Call to order
Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance
All rose and pledged allegiance

Roll Call
Present: Stephanie D’Onofrio, Ken Marcucio, Laura Harris, Casey Picheco and Kim Kreiger.

Also Present: Dr. Stephen Tracy - Superintendent of Schools, and Joe Orazietti - Athletic Director.

Absent: Andy Mancini, Rebecca O’Hara, Martin Hubbard and Jodi Chevarella.

Additions & Deletions
There are no changes.

Public Portion
Paula Ferrara - West Haven, CT. Teacher for Derby Public School System. Ms. Ferrara would like the Board to reconsider a move to a later start for elementary students. Right now children are waiting on their door steps or dropped off at school early because they have two working parents. The change would create more time for the elementary students being unattended early in the morning.

Chantal Gerckens - 65 Hillcrest Ave. Ms. Gerckens feels the Middle School should not start later. She also suggests if Bradley School goes to a later start, that they have some kind of a morning program there.

Fran Gallo - Principal - Irving School. Mr. Gallo is speaking for Ms. Coppola as well as himself. No children should be taking buses that late. There is a good possibility that they will be getting off the buses in the dark. The children should be going earlier not later.

Alicia Olenoski - 8 Commodore Hull Drive. Ms. Olenoski is in favor of an earlier start as opposed to a later start. It wouldn’t be such a huge impact on the sports schedule.

Paula Ferrara - When there is a late start or early dismissal there are tons of people outside the building. There has been empathy for parents with not being so easy to call a late start or early dismissal. Other elementary schools that have late starts have other options than Derby does to accommodate that situation where Derby does not.

Dr. Tracy summarized some emails and phone calls sent to him from parents:

Brenda Cayer-McCarthy - 4 Bellevue Drive - parent of a Bradley student. She feels an earlier start for the Middle School would be an easier transition to high school times. For Bradley, it would be a transition to go to a lower slot, but by having an older sibling getting out early can
help parents out. The concern for children getting home in the dark will be difficult but children
attending magnet schools deal with the kids getting out later at night. She recommends putting
DMS at 8:00 rather than 9:00.

Jennifer Caruso – 384 David Humphreys Road - phone call. Ms. Caruso reminded the Middle
School is air-conditioned, so if anyone has to be going late in the warm months of the fall and
spring the Middle School would be better suited for that.

Allison Harold - teacher at Bradley School. It does not make sense to her why an elementary
school would be changed to a later time over the Middle School. There are many more benefits
for Bradley School to start earlier; parents need to get to work. An older student can take care of
themselves. Many teachers have second jobs. Students who play sports could have a study hall
at the end of the day and leave early for games if need be. It is safer and more practical to
have elementary start earlier.

Ms. Bonina - Principal DMS. Ms. Bonina stated she is amenable to dismissing athletes early during
the spring season for the away games.

Public Portion closed.

**School Schedule Transportation**
Mr. Marcucio handed out schedules from other elementary schools in the Valley. He also
handed out the current Derby schedule.

Dr. Tracy addressed everyone present. There are three priorities in mind: avoid the substantial
cost if additional buses are needed, avoid the prospect of children either being off to the bus
early in the morning or getting off the bus late in the afternoon, and to avoid younger children
either being home alone in the morning or dropping them off an hour or so ahead of the school
day. The Middle School sports is also an issue.

Mr. Duggan - All Star Transportation. Mr. Duggan stated the Middle School takes eight buses. It
takes four buses to take the out of district kids home. There are not enough buses at 2:30 to get
the Middle School students home.

Mr. Orazietti - Athletic Director. The issue with starting later is daylight and field use/gym use.
Youth programs commit and they use the fields when they come home from work. The closest
schools for away games are Ansonia and Seymour, after that is Woodland, Waterbury and as far
as Woicott and Watertown.

The meeting schedule shows the High School will start at 7:30 a.m., Bradley School at 8:00 a.m.,
the Middle School at 8:30 a.m., and Irving School/St. Mary's St. Michael's at 9:00 a.m. The
suggestion is to move all of these schedules up by 5 minutes.

The schedules will be published for a decision by the board and feedback from parents. There
will be a special meeting at 7:00 on May 13, 2010.

**** Let the record show that the motion with the scheduling for next year was not made.

**Field Trip Authorization**
A MOTION that the Board of Education approve a proposed field trip to Six Flags New Jersey on May 22nd, 2010 for students at Derby High School as recommended by the Superintendent by Ms. Kreiger, second by Ms. D'Onofrio, all in favor. motion carries.

Executive Session
A MOTION by Ms. Kreiger that the Board of Education enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent’s performance for the 2009-2010 school year and negotiation matters and invite Dr. Tracy, second by Ms. Picheco, all in favor. motion carries.

A MOTION that the Board of Education return to public session at 8:58 p.m. by Ms. Harris, second by Ms. Kreiger, all in favor. motion carries.

Adjourn
MOTION to adjourn at 8:58 p.m. by Ms. Kreiger, second by Ms. Picheco, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Cesaroni
Recording Secretary

****These minutes are subject to approval by the Derby Board of Education at their next regular meeting.