

MINUTES OF THE DURHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2007 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE DURHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY. (NOTE: These Minutes are not official until approved by the School Committee. Such action, either to approve or amend and approve, is anticipated at the December 13, 2007 meeting.)

Members Present: Amber Snell, Laurie Poissonnier, George Szadis, Linda Pfaffinger and Jim Beaulieu; Shannon L. Welsh, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Members Absent:

Administrators Present: Robert Kahler, Assistant Principal; Susan Matthews, Special Education Director; William Pidden, Principal; Catherine Messmer, Business Manager

Administrators Absent:

Others Present:

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Snell called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and the Pledge of allegiance was recited.

4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

A. **VOTED: (1)** To receive and approve the Minutes of October 11, 2007 meeting of the School Committee. (Szadis – Poissonnier) (4 – 0)

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

None

6. GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION:

Mr. Pidden recognized Mr. Reidman as Occupational Therapist of the Year. He was recognized due to his work with students and his commitment to his profession. The Middle School Medieval Fair was held last night. Our grade 7 students did an exceptional job.

7. REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATORS:

A. William Pidden – Update: Kate Race, a teacher here at the school was hired as Assistant Principal at the Lisbon Community School. We analyzed the work she was doing as writing teacher and made the decision not to fill this position at this time. We will hire Jennifer Jacobs, a contracted professional currently working with staff to provide additional professional support. Susan

Phillips, Title I teacher, will provide student support. We will analyze the affect of these changes and make recommendations regarding this position during the budget development process for next year.

The Terra Nova National Assessment was just completed. We are now researching a technology based assessment system, NWEA. Teachers and administrators have visited schools using the NWEA. A recommendation regarding this issue will also be made during the budget development process.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- A.** Building Committee Update: Superintendent Welsh expressed thanks to the community for their support of Durham's new elementary school project. The Building Committee met to discuss the referendum results and the level of community support. They are proud of Durham's commitment to education. The new elementary school with a larger gym, some pitched roof areas, and a geothermal heating and cooling system will greatly enhance our children's educational program and the community as a whole.

Linda Pfaffinger arrived 7:17

- B.** Consolidation Update: The Durham/Freeport/Pownal Reorganization Planning Committee (RPC) has established an Education Sub Committee with representation from each community. The charge is to make recommendations regarding programming, supports for students, and professional development. There will be five representatives from each community from teachers, administrators, school committee members, and the general public.

Member Poissonnier volunteered to be the School Committee representative to this Subcommittee. Principal Pidden will also be a member. Member Poissonnier and Principal Pidden will select two teachers and one community member to represent Durham. The first meeting of this sub-committee is scheduled for Monday, November 19th at 3:30 p.m. in Pownal.

School Choice for secondary students has been a discussion point for the larger RPC. Members of Durham's RPC want to hear from the community about this issue. A Public Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 20th at 6:30 p.m. in the gym. The purpose is for the RPC members to gain direction about the wishes of the community regarding school choice.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS (related to matters under consideration by the Committee):

None

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

11. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **VOTED: (1)** To approve the Durham Budget Priorities for 2008-2009 with correction. (Poissonnier – Pfaffinger) (5 – 0)

12. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- A. Durham School Department – As of October 31, 2007
- B. Durham Elementary School – As of October 31, 2007

13. COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. Durham School Committee Workshop Topics for 2007-2008
- B. Durham Budget Process Calendar for 2008-2009

14. COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

Chair Snell asked Mr. Beaulieu if, due to his increased workload, whether it would be easier to have someone else take the Financial Committee responsibilities. He agreed it would be better for someone else to be on the committee. Member Poissonnier agreed to take that position.

15. PERSONNEL:

- A. New Hires:
- B. Resignations:
 - 1) Katherine Race Teacher at the Durham Elementary School effective October 12, 2007.

16. POLICY REVIEW:

- A. Policies 08 Packet #2 will be distributed for review with plans for 1st Read on December 13, 2007 and Final Adoption on January 10, 2008.
 - 1. KB Parent Involvement in Education
 - 2. KBF Parent Involvement with Title I
 - 3. KDA Public Information Program
 - 4. KE Public Concerns and Complaints
 - 5. KF Community Use of School Facilities
 - 6. KI Visitors to the Schools

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| 7. | KLG | Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities |
| 8. | KLG-R | Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities
Administrative Procedure |
| 9. | LDA | Student Teaching and Internships |
| 10. | LF | Relations with State Education Agencies |

A. 1st Read on the Following Policies: 08 Packet #1

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| 1. | JLCD | Administration of Medication to Students |
| 2. | JLCDA | Medical Alert List Policy |
| 3. | JLCD-E | Medication Administration on School Field Trips |
| 4. | JLCE | First Aid and Emergency Medical Care |
| 5. | JLCEE | Do Not Resuscitate Requests |
| 6. | JLDBG | Reintegration of Students from Juvenile Correctional
Facilities |
| 7. | JLF | Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect |
| 8. | JLF-E | Suspected Child Abuse/Neglect Report Form |
| 9. | JLIB | Student Dismissal Precautions |
| 10. | JRA | Student Education Records and Information |
| 11. | JRA-E | Notification of Rights Under FERPA |
| 12. | JRA-R | Student Educational Records Administrative Procedure |

17. WORKSHOP:

Nutrition Program

Nutrition Director, Martha Poliquin presented information about the school lunch program. The Nutrikids software program allows her to analyze the nutrients within each menu. Information is provided regarding calories, total fat, saturated fat, carbs, and other elements of a healthy diet.

Mrs. Poliquin also provided information related to participation rates and revenues. Economic influences have impacted the cost of food. Some items have increased by 35%. This impact was not considered a year ago when we developed the budget. We may need to raise the cost of lunch for next year. We currently charge \$1.50, which has been the cost since 2001.

18. GENERAL SESSION:

19. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: (12) To adjourn. (Poissonnier – Beaulieu) (5 – 0) (8:10 p.m.)

Shannon L. Welsh, Ed.D.
Secretary, Durham School Committee