

Newburyport School Committee Sub-Committee Meeting Agenda

Sub-Committee: Communications
Meeting Date: June 23, 2008
In Attendance: Stephanie Weaver, Nick deKanter, Dana Hooper, Kevin Lyons
Absent:

(1) Key Communicators/List Serves

- ▶ Update w/Kevin on meeting w/principals
 - i. Moving forward – Kevin spoke with the principals and there was agreement that new lists are needed. The primary push for this is to have the most accurate e-mails for parents & the capability to de-dupe so that they don't receive multiple copies of e-mail communication. During the summer (more discussion on timeframe will occur in next meeting), the current list will cease to be utilized. Don Skane will create five new lists. There will be a nightly download of master list & capability to de-dupe. Signing up for this new list will be marketed via snail mail, email and all communication from the schools. Sign-up will be on a single page of the District Website (users will check off which schools they want to receive information from). Our homework between now and July 8th is to come up with a name for the new e-mail distribution list.

(2) White Papers

- ▶ **Narrowed down list to top three subject:**
 1. **Inclusion** – Focus on positive “right thing to do” elements; raising teacher’s skill level has an end result of being good for all students. Other areas will include legal/compliance/equity issues. There will be a section on “what is special education” and why so many students need it.
 2. **Administration** – Why we are not top heavy in administration. Once Finance Committee completes their report, we will discuss further.
 3. **School Quality/Real Estate Values-** What is the relationship? Maintaining consistent “comparable” communities (the same ones used by finance subcommittee), show property taxes, MCAS scores.
 4. **Chapter 70** - A fact-based document (full of graphs) that includes data/information from DOE, as well as a breakdown of where the money comes from, where it goes and identification of big issues. Dana volunteered to compile data for this one.

(3) Next Steps

1. **Steph to delegate White Paper research/data gathering to community volunteers.**
2. **All – think of “brand” name for the new email distribution list**

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Next meeting date: **Tuesday, July 8th in the Supt.'s Conference Room**