

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1308

Monday, February 12, 2018
7:00 PM

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School
1401 Main Street, Holden

Wachusett Regional School District Committee

Kenneth Mills, Chair	Amy Michalowski
Christina Smith, Vice-chair	Benjamin Mitchel
Scott Brown	Jon Edward Novak
Thomas Curran	Michael Rivers
Stephen Godbout	Asima Silva
Susan Hitchcock	Robin Van Liew
Robert Imber	Megan Weeks
Sarah LaMountain	Charles Witkes
Linda Long-Bellil	Adam Young (8:12 PM)
Lauren Maldonado	

Committee Members Absent:

Michael Dennis	Matthew Lavoie
Harriet Fradellos	

Committee Members Participating Remotely:

None

Administration Present:

Darryll McCall, Superintendent
Robert Berlo, Deputy Superintendent
Joseph Scanlon, Director of Business and Finance
Jeff Carlson, Director of Human Resources
Kimberly Merrick, Administrator of Special Education
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

Student Representatives Present:

Philip Baird

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

Chair Mills called the meeting to order at 8:11 PM.

I. Public Hearing

Michael Andrus, Holden resident, addressed the School Committee.

8:12 PM Member Young joined the meeting.

II. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Mills spoke briefly about a meeting with representatives of Quabbin Regional School District, held on January 29, 2018.

Chair Mills again encouraged School Committee members to attend meetings with Member Town officials, when the Superintendent and others from the Central Office will sit with town officials to review the FY19 budget proposal. Chair Mills re-stated the meeting dates: February 13, 2018 (Rutland), February 21, 2018 (Sterling), February 22, 2018 (Holden), February 26, 2018 (Paxton), and March 5, 2018 (Princeton).

III. Student Representatives' Reports

Student Representative Baird reported both the boys' and the girls' indoor track teams had won Districts. He also noted that seniors are counting down their last days as WRHS students.

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

Superintendent McCall spoke about the budget and development of the proposed FY19 budget, and he too encouraged members to join him at the meetings with Member Town officials.

Several members had questions about the chart included in the Superintendent's Report, listing the number of Wachusett students who choice out of this district as well as the schools that they attend through school choice. Enrollment in virtual schools was also raised. Discussion ensued.

8:24 PM Member Van Liew left the table.

Member Long-Bellil had questions about why Wachusett has had several principal vacancies the past two years. Some discussion ensued.

Superintendent McCall spoke about Project 351 and gave the history of this state-wide student initiative.

When asked, it was confirmed the WRHS late bus pilot is expected to begin March 19, 2018.

8:29 PM Member Van Liew returned to the table.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

At Chair Mills' invitation, Director Scanlon approached the podium.

Motion: To authorize the Director of Business and Finance to address a shortfall in the Out-of-District budget group within the Special Education Tuition appropriation by transferring \$229,851 from the Instructional budget group in the Salaries and Stipends appropriation and \$229,851 from the Other Insurances budget group in the Benefits & Insurance appropriation.

(R. Imber)

(A. Young)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Benjamin Mitchel
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion: To authorize the Director of Business and Finance to address a projected shortfall in the Special Education Out-of-District Van budget group in the Transportation appropriation by transferring \$71,285 from the Other Insurances budget group in the Benefits & Insurance appropriation.

(C. Smith)
(R. Imber)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Benjamin Mitchel
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion: To authorize the Director of Business and Finance to address a projected shortfall in the Print Management budget group in the Instructional Support appropriation by transferring \$29,953 from the Utilities budget group in the Operations & Maintenance appropriation.

(A. Michalowski)
(M. Rivers)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Sarah LaMountain

Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Benjamin Mitchel
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion: To authorize the Director of Business and Finance to increase budgets in the Health Services in the Pupil Services appropriation by transferring \$5,780 from the Utilities budget group in the Operations & Maintenance appropriation.

(C. Smith)

(A. Young)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Benjamin Mitchel
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion: To authorize the Director of Business and Finance to increase budgets in the Instructional Supplies Textbooks budget group within the Instructional Support appropriation by transferring \$39,240 from the Utilities budget group in the Operations & Maintenance appropriation.

(T. Curran)

(M. Rivers)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Benjamin Mitchel
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion was approved unanimously.

Director Scanlon left the podium.

Motion: To approve the 2018-2019 School Year Calendar

(C. Smith)

(M. Weeks)

Members had been provided with a copy of the draft calendar for the 2018-2019 school year (attachment 2). Member Curran raised the question about vacation weeks and any consideration being given to either eliminating a week of vacation or combining the February and April

school vacations. Vice-chair Smith, who served as the Chair of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the School Calendar, gave an overview of the discussions had by and decisions/recommendations made by the ad hoc subcommittee. Deputy Superintendent Berlo, who served as administrative liaison on the Ad Hoc Subcommittee, approached the podium and also spoke about the work of that ad hoc subcommittee. Some additional discussion took place.

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Benjamin Mitchel
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

Thomas Curran

The motion was approved 18-1.

V. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the School Committee.

VI. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of 1307th Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on January 23, 2018

Motion: To approve minutes of the regular meeting of the WRSDC held on January 23, 2018.

(R. Imber)

(J. E. Novak)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Sarah LaMountain
Benjamin Mitchel
Megan Weeks

The minutes were approved 16-0-3.

B. Approval of Executive Session Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on January 23, 2018

Motion: To approve minutes of the executive session of the WRSDC held on January 23, 2018, not to be released.

(A. Michalowski)

(T. Curran)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Scott Brown
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers

Asima Silva
Charles Witkes

Opposed:
None

Abstained:
Christina Smith
Thomas Curran
Sarah LaMountain
Benjamin Mitchel
Robin Van Liew
Megan Weeks
Adam Young

The minutes were approved 12-0-7.

VII. Treasurer's Report/Financial Statements

Chair Mills 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 (K. Mills, Chair, C. Smith, Vice-chair, M. Dennis, S. Hitchcock)

Chair Mills reported on the February 5, 2018 meeting of this subcommittee.

- B. Education Subcommittee (C. Smith, Chair, M. Lavoie, Vice-chair, R. Imber, S. LaMountain, L. Long-Bellil, L. Maldonado, A. Silva, R. Van Liew, M. Weeks)

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

Motion: To approve the first reading of Amended Policy 6613.2 Policy Relating to Pupil Services Athletic Head Injury and Concussion Policy, waiving the reading.

(C. Smith)
(R. Imber)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown

Thomas Curran
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Benjamin Mitchel
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:
None

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion: To approve the first reading of Amended Policy 6618 *Policy Relating to Pupil Services Nutrition and Wellness Policy*, waiving the reading.

(C. Smith)
(S. LaMountain)

Subcommittee Chair Smith provided some background about the amending of this policy.

Vote:
In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Benjamin Mitchel
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers
Asima Silva

Robin Van Liew
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion: To approve the first reading of Amended Policy 3311 *Policy Relating to Education Subject Fields and Courses for High School Students*, waiving the reading.

(C. Smith)

(R. Imber)

Member Michalowski had questions about the policy title and if it was an accurate reflection of the intent of the policy. Discuss ensued.

Motion: To amend the title of Policy 3311 *Policy Relating to Education*, changing the title to *Course Organization, Curriculum, and Course Credit*.

(J. E. Novak)

(A. Michalowski)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Benjamin Mitchel
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion: To approve the first reading of Amended Policy 3311 Policy Relating to Education Course Organization, Curriculum, and Course Credit Subject Fields and Courses for High School Students, waiving the reading.

(C. Smith)

(R. Imber)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Benjamin Mitchel
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion was approved unanimously.

- C. Business/Finance Subcommittee (M. Dennis, Chair, Adam Young, Vice-chair, L. Long-Bellil, B. Mitchel, J. E. Novak, C. Witkes)

Business/Finance Subcommittee Vice-chair Young reported on the February 5, 2018 meeting of this subcommittee.

- D. Legal Affairs Subcommittee (S. Hitchcock, Chair, S. Brown, Vice-chair, T. Curran, H. Fradellos, Stephen Godbout, Michael Rivers)

Subcommittee Chair Hitchcock reported this subcommittee met on this date, before the Special School Committee meeting, when the subcommittee reviewed contract proposals with four of the bargaining units (Food Service,

Clerical, Custodial, WAA), which the subcommittee supported and recommended full School Committee ratification.

- E. Superintendent Goals and Evaluation Subcommittee (K. Mills, Chair, C. Smith, Vice-chair, S. LaMountain, M. Lavoie, A. Michalowski, M. Weeks)

Chair Mills reported that 12 of the 22 members of the School Committee had provided input for the Superintendent Formative Evaluation, which had been shared electronically with all members. Chair Mills extended the deadline to February 13, 2018 for members to submit their input. Chair Mills reported this subcommittee will meet next on February 28, 2018.

- F. Audit Advisory Board (C. Witkes, Chair, R. McCarthy)

AAB Chair Witkes reported the AAB has not met since the last School Committee meeting. Director Scanlon approached the podium and reported that the Audit Action Plan is being developed.

Motion: To accept the *Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for Independent Auditor's Report, Suggestions for Improvement in Accounting Procedures and Internal Control, and Financial Report Pursuant to OMB Uniform Guidance* prepared by Lynch, Malloy, Marini, LLP for fiscal year ended June 30, 2017.

(C. Witkes)

(S. Brown)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Benjamin Mitchel
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:
None

The motion was approved unanimously.

G. Ad Hoc Subcommittees

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Budget Sustainability (K. Mills, Chair, A. Young, Vice-chair, M. Lavoie, L. Long-Bellil)

Chair Mills reported this ad hoc subcommittee did not meet on February 7, 2018, due to weather. A meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

H. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee

Superintendent McCall reported this building committee has not met since the last School Committee meeting. He additionally reported that there are still issues with the HVAC system at Mountview, which are being addressed.

I. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School (J. E. Novak), Chocksett Middle School (S. Godbout), Davis Hill Elementary School (A. Silva), Dawson Elementary School (A. Young), Glenwood Elementary School (M. Lavoie), Houghton Elementary School (S. Godbout), Mayo Elementary School (T. Curran), Mountview Middle School (S. Brown), Naquag Elementary School (C. Witkes), Paxton Center School (B. Mitchel), Thomas Prince School (M. Weeks), Wachusett Regional High School (S. LaMountain/M. Rivers), Special Education Parent Advisory Council (A. Young), Early Childhood Center (L. Maldonado)

Member Curran – Mayo Elementary School

IX. Public Hearing

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

X. New Business

There was no new business brought before the School Committee.

XI. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(R. Imber)
(T. Curran)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Stephen Godbout
Susan Hitchcock
Robert Imber
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Amy Michalowski
Benjamin Mitchel
Jon Edward Novak
Michael Rivers
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DM:rlp

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 – sign-in sheets
- Attachment 2 – draft 2018-2019 school calendar