



**DOVER SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

DOVER SCHOOL BOARD – MINUTES

Meeting Type:	Special Session #7
Meeting Location:	McConnell Center, Media Center Room Rm. 306
Meeting Date:	Monday, June 10, 2013
Meeting Time:	6:00 P.M.

A. ROLL CALL: Present were Doris Grady, Amanda Russell, Betsey Andrews Parker, Paul Butler, Kathy Baker and Rocky D’Andrea.
Also present were; Superintendent Jean Briggs Badger; WPS Principal Patrick Boodey, Fosters, citizens, City Councilor Karen Weston

B. CITIZEN’S FORUM (LIMITED TO AGENDA ITEMS ONLY): No one addressed the Board.

C. SELECTION OF OPEN SCHOOL BOARD POSITION CANDIDATE

Three finalists for the School Board position vacated by the death of Dr. Ken Appel were each interviewed for 15 minutes. The first interview was at 6:00 with Marjorie Fisher, the second was at 6:15 with Kristen Devoe and the third was at 6:30 with Sarah Greenshields. The same questions were asked of all three candidates including:

1. Relating to 21st century learning...what kinds of things should be implemented now?
2. What do you believe is the most important role of a School Board member?
3. As you step into the positions of School Board member, what do you see as your responsibility and what are your goals as a Board member?
4. How would you proceed in achieving this goal?
5. How would address negative press that School Boards sometimes receive?
6. Are you planning on running for School Board in the fall election?
7. Why do you want to serve on the School Board?
8. What basic skills should an 18 year old have after going through Dover's public schools? Another way of asking this same question is, what should an admissions officer for a college or an HR person for a company be able to assume when viewing the application of a Dover HS graduate
9. I have read that the average 8 to 18 year old American child spends 7 hours and 34 minutes per day on digital media. Does it seem possible to you that this could be true? If so, is it helpful or harmful to the student? If harmful, what could we, as a school board do about it?
10. What is your opinion of Dover's tax cap?

Mrs. Fisher stated that she wants students to be excited about learning. More languages should be offered and technology should be a focus for 21st century learning. She would like to



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advocate for all students and work cohesively as a Board. She would be an advocate for education.

When asked about adverse press, she stated that she would not speak to the press when this occurs.

She decided to run for this position because as a past Board member, she understands how difficult it is to enter office in the middle of a term. She has no agenda, but just wants to help if she can.

Mrs. Fisher commented that students should know how to write and have confidence and self-esteem when they leave the Dover School District.

She added that she believes that students would be apt to use digital media less each day if more activities such as music, athletics and other activities occurred after school.

Mrs. Fisher commented that the tax cap is there and at this point, she can't do anything about it.

When asked if she would be running for School Board in the fall, she stated that she is not going to run. She just wanted to help out for the short-term, if needed.

Ms. Devoe stated that modern technology should be a focus for 21st Century learning. She stated that she is running for office because every student deserves the same opportunities regardless of economic background and she would like to be an advocate for all children.

When asked about negative press, she answered that she would "brush it off" as much as possible.

Her goal would be to help all kids and to stay involved as much as possible with the students.

She felt that when students leave the Dover School District, they should have important life skills such as balancing a checkbook. She added that she is planning on running for the School Board in the fall election.

Ms. Devoe feels that more extracurricular activities will help to keep children away from digital media, while help with the problem of obesity.

She admitted that she doesn't know too much about the tax cap since she is on a fixed income.

Ms. Greenshields stated that an important part of 21st Century Learning should be technology. As a business person, she has hired many interns, who have come to work for her without proper knowledge of Word or Excel. She feels they should gain these important skills while still in school. She feels that her role will be to listen and try to understand the needs and challenges of the Dover School District.



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She would offer a fresh perspective and try to learn as much as possible. She added that this type of work “intrigues and excites” her.

When asked about negative press, she commented that everyone has an opinion and would have patience with this.

Her goal is to represent all students in Dover and she feels that a Dover graduate should have the ability to work as a team. The ability to use technology would also be something required of a Dover graduate.

Ms. Greenshields commented that she is going to run for permanent office in the fall.

When asked about the extensive use of digital media in today’s youth, Ms. Greenshields commented that she is a huge advocate for outdoor activity for children. She would like to see activities that focus on outside recreation and nature.

Since she is fairly new to Dover, she has a limited knowledge of the tax cap, but doesn’t feel that it makes a lot of sense and can have a negative impact on a growing city.

At the end of the interview process, each Board member was given a ballot and asked to rate each candidate as a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd choice. Ms. Andrews Parker tabulated the scores and announced that the successful candidate would be Sarah Greenshields.

The final voting results were:

Marjorie Fisher	20 points
Sarah Greenshields	22 points
Kristen Devoe	12 points

D. SWEARING IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBER—K. Lavertu, City Clerk

City Clerk, Karen Lavertu swore in Ms. Greenshields as the new School Board member. She will be a voting member at the regular School Board meeting to follow.

E. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. An oral **VOTE PASSED 6/0.**

Respectfully submitted,
Betsey Andrews Parker, Secretary
BAP/ral