DOVER SCHOOL BOARD – MINUTES

DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting #9
Meeting Location: Media Ctr. (Room 306) McConnell Center
Meeting Date: **Monday, September 10, 2018**
Meeting Time: **7:00 pm**

A. CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Amanda Russell called a meeting of the Dover School Board to order on Monday, September 10 at 7:03 p.m. in the McConnell Center Media Center.

B. ROLL CALL: Present were Amanda Russell, Keith Holt, Kathy Morrison, Zak Koehler, Matt Lahr, Carolyn Mebert and Andrew Wallace.

Also present were: Superintendent Bill Harbron, Business Administrator Libby Simmons, WPS Principal Patrick Boodey and Asst. Superintendent of Student Services.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Keith Holt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. CITIZENS' FORUM: no one addressed the Board.

E. AGENDA APPROVAL: Keith Holt moved, Andrew Wallace seconded to approve the agenda as presented. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0**.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1.Regular Meeting #8, August 13, 2018
2.Special Session #17, August 21, 2018

Matt Lahr moved, Zak Koehler seconded approval of the minutes as presented. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0**.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Correspondence:**
2. **Resignations/Retirements:**
a. Joan Melvin, GES Reading Specialist
3. **Leaves of Absence:** none
4. **Job Shares:** none
5. **Nominations:**
a. Teacher
6. **Extended Travel (Student Trips):** none
7. **Donations:** none

Zak Koehler moved, Keith Holt seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0.** The Board thanked Ms. Melvin for her service to the District and for the early notice.

H. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: none

I. POLICY-CHANGES-PROPOSALS: none

J. POLICY ADOPTION:
a. IKFC—Alternative Diploma—Keith Holt moved, Andrew Wallace seconded to approve policy IKFC. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

In the past, a certificate of attendance was given. The alternative diploma will meet other requirements that will increase the graduation rate for identified students. The will help students who work very hard to achieve their goals. After receiving this diploma, students may transfer into adult services, vocational rehab, possibly coursework at certain post-secondary schools depending on their needs. They age out of the system at age 21.

K. RESOLUTIONS: none

L. OLD BUSINESS: none

M. NEW BUSINESS:

a. FY20 Budget Schedule—Dr. Harbron reviewed the proposed schedule and stated the process used for the budget will be similar to the process used last year. The dates for this schedule are similar to the ones used last year and will be amended as needed.

Zak Koehler moved, Andrew Wallace seconded to adopt the FY20 budget schedule. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

Mr. Koehler asked if a date for a Joint Fiscal Committee meeting had been set. Ms. Russell responded that she is currently in the process of coordinating a date with the City Council and Mayor. There are 3 meetings per year and typically at least one will be scheduled during budget season.

b. Job Description—Accounting Specialist: Ms. Simmons stated there is a vacancy in the business office and this new job description was developed based on the needs of the office.

Keith Holt moved, Matt Lahr seconded to approve the Accounting Specialist Job Description. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

c. Tuition Rate Approval: Zak Koehler moved, Keith Holt seconded to approve the tuition rates for 2018-2019. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

Amounts are different for Barrington and Nottingham due to formulas agreed upon in their contracts. She added that the rates are subject to change based on acceptance of the DOE -25 by the DOE.

d. August Conditions of Accounts: Ms. Simmons reviewed the balance, cautioning that it is very preliminary, and many items have not been encumbered yet.

N. SUBMISSION AND PAYMENT OF BILLS:
Matt Lahr moved, Carolyn Mebert seconded to direct the Superintendent to pay manifest #19-C in the amount of $2,213,772.17 for FY19, $528,420.14 for FY18 for a total of $2,742,192.31 for the period of August 17-September 7. A roll call **VOTE PASSED 7/0.**

O. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Harbron submitted his report to the Board. He added that the curriculum committee met, and he shared additional information with the Board.

The DHS Unified Sports program was selected as one of the nationally recognized programs in the country. Dr. Harbron commended Mary Jean (MJ) Hippern for her efforts with the program.

The Southeaster's group of superintendents met last week and shared new education laws from the most recent education session. There will be policies that need to be amended. Dr. Harbron noted that it would have been helpful to receive this information prior to summer work done in schools. He added that SB 193 may return and may be more difficult for legislators to advocate against due to changes in the bill.

P. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Dr. Mebert provided a report on the GES JBC stating that at the last meeting, it was determined that an electrical panel was overlooked early in the process creating an issue with air movement in the school causing 2nd grade students to miss the first day of school. Some stated that it was inequitable just to address those students since it was hot everywhere, but it was noted that the area was 105 degrees and there was no movement in air in the space. Some were also concerned that not all schools have the same level of temperature control. Dr. Mebert noted that the schools were all built at different times and different options are available regarding temperature control. The school was fortunate that the situation was addressed early.

Dr. Harbron noted that the DHS project is ongoing, even though it is open. They are still working on regulating their climate control also, but much of this is due to work still be completed in the building. There is a dehumidification system in the high school allowing it to remain cooler than normal. This should be fully functional after work has been completed and doors are able to remain closed. Work is still required on some CTC program areas. Workers will start night work on September 10 since more will be accomplished when work is occurring while students are not in the building. Ms. Russell noted that unpacking is still occurring and there is a large punch list. Ms. Russell requested that people not enter the building to look around, even if the doors are unlocked. It will hold up the process and causes security issues.
Dr. Mebert thanked the CTC for adding photos to their Facebook page. Ms. Russell thanked Drew Hallett for the video and PowerPoint for Teacher Return day. Drew also tested the internet speed and noted that it is 150 times faster than the other school. There are still a few wi-fi issues, but they are being addressed quickly. Ms. Russell reminded the public of the dates for the Masonic Cornerstone Ceremony, the ribbon cutting ceremony and the tours that will be held in November. She thanked everyone for their patience.

Dr. Mebert reiterated the need for maps of the buildings so that future work isn't hindered by the lack of information.

Mr. Holt commended Harvey Construction for addressing the generator issues so quickly, to which Dr. Mebert agreed. Ms. Russell thanked inspectional services for their work on the high school project. She believes the school wouldn't have been able to open with out their assistance and efforts on the project.

Q. SCHOOL BOARD MATTERS OF INTEREST: Mr. Holt requested that paperwork be provided online as opposed to sending papers home. Dr. Harbron agreed and responded that he believes they will be online next year. There is the possibility of a new student informational system for next year and a new website which would make it confusing for this year when a new process would be needed for next year. Dr. Mebert added that paper at UNH is one of the biggest expenses and would prefer to reduce the amount of paper use also.

Dr. Mebert commented that NH adequacy aid reports have added two new columns. They refer to home education students and Dover's report states that there are .23 of one home education student for 2018. Ms. Simmons will look into it to make sure the numbers are accurate.

Dr. Mebert noted that when reviewing the adequacy aid, she also noticed that there are only approximately 25 communities that don't receive stabilization grants of which Dover is one. She wanted to alert people that a colleague of Andru Volinsky is working on how the formula should be changed. (Mr. Volinsky is not able to work on this now due to his new role as an Executive Councilor). She added that districts don't seem to be performing better due to the amount of aid they are receiving.

Mr. Wallace reminded everyone to vote for candidates who support education on Tuesday.

Mr. Holt asked if it may be a good idea to try to solicit Newington students to attend Dover High School since it may be a shorter commute to Dover High rather than Portsmouth High School due to completed highway construction.

Mr. Holt reminded students to respect the new high school and each other. He stressed that it is an amazing opportunity and one that doesn't come up often. Dr. Harbron agreed and added that students deserve this new building and should take care of it.

Ms. Russell thanked school administrators for changing dates of school events when a religious holiday conflicts with the event. Parents are appreciative of the changes so that they can attend the events.

Mr. Koehler thanked Woodman Park for the Ice Cream Social and Horne Street School for the Pizza picnic. He was happy to see families at the events after school hours.

R. ADJOURNMENT: Keith Holt moved, Andrew Wallace seconded adjourning the meeting at 8:00 pm. An oral **VOTE PASSED 7/0.**