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## **Accountability Minutes 10/15/2007**

*THE ARLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
ACCOUNTABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE  
Monday, October 15, 2007 @ 8:30 a.m..*

**In attendance: Jeff Thielman (Subcommittee Chair), Denise Burns, Ron Spangler, Nate Levenson (Superintendent), Topher Heigham (parent), Tony Lockhart, Intern.**

**The meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m.**

- 1. The September 24, 2007 minutes were amended and approved 3-0 (Motion by Mr. Spangler, Second by Ms. Burns)**
2. The subcommittee reviewed and modified the "rationale" column in the Accountability Grid. The subcommittee agreed that the Superintendent and his staff should review the rationale section and modify the wording if appropriate. The subcommittee asked the Superintendent to report back to the full School Committee by October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The goal would be to put the completed grid, with rationales, on the website. The subcommittee will refer to this during its report to the full Committee on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- 3. Lessons Learned from the FY '07 Process & ideas for FY '08:**
  - a. Denise Burns: The committee should integrate a "how" component into each measure. The committee should consider changing its name to the "District Goals Oversight Subcommittee" because the accountability grid is no longer for the Superintendent alone but is an evaluation of the progress the entire district is making. Ms. Burns suggested a mid-year review; her sense was that much of the review occurred at the end of the year.
  - b. Ron Spangler: The Policies and Procedures Subcommittee is evaluating CBI and may suggest modifying CBI to evaluate how goals are being met.
  - c. Jeff Thielman: The process needs to include student performance measures (e.g., common assessments, college tests, perhaps some MCAS scores). Just as there are multiple measures of our students, there ought to be multiple measures of the district's progress.
  - d. Nate Levenson: In response to Mr. Thielman's point, Mr. Levenson said the district staff needs to decide whether a goal this year should be to form a task force of staff to determine multiple measures of the district's yearly progress. The Superintendent agreed to consult his staff and report back at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m. The committee will meet next on either November 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> in the morning. The Superintendent said he would check his schedule and get back to the subcommittee.