

**CITY OF DERBY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES – JAN 18, 2007**

(First half of meeting was unrecorded)

**Meeting called to order** (time unknown)

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call** Beth Collette, Leo DiSorbo, Kathy Ducharme. Martin Hubbard, Kim Kreiger, Renee Luneau, Sheila Parizo, Ralph Cocco and Brad Tobin (arrived 7:35 P.M.)

**Additions, deletions or Corrections** none

**Approval of minutes** *motion by Leo DiSorbo to accept the minutes, second by Ralph Cocco, all in favor, motion passes.*

**Public Portion** not recorded

**Delegations to be heard**

**Communications** Grant Award, Irving School – Arts Presentation Grant Program  
Irving School was awarded a grant from the Arts Presentation Grant Program in the amount of \$564.00 to support two performances of “American Song & Dance” by Brian Gillien in April 2007 and two performances of “Dances of India” by Rachna Agrawal in May 2007.  
Bradley School was also awarded a grant.

Derby Police Dept transfer of equipment to Derby Middle School  
Chief Mascolo requests transfer of fitness equipment to Derby Middle School. The equipment includes a stairmaster, stationary bike, rowing machine, ski trainer and free weights. He also requests disposal of a cable pull down machine as it is beyond repair.

Columbus House Kayne Karnbach of Columbus House sent a letter of thanks to the students who collected winter clothes for those in need in New Haven.

Irving School, Top Ten Elementary Schools Performance Gains Irving School is ranked number six under performance gains for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades @ 22.8.

**Sub Committee Reports**

**Administrative Report** (meeting was still unrecorded at this point) The January report was not in packet.

**Business Report** Business Sub Committee met on Dec 12, 2006 to discuss transportation cost limits, budget time line, current budget and electrical costs and two personnel vacancies of facilities manager and administrative assistant. The January report

was not in the packet.

***Community Relations Report*** The Committee met on Dec 11, 2006 to discuss the decision on Sound School attendance, the change in “public portion” playground discussion and the 2007 meeting schedule. The January report was not in the packet. The January 7, 2007 agenda was however. They met to discuss the update to the web page concerning new role of central office for public relations and data maintenance and policies for revision. The quote for the electrical consortium should be within the next 10 days. The 2007-2008 budget review will start with the schools on Jan 23, 2007. The para professional and secretary contracts still pending. Only minimal problems have been encountered with All Star bus contract.

### **Consent Agenda**

#### ***Finance Report***

**Transfers** There were no transfers for the month of January.

**Expenditures by Vendor** the report dated 1/11/07 for December checks issued shows grand total of \$511,302.45. A copy of this report is on file in the Town Clerk’s office.

**Financial Summary** the report shows the budget @ \$15,597,500 with a 58.50% used @ Dec 31, 2006. A copy of this report is on file in the Town Clerk office.

#### ***Personnel Report***

**Resignations** In a letter dated Dec 21, 2006, Ron Melnick, Business Mgr has resigned, to be effective in 60 days.

**Appointments** Leonard Jefferson, Volunteer Varsity Boy’s Basketball  
Anthony Gonzalez, Boy’s Middle School Basketball Coach  
Paul Padilla, Volunteer Middle School Boy’s Basketball  
Nicole Mastrianni, Middle School Girl’s Basketball Head Coach  
Kim Yagovane, Volunteer Middle School Girl’s Basketball  
Ryan Stefancin, Volunteer Varsity Wrestling Coach

#### **Student Representative Report**

(meeting was still unrecorded)

#### **Superintendent of Schools Update**

#### ***New Business***

Protocol for Derby Police Dept for locker searches (unable to document, nothing in packet)

#### ***International Baccalaureate***

The primary years programme is a programme of international education designated to foster the development of the whole child. The middle years programme helps students develop knowledge, understanding attitudes and skills necessary to participate actively and responsibly in a changing world. The diploma programme is a two year programme for students aged 16-19.

The diploma programme is well recognized by the world's leading universities.

### ***Focused Monitoring Results***

The Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Special Ed is in its third year of monitoring districts performance and compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act. The key performance indicators for the current school year is to decrease the number of students in all disability categories who are suspended or expelled. The Department identified four data probes as the basis to each district's analysis.

- 1 Special Education Unique Student Suspension and Expulsion Rate
- 2 General Education Unique Student Suspension and Expulsion Rate
- 3 Difference Score between General Ed and Special Ed
- 4 Special Education Unique 10+ Suspension and Expulsion Rate

The unique student suspension rate for Special Ed is 2.47 %, General Ed is 1.48% and the difference for Special Ed to General Ed is .99%. The 10+ days rate is 0.0 %.

A copy of this report is on file in the Town Clerk office.

### ***Facilities Management Services – AFB Service Level Agreement***

There is an interim agreement where AFB will provide management services for Derby Public Schools for six months. John and Al Barbarotto and Dave Cornett were available for questions. Al spoke of AFB being a construction and facilities management company. They have been providing municipalities and schools since 1986. They don't come in to privatize. Their job is to manage, they work with principals and superintendents. They assist and help guide staff, and hope at the end of the six months for an extended contract. They will assign a team to take full responsibility for day to day operations of all custodians, tradesmen and operational budget for Derby Public Schools. They will make recommendations to Derby Public Schools Superintendent of all aspects of planning for facilities departments including budget, personnel allocations, contract management and infrastructure needs. The fee for services is \$3600.00 per month. A copy of the agreement is on file in the Town Clerk office.

### ***Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives/Data for English Language Learner Population***

Dr. Robinson introduced a letter from the State Department of Education, from Frances Rabinowitz. 90.7 % of English language learners made progress in acquiring English language proficiency and 51.8 % attained English language proficiency.

### ***Middle School/High School Music Dept trip***

This is a competition for the music department. Motion to accept the field trip for DMS/DHS music department on May 18-20<sup>th</sup> to Sandusky Ohio by Mr. DiSorbo, with a second by Mrs. Krieger, all in favor, motion passes.

***Grade 5, Irving School  
Trip to Boston***

*Motion to accept the 5<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Freedom Trail, USS Constitution and Quincy Market by Renee Luneau and second by Beth Collette, all in favor, motion passes.*

***Approve USA Wrestling  
Team of Facilities***

The wrestling coach at the HS is using this organization to train kids in wrestling. They have an insurance certificate. The emphasis is on middle school age. Mr. Hubbard would like Mr. Jadach or a person from the wrestling team to come to explain in detail what is taking place. This will be tabled for now.

***Approve program of  
studies, Asst Superintendent  
report on HS graduation  
credits and course changes***

Meg Boice gave a summary of graduation requirements. The last few months looking at our policy 5123 as well as the proposed CT HS framework in terms of HS requirements. She has a proposal in terms of changing the graduation requirements for preparing students for life and work. They reviewed the current policy which requires 22 credits. The proposal will start with next year's 9<sup>th</sup> grade class of 2011 to include requirements to 24 credits. No changes have been made to English or Math, but will increase Science credits which is a trend we're seeing in preparing students to work in a world of technology. The Social Studies recommendation includes an increase to 3.5 years, moving the Civics courses to the senior year for approaching voting age. Physical Ed there are no changes, and there is no requirement for Health. Although there should be a .5 credit. The one credit for art should be spread into two for fine arts and practical arts. We want to bring in a requirement for a senior project. To do an in-depth study of a topic to work with an adult advisor for a written report with a presentation of their findings to the public. There has to be changes to the program of studies. The teachers have requested instead of full year course, students are able to select two semester classes of English. In Math, we don't have a goal to get students through Algebra I successfully by the end of 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Next year all 7<sup>th</sup> graders will take a pre-algebra course spread out over two years. Also recommending students who take Algebra I in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, take 9<sup>th</sup> grade science course. The Physical Ed and Health should be completed in 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade. We want to formalize students on work or internship a plan with a program to document what they are doing, and give them a credit. We recommend a pre-requisite for AP classes for US History and AP English be teacher recommendation and completion of a writing sample. Calculus, Physics and Biology will be teacher recommendation. The pre-requisite for honors class will also be teacher recommendation. *Motion to accept new graduation requirements as presented by Meg Boise by Kathy Ducharme, with a second by Ralph Cocco, all in favor, motion passes.*

*An amended motion by Mr. DiSorbo to include this is for the class of 2011, By Kathy Ducharme, second by Mr. Cocco, all in favor, motion passes.*

***Old Business***

*Middle School Improvement Plan* We have our Improvement Committee, Goals, Objectives and Action Plan and Timeline.

Goal #1: to ensure a safe and orderly environment for our students. DMS will attain high academic achievement for all students. DMS will increase parent involvement. 100% will participate in a character education program. 90% students will follow the school code of conduct.

Goal #2: attain high academic achievement for all students. Improve reading proficiency by 5% annually.

Goal #3: DMS will increase parent community involvement. Hope to establish a school leadership team that will act as an advisory panel for improving the atmosphere of our professional learning community.

Goal #4: prepare students to adapt to demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century society. 100% of DMS students will participate in technology activity. 100% of DMS students engage in cooperative learning as a means of acquiring flexibility and open minds.

Bradley School Playground Jim Stadt of 38 Laurel Avenue has several fundraisers planned and are going very well. He is looking for a certified contractor to work with him. The situation is not as bad as everyone thought. They have plenty of volunteers for workers.

Year End Forecast and Communication Financial Dr. Robinson said we are right on line for using our money appropriately. By joining the electrical consortium took our costs that went up by 65% down to 32%. Transfers will occur each month now to put money in any appropriate area as needed.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. DiSorbo with a second by Sheila Parizo and invite Dr. Robinson to join, all in favor, Motion passes, Meeting ended (unknown time)

Executive items to be discussed: Personnel and Negotiations.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Cesaroni  
Recording Secretary