Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. All rose and pledged allegiance.

Roll Call:
Rebecca O'Hara, Laura Harris and Kim Kreiger. Also present: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Stephen Tracy and Leslie Abbatello.

Public Participation
Vanessa Bennett - 204 Westfield Avenue. Ms. Bennett is a technology teacher at the elementary schools. Ms. Bennett would like the board to reinstate the full time technology position lost last year. Library media specialists could work with the technology teachers.

The plan to get students fluent on the keyboard will require more instructional time. First grade students are only being seen thirty minutes a week. Filling the full time position will allow more time. Instruction could then include pre-kindergarten with students typing competently by fourth or fifth grade.

On line keyboarding programs are available, however, the instruction is better with the teacher showing them.

On line CMT adaptive testing are test questions geared to the individual student. Students will be fed questions until they reach a 50% correct threshold.

There is a crisis in terms of drop out and a lack of college and/or career readiness from across the state.

The main goal is to identify learning needs and address them before it's too late. The standards require students master 100% of the content standards prior to being able to move on.

Update on ACES Curriculum Development Project
The work done thus far identifies areas of need and next steps in terms of assessment, curriculum consortium and the core standards in general.
Phase One of the contract: ACES is on track with the timeline. The grant application was favorable. The curriculum inventory of English language arts k-12, math k-12, library media and world language were completed first. The social studies and science standards are coming within a year or two.

A team with expertise has been convened with elementary language arts, math, secondary elementary arts and math and library media.

The documents presented by Derby public schools were not k-six, but k-five and seven-twelve.

The analysis done for k-five language arts and math, k-twelve library media, seven-twelve language arts and seven-twelve math identified major fundamental components that curriculum needs to have. These are non-negotiable. The elementary language arts and math and library media had no attempt to formulate big ideas and essential questions, no examples of assessments and no scope in sequence of skills.

The reality is the curriculum is the textbook and the teacher's best effort to teach from that book.

Pages from the CTM handbooks were included.

Assessment & scoring guide lists were provided.

The key areas of priority needs are using ASPAC which provides in terms of assessments, smarter balance, consortium, etc. This is a non-profit outfit taking on the task of creating the next generation of assessments.

By June, ACES will present the needs of Derby. The complication will be what Derby will produce in the two weeks of the writing time. ACES may recommend some things prior to the writing time, and ACES may reserve the right to re-recommend some other things.

ACES will work with Derby public schools to develop a long term multi-year action plan and make budget projections for the on-going work of curriculum development and implementation and professional development. When the planning phase is done, that will be the end of phase one.

Phase two is the implementation of all of this which starts after the summer.

Summer Curriculum Writing Plans
The 26 member districts could have the opportunity to participate in a collaborative effort to realign or write in order to align curriculum to the new standards and to the new assessments.

There are sixteen districts participating with a hundred or so people coming to the table for the workgroups.
Consortium members will have the option to send representatives to workshops to get the foundational knowledge. The workshops will be cross district.

There will be an opportunity for each district to shape it for each district to make it its own.

**Adjournment**

A MOTION by Ms. Harris with a second by Ms. O'Hara to adjourn. The meeting ended at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

[Signature]

Denise Cesaroni
Recording Secretary

***These minutes are subject to the approval by the board at their next regular meeting.***