

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1234 Monday, March 18, 2013

Media Center  
Wachusett Regional High School

*Committee Members Present:*

Duncan Leith, Chair	James Mason
Colleen Cipro, Vice-chair	Kenneth Mills
Cynthia Bazinet	Robert Pelczarski
Lance Harris	Norman Plourde
Steven Hammond	Robert Remillard
Robert Imber	Erik Scheinfeldt
Stacey Jackson	Michelle Sciabarrasi
Julianne Kelley	Margaret Watson
Deidre Kosky	Athas Tsongalis
Sarah LaMountain	

*Committee Members Absent:*

William Clute

*Administration Present:*

Anthony Gasbarro, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
Kelley Gangi, Director of Curriculum  
Darryll McCall, Director of Operations  
Joseph Scanlon, Director of Business and Finance  
Susan Sullivan, Director of Human Resources  
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

*Student Representatives Present:*

Emily Lindberg Emily Tomczyk

*Others present, who desired to be recorded as present (see attached Attendance Sheet – attachment 1).*

Chair Leith called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:59 PM.

I. Public Hearing

No members of the public wished to address the School Committee.

II. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of 1233<sup>rd</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on March 11, 2013

Motion: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the School Committee held on March 11, 2013

(N. Plourde)  
(R. Imber)

The minutes of the regular meeting of the School Committee held March 11, 2013 were approved, by consensus, with Members Cipro, Scheinfeldt, and Tsongalis abstaining.

B. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on March 11, 2013

Motion: To approve the minutes of the executive session of the School Committee held on March 11, 2013

(L. Harris)  
(K. Mills)

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Duncan Leith  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Steven Hammond  
Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Stacey Jackson  
Sarah LaMountain  
James Mason  
Kenneth Mills  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Michelle Sciabarrasi  
Margaret Watson

*Opposed:*

None

*Abstained:*

Colleen Cipro  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Athas Tsongalis

Motion passed 13-0-6.

III. Treasurer's Report/Financial Statements

Chair Leith reminded the Committee that if there are questions regarding the report of the Director of Business and Finance, members should contact the Interim Superintendent; if there are questions regarding the Treasurer's Report, members should contact the Business/Finance Subcommittee Chair.

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

1. Adoption of the *FY14 Appropriation*

Motion: To adopt the *FY14 Appropriation* in the amount of \$81,727,729 and assessments to the Member Towns of:

Holden: \$21,880,466  
Paxton: \$ 5,369,656  
Princeton: \$ 4,245,943  
Rutland: \$ 9,465,077  
Sterling: \$ 9,917,280  
\$50,878,422

(R. Imber)  
(J. Mason)

Member Imber spoke to the motion, followed by many members asking questions, voicing opinions, and reviewing the information.

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Duncan Leith  
Colleen Cipro  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Steven Hammond  
Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Stacey Jackson  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
James Mason  
Kenneth Mills  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Michelle Sciabarrasi  
Athas Tsongalis  
Margaret Watson

*Opposed:*  
Julianne Kelley  
Robert Remillard

Motion passed 17-2.

V. Committee Reports

A. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Leith reported he has been in contact with Massachusetts Association of School Committee Executive Director Glenn Koocher, who would be willing to attend a WRSDC meeting to speak to the Committee about School Committee member ethics and the Open Meeting Law.

B. Student Representatives

Student Representative Lindberg reported six Wachusett students placed in the top ten at DECA states competition recently held in Boston. She also spoke about *Act Globally* and a ban of plastic bottles, and the April 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> production of *On the Town*.

Student Representative Tomczyk reminded the School Committee of the March 30<sup>th</sup> Power Positive 5K walk/run, being coordinated at the high school. She also let the Committee know that parking lot issues she had brought before the Committee in the previous months have been addressed. Emily then gave a report on winter sports teams that have made it to the post-season, and that Model UN will be going to Washington to compete.

C. Management Subcommittee (D. Leith, Chair, C. Cipro, Vice-chair, C. Bazinet, S. Hammond, R. Imber, N. Plourde, R. Remillard, M. Sciabarrasi, M. Watson)

Chair Leith is hoping to schedule a meeting of this subcommittee for March 27<sup>th</sup>.

D. Education Subcommittee (S. Hammond, Chair, N. Plourde, Vice-chair, C. Bazinet, L. Harris, R. Imber, K. Mills, R. Pelczarski, M. Watson)

Subcommittee Chair Hammond reported this subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

Motion: To approve the second reading of Amended Policy – AP6631 Policy Relating to Pupil Services Non-Discrimination, waiving the reading.

(S. Hammond)  
(R. Imber)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Duncan Leith  
Colleen Cipro  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Steven Hammond  
Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
James Mason  
Kenneth Mills  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Michelle Sciabarrasi  
Athas Tsongalis  
Margaret Watson

*Opposed:*

None

Motion passed unanimously.

- E. Business/Finance Subcommittee (R. Remillard, Chair, E. Scheinfeldt, Vice-chair, W. Clute, L. Harris, J. Kelley, S. LaMountain, D. Leith, J. Mason, M. Sciabarrasi)

Business/Finance Chair Remillard reported this subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

- F. Community Outreach Subcommittee (S. Jackson, Chair, M. Sciabarrasi, Vice-chair, L. Harris, J. Kelley, J. Mason, K. Mills, A. Tsongalis, M. Watson)

Subcommittee Chair Jackson reported this subcommittee has its next meeting scheduled in Sterling on Wednesday, April 3, 2013, at 7:00 PM.

- G. Audit Advisory Board (J. Mason, R. Remillard)

No report was made.

H. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the Regional Agreement (J. Kelley, Chair, W. Clute, S. Hammond, R. Imber, N. Plourde)

Motion: That the School Committee approve and recommend to the Member Towns the proposed amendments to **Section 1** of the Wachusett Regional School District Agreement.  
(J. Kelley)  
(S.Hammond)

Member Hammond spoke to the motion and explained potential quorum issues. Many members of the Committee asked questions about the motion on the table. Members spoke about the size of the School Committee.

8:47 PM Student Representatives Lindberg and Tomczyk left the meeting.

Some additional discussion took place.

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Duncan Leith  
Colleen Cipro  
Steven Hammond  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
James Mason  
Kenneth Mills  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Michelle Sciabarrasi

*Opposed:*

Cynthia Bazinet  
Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Sarah LaMountain  
Athas Tsongalis  
Margaret Watson

Motion passed 13-6.

Motion: That the School Committee approve and recommend to the Member Towns the proposed amendments to **Section 9** of the Wachusett Regional School District Agreement.

(J. Kelley)

(C. Cipro)

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Duncan Leith  
Colleen Cipro  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Steven Hammond  
Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
James Mason  
Kenneth Mills  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Michelle Sciabarrasi  
Athas Tsongalis  
Margaret Watson

*Opposed:*

None

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: That the School Committee approve and recommend to the Member Towns the proposed amendments to **Section 14** of the Wachusett Regional School District Agreement.

(J. Kelley)

(N. Plourde)

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Duncan Leith  
Colleen Cipro  
Steven Hammond  
Robert Imber  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky

Sarah LaMountain  
James Mason  
Kenneth Mills  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Michelle Sciabarrasi  
Athas Tsongalis

*Opposed:*

Cynthia Bazinet  
Lance Harris  
Margaret Watson

Motion passed 16-3.

Motion: That the School Committee approve and recommend to the Member Towns the proposed amendments to **Section 17** of the Wachusett Regional School District Agreement.

(J. Kelley)

(S. Hammond)

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Duncan Leith  
Colleen Cipro  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Steven Hammond  
Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
James Mason  
Kenneth Mills  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Michelle Sciabarrasi  
Athas Tsongalis  
Margaret Watson

*Opposed:*

None



Motion passed unanimously.

Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the Regional Agreement Chair Kelley reported she will schedule one more meeting of this subcommittee to prepare documents for information at the May Annual Town Meetings.

2. Ad Hoc Subcommittee – Superintendent Search (S. Hammond, Chair, N. Plourde, Vice-chair, C. Bazinet, C. Cipro, R. Imber, D. Leith, R. Pelczarski, R. Remillard, M. Sciabarrasi, M. Watson)

Ad Hoc Subcommittee Chair Hammond reported on recent meetings of this ad hoc subcommittee and told that candidates for the Superintendent of Schools position have been interviewed. Ad Hoc Subcommittee Chair Hammond alerted the full School Committee of the planned schedule moving forward.

I. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee (M. Watson)

Member Watson reported this building committee has not met since the last School Committee meeting. Interim Superintendent Gasbarro reported on the March 15<sup>th</sup> meeting with the Massachusetts School Building Authority, and that the final vote by the Board of the MSBA on the Mountview project will take place on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

2. Green Repair School Building Committee (D. Leith)

The anticipated completion dates for these projects continues to be the end of April.

J. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School (A. Tsongalis), Chocksett Middle School (S. LaMountain), Davis Hill Elementary School (S. Jackson, K. Mills), Dawson Elementary School (D. Kosky), Glenwood Elementary School (J. Kelley), Houghton Elementary School (L. Harris), Mayo Elementary School (M. Watson), Mountview Middle School (S. Hammond/E. Scheinfeldt), Naquag Elementary School (C. Cipro), Paxton Center School (W. Clute/R. Pelczarski), Thomas Prince School (R. Imber/M. Sciabarrasi), Wachusett Regional High School (C. Bazinet/M. Sciabarrasi/A. Tsongalis), Special Education Parent Advisory Council (S. Jackson), Early Childhood Center (J. Mason)

Member Jackson – SEPAC

VI. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

Interim Superintendent Gasbarro spoke about Thomas Prince School and the plans for STEAM being implemented, beginning with the 2013-2014 school year. He also reported he and Director McCall had attended the Art Festival at TPS on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

There were no items requiring School Committee action.

VII. Public Hearing

No members of the public wished to address the School Committee.

VIII. Unfinished Business

At Member LaMountain's inquiry, Interim Superintendent Gasbarro reported on what progress has been made to address concerns about the District's math curriculum brought before the School Committee by the WREA at the March 11, 2013 School Committee meeting.

At Member Kelley's inquiry, Interim Superintendent Gasbarro will seek information about the District's foreign language program, at both the middle school and the high school level, and he will include information in his Superintendent's Report.

IX. New Business

Motion: That the Education Subcommittee review the status of the current Wachusett Regional School District math curriculum and the materials and professional development supporting that curriculum.

(R. Imber)

(J. Mason)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Duncan Leith  
Colleen Cipro  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Steven Hammond  
Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain

James Mason  
Kenneth Mills  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Michelle Sciabarrasi  
Athas Tsongalis  
Margaret Watson

*Opposed:*  
None

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: That the Management Subcommittee look at the By-Laws for the purpose of determining if any changes should be recommended to the full School Committee.

(N. Plourde)  
(C. Bazinet)

Vote:  
*In favor:*

Duncan Leith  
Colleen Cipro  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Steven Hammond  
Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
James Mason  
Kenneth Mills  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Michelle Sciabarrasi  
Athas Tsongalis  
Margaret Watson

*Opposed:*  
None

Motion passed unanimously.

X. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(R. Pelczarski)  
(K. Mills)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Duncan Leith  
Colleen Cipro  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Steven Hammond  
Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
James Mason  
Kenneth Mills  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Michelle Sciabarrasi  
Athas Tsongalis  
Margaret Watson

*Opposed:*

None

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony A. Gasbarro  
Interim Superintendent