carolyn Mebert for their efforts on this issue.

Mrs. Grady asked if the last legislature made some kind of a change. Ms. Briggs Badger confirmed that it will be on the November ADM and they are constantly tweaking the number. Adequacy will only be allowed to grow by 5.5%.

Amanda Russell moved, Ken Appel seconded to approve the letter to Dr. Barry. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

2. School Based Influenza Vaccination Clinics Approval

Ms. Briggs Badger discussed the request by Tory Jennison, HSCSC Executive Director, to provide a free school-based influenza vaccination clinic in Dover elementary and middle schools.

Ms. Briggs Badger stated this would be convenient for parents, a cost-saver, and reduce absences due to flu. She added that the clinic could be done before or after school or could be done during school hours. There is a great deal of flexibility in the program.



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Ms. Baker commented that it is a great opportunity for parents and students since it is a free service. She added that it is a voluntary clinic and is free to all students.

Ms. Briggs Badger added that a consent form would need to be completed by parents.

Dr. Butler commented that it is a good idea for students to be vaccinated, but wanted to be sure that all school nurses were equipped to handle any reactions, in the small likelihood that there were any issues. Mr. Gray responded that all nurses would be prepared for any reactions.

Kathy Baker moved, Paul Butler seconded approval of a school-based influenza vaccination clinic. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

3. Approve FY14 Budget Preparation Adoption Schedule

Ms. Briggs Badger reviewed the outline for the FY14 budget adoption schedule.

Ms. Russell expressed concern that there are only four meetings and that it might not be enough. Ms. Briggs Badger responded that meetings can be added if needed.

Ken Appel moved, Paul Butler seconded approval of the FY14 Budget Preparation Adoption Schedule. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

4. Approve Barrington/Nottingham Tuition Rates for FY 2012-2013

Mr. Limanni reviewed the FY13 tuition rates for Barrington and Nottingham. Dr. Appel commented that the arithmetic was difficult to follow. Mr. Limanni clarified the figures and noted that rental is added. The process is similar to the process used to calculate per pupil costs by the Department of Education.

Amanda Russell moved, Kathy Baker seconded approval of the Barrington/Nottingham Tuition Rates for FY13. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

5. Approve Tuition Rates for FY 2012-2013

Amanda Russell moved, Kathy Baker seconded approval of the Tuition Rates for FY13. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

6. Approve CTC Digital Copier Bid

Mr. Limanni discussed the bid for a digital copier for use in the Career Technical Center office. He recommended awarding the bid to Seacoast Business Machines.

Ms. Baker asked if the lower cost Conway product met the specifications. Mr. Limanni responded that their product didn't meet the specifications. The Conway product did not meet the page per minute requirement.



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Dr. Butler asked if there is any trade in value for the previous copier. Mr. Limanni responded that he didn't think so and doesn't believe there is salvage value for it either.

Doris Grady moved, Amanda Russell seconded awarding the bid for the CTC Digital Copier to Seacoast Business Machines. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

7. Month of August 2012 Condition of Accounts

Mr. Limanni explained the process he used to generate a monthly condition of accounts. He explained that this report will change throughout the year. It is a consolidated report and involves elements and a system for determining what is included in the account number.

At times, budget adjustments are completed when money is needed more in one area than another. These are all completed in accordance with Board policy.

Many items, including substitutes, and severances payments have not been encumbered yet. This is reflected in a larger budget balance. This number will decrease as items are encumbered.

Ms. Baker asked if the balance of \$7.7M is accurate. Mr. Limanni responded that it is accurate for the month reported. The number will change as encumbrances are made.

Dr. Butler asked what "Tuition-Public/Other" was. Mr. Limanni replied that it was special education tuition payments and changes from year to year depending on the special education students. Ms. Crosson explained the line item and added that it is a very difficult line to budget. She budgets it based on history over time.

Mrs. Grady asked why some of the titles are all capital letters and others are lower case. Mr. Limanni responded that he inherited the all capital letter listings when he came to the district, but prefers proper casing.

Mrs. Grady stated that some items on the list appear to be new items wondered if this had to do with capitalization of them. Mr. Limanni responded that those items have been around for a long time and the name is determined by the state. He added that he can always give more description of the line items.

O. SCHOOL BOARD MATTERS OF INTEREST:

Dr. Butler brought up the subject of brain injuries, including concussions, specifically due to football. A football helmet is not enough to protect the brain after a collision, which still moves after the head stops moving. He is bringing this up because there is a moral imperative of beginning the process of ending this game in Dover. He added that if the Board doesn't do it, lawyers will do it. There are many current lawsuits involving injuries due to football. There have been suicides of former football players who have asked that their brain be examined because they were convinced that the repeated concussions from football influenced their brains. Dr.



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Butler recommended that people read a book written by Chris Nowinski, a former Harvard football player and professional wrestler that deals specifically with this subject. He has also been instrumental in developing a brain trauma institute at Boston University. Dr. Butler also recommended that people read another book on the subject by Bennett Omalu. The book is titled Play Hard, Die Young: Football Dementia, Depression and Depth

Dr. Butler continued to say that he thinks it's the, "moral thing to do, the ethical thing to do to try to stop football at Dover High School and throughout all of Dover. The lawyers will probably stop it for us if we don't do it."

Mrs. Grady discussed October 1 enrollment and commented on the numbers. She noted that about 95% of all elementary schools grades have 22-23 children in the classes. She added that Grade 3 at WPS is a bit higher, but Grade 4 is up to 26-27 students per class. Mr. Boodey has stated in the past that the enrollment numbers fluctuate at Woodman Park, but Mrs. Grady would still like to have the 4th grade classes there considered for a paraprofessional.

Mrs. Grady also noted that Woodman Park enrollment numbers are climbing rapidly.

She was encouraged to see 44 students from Barrington in grade 9, as opposed to the 31 that were projected to attend. This will help with revenue for Dover and currently we have 342 from Barrington and Nottingham and she had thought the numbers would be much lower. This might be a good opportunity for Dover to increase our numbers from those towns.

Mrs. Grady added that the 4th grade at Woodman Park has almost a full class more than the other schools. Ms. Briggs Badger commented that it still falls within the state standard range.

Ms. Russell added that 3rd grade will need to be looked at next year since they are the big bubble and all over 300. HSS numbers are lower because two teachers were moved to that school.

Mr. Limanni was congratulated on the birth of his son, Anthony Michael, who was born on Friday.

P. ADJOURNMENT: Kathy Baker moved, Amanda Russell seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 P.M. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

Superintendent Briggs Badger's handouts have been archived with these Minutes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda L. Russell, Vice Chairperson
ALR/ral