

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1273 Monday, July 13, 2015
7:00 PM

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School
1401 Main Street, Holden

Committee Members Present:

Lance Harris, Chair	Linda Long-Bellil
Robert Imber, Vice-chair	Lauren Maldonado (7:05 PM)
Scott Brown	Robert McCarthy (7:10 PM)
Thomas Curran	Kenneth Mills
Michael Dennis	Jon Edward Novak
Matthew Ehrenworth	Steve Porter
Harriet Fradellos	Asima Silva
Susan Hitchcock	Christina Smith
Stacey Jackson	Adam Young
Sarah LaMountain	Charles Witkes

Committee Members Absent:

Barbara Renzoni

Committee Members Participating Remotely:

None

Administration Present:

Darryll McCall, Superintendent of Schools
Joseph Scanlon, Director of Business and Finance
Jeff Carlson, Director of Human Resources
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

Student Representatives Present:

Linnea Budd Liam Fritsche

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

Chair Harris called the regular meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:02 PM.

I. Public Hearing

Margaret Watson and Cynthia Janik, Holden Garden Club, read a prepared statement (attachment 2)

7:05 PM Member Maldonado joined the meeting.

Laura Garofoli, Sterling, addressed the School Committee.

7:10 PM Member McCarthy joined the meeting.

II. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Harris reported he would forego Chair's remarks.

III. Student Representatives' Reports (Linnea Budd, Liam Fritsche)

Student Representatives Budd and Fritsche reported they are enjoying summer break.

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

When polled, many members expressed interest in discussing the FY16 budget and how the District will operate under a one-twelfth budget. Director Scanlon approached the podium. Discussion began with Superintendent McCall reporting receiving approval from the Commissioner of Education for operation of the District under a one-twelfth budget, beginning July 1, 2015, in light of the FY16 proposed budget not receiving support from four of the five Member Towns. Most members participated in the discussion, with comments ranging from the importance of hiring adjustment counselors, even at the loss of something else "because nothing trumps student safety", to how to encourage residents of the towns to attend Town Meetings to support the school budget. Superintendent McCall intends to send School Messenger messages to Rutland parents and employees, reminding them of the August 3, 2015 Special Town Meeting in Rutland. Other comments/suggestions included making the public aware of what students and staff have lost due to recent school budgets being lower than needed and the possibility of increasing fees for sports/extra-curricular participation.

7:42 PM Member Smith left the table.

Member Mills referenced and read from a spreadsheet found on the DESE website, *Total Expenditure Per Pupil, All Funds, By Function* (attachment 3).

7:49 PM Member Smith returned to the table.

Lengthy discussion continued. At the conclusion of the discussion about the budget and operating under a one-twelfth budget, Chair Harris explained, for the benefit of new members, action to be taken by the School Committee authorizing the transfer of funds.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

Motion: To authorize the Director of Business and Finance to transfer \$260,659.71 to the Instructional Supplies appropriation from the Benefits and Insurance appropriation.

(R. Imber)

(S. Porter)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To authorize the Director of Business and Finance to transfer \$201,494.32 to the Operations and Maintenance appropriation from the SPED Tuition appropriation.

(M. Dennis)

(R. Imber)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain

Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To chargeback employee related expenses for Medicare, Unemployment, Workers Compensation, Life Insurance and Health Insurance to the Kindergarten revolving funds by location in the total amount of \$120,087.29, and to credit the applicable General Fund budgetary expense accounts in the total amount of (\$120,087.29).

(R. Imber)

(T. Curran)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To chargeback employee related expenses for Medicare, Unemployment, Workers Compensation, Life Insurance and Health Insurance to the IDEA Grant in the total amount of \$19,227.41, and to credit the applicable General Fund budgetary expense accounts in the total amount of (\$19,227.41).

(M. Ehrenworth)

(S. Jackson)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: That the Wachusett Regional School District hereby accepts the provisions of Chapter 32B, Section 20 the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended by Chapter 68, section 57 of the Acts of 2011, and establishes an Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund (“OPEB Trust Fund”); and that the Wachusett Regional School District hereby designates its Treasurer to serve as custodian of the assets of its OPEB Trust Fund.

(S. Jackson)

(C. Witkes)

At Vice-chair Imber's inquiry, Director Scanlon explained the intent of the motion.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To approve registration costs for School Committee Members Harriet Fradellos' and Jon Edward Novak's attendance at November 2015 MASC/MASS Joint Conference in Hyannis, Massachusetts

(K. Mills)

(S. Jackson)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson

Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Jon Edward Novak

The motion passed 19-0-1.

Chair Harris extended thanks to Collaborative Budget Task Force Chair Jackson and members of the Task Force for the work they dedicated to this Task Force the last several years. Member Jackson reported a final report will be issued in the near future.

V. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the School Committee.

VI. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of 1272nd Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on June 23, 2015

Motion: To approve minutes of the regular meeting of the WRSDC held on June 23, 2015.

(R. Imber)

(S. Jackson)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson

Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Michael Dennis

- B. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on June 23, 2015

Deferred

VII. Treasurer's Report/Financial Statements

Chair Harris reminded the Committee that if there were questions regarding the Director of Business and Finance's report that Members should contact the Superintendent; if there were questions regarding the Treasurer's Report, Members should contact the Business/Finance Subcommittee Chair.

VIII. Committee Reports

- A. Management Subcommittee (L. Harris, Chair, R. Imber, Vice-chair, S. Jackson, K. Mills)

Chair Harris reported on the July 8, 2015 meeting of the Management Subcommittee. He reported on the expectation that District goals would be presented to the School Committee in August and the Superintendent's goals would be presented in September. Chair Harris is expecting an update on the creation of a five year plan at the August School Committee meeting. The Management Subcommittee will meet next on August 5, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

- B. Education Subcommittee (R. Imber, Chair, C. Smith, Vice-chair, S. LaMountain, L. Long-Bellil, L. Maldonado, S. Porter, A. Silva)

Subcommittee Chair Imber spoke about Draft Policy 6619 Life Threatening Allergies, the first reading for which is on the agenda. He explained how the draft policy was developed, and informed the Committee that Education

Subcommittee Vice-chair Smith and Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services Knowles would be making a presentation to the Committee in advance of voting on the first reading.

1. Draft Policy – 6619 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Life Threatening Allergies**– first reading

Motion: To approve the first reading of Draft Policy 6619 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Life Threatening Allergies**, waiving the reading.

(R. Imber)

(C. Smith)

8:34 PM Member Young left the table.

Vice-chair Smith and Supervisor Knowles approached the podium and made a presentation to the Committee, explaining the intent of the draft policy (attachment 4).

8:37 PM Member Young returned to the table.

8:40 PM Member Brown left the meeting.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Chair Harris gave members the opportunity to ask questions or make comments about the presentation and/or the draft policy. Some members asked questions.

9:24 PM Member Long-Bellil left the meeting.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

9:25 PM Member Ehrenworth left the meeting.

- C. Business/Finance Subcommittee (S. Jackson, Chair, M. Dennis, Vice-chair, H. Fradellos, R. McCarthy, E. Novak, B. Renzoni, C. Witkes, A Young)

Subcommittee Chair Jackson reported the Business/Finance Subcommittee will meet on Tuesday, August 4, 2015, at 7:00 PM. She reported a meeting of the Audit Advisory Board has been scheduled for 6:30 PM that same evening.

- D. Legal Affairs Subcommittee (K. Mills, Chair, S. Brown, Vice-chair, T. Curran, M. Ehrenworth, S. Hitchcock)

Legal Affairs Subcommittee Chair Mills reported the Legal Affairs Subcommittee will meet next on Wednesday, August 5, 2015, at 7:00 PM.

- E. Audit Advisory Board

AAB Chair Jackson reported the Audit Advisory Board will meet next on Tuesday, August 4, 2015, at 6:30 PM.

- F. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

- 1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review Evaluation and Hiring Policy (K. Mills, Chair, S. Brown, M. Ehrenworth, C. Smith)

Ad Hoc Subcommittee Chair Mills reported this subcommittee will meet on Monday, August 10, 2015, at 6:00 PM.

- G. Building Committees

- 1. Mountview Building Committee

Member McCarthy reported that the next meeting of the Mountview Building Committee will be July 14, 2015.

- H. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School Chocksett Middle School, Davis Hill Elementary School, Dawson Elementary School, Glenwood Elementary School, Houghton Elementary School, Mayo Elementary School, Mountview Middle School, Naquag Elementary School, Paxton Center School, Thomas Prince School,

Wachusett Regional High School, Special Education Parent Advisory
Council, Early Childhood Center

No School Council reports were made.

IX. Public Hearing

Heidi Lahey, WREA President, addressed the School Committee.

X. New Business

There was no new business brought before the School Committee

XI. Executive Session

Chair Harris reported an executive session would not be held.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(K. Mills)

(R. McCarthy)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DM:rlp