

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1294 Monday, March 13, 2017
7:00 PM

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School
1401 Main Street, Holden

Wachusett Regional School District Committee

Kenneth Mills, Chair	Robert McCarthy (7:03 PM)
Scott Brown	Jon Edward Novak
Michael Dennis	Steve Porter
Harriet Fradellos	Barbara Renzoni
Susan Hitchcock	Asima Silva
Stacey Jackson	Christina Smith
Sarah LaMountain	Megan Weeks
Matthew Lavoie	Charles Witkes
Linda Long-Bellil	Adam Young
Lauren Maldonado	

Committee Members Absent:

Robert Imber, Vice-chair	Michael Rivers
Thomas Curran	

Committee Members Participating Remotely:

None

Administration Present:

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

Student Representatives Present:

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

Chair Mills called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Chair Mills reported the meeting was being filmed live, but was not streaming.

I. Public Hearing

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

II. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Mills walked the Committee through the process for School Committee approval of the proposed FY18 Appropriation. He reminded members that budget approval requires a two-thirds votes in favor (15 affirmative votes), and he also noted that Sterling's Annual Town Meeting warrant closed this date, but that the District had been given an extension until March 14, 2017 to provide Sterling with FY18 budget numbers for inclusion in that town's warrant.

7:03 PM Member McCarthy joined the meeting.

Chair Mills spoke briefly about the budget roundtable meeting that had been held in Rutland on February 28, 2017.

Before the Committee began budget deliberations, Chair Mills invited the Student Representatives to make their reports to the School Committee.

III. Student Representatives' Reports (Alyssa Stark, Chloe Tolderlund)

Student Representative Stark reported on the upcoming performances of *Hello Dolly*, at the high school on March 31, April 1, and April 2, 2017. Student Representative Tolderlund spoke about the regional science fair held at WPI on March 10, 2017, reporting on the first place finish by WRHS junior Evan Mizerak. She also reported that this time of year is filled with upcoming MCAS testing, spring sports, and seniors receiving college admission letters.

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

Chair Mills turned the meeting over to Superintendent McCall.

Superintendent McCall also spoke about the regional science fair held at WPI, letting the Committee know what an "unbelievable" event it is with very impressive showings/projects.

Superintendent McCall spoke about CTMS Principal Todd Stewart's resignation, effective June 30, 2017. Superintendent McCall will soon attend a CTMS Staff meeting, to speak with school staff about the search process, which he spoke briefly about to the Committee, assuring the Committee he will keep members apprised as the search process moves forward.

At Member Jackson's inquiry, there was discussion about the January 24, 2017 letter from DESE Commissioner Chester, in which he states "...the current structure of the Wachusett School Committee does not comply with the "one person, one vote" doctrine." Chair Mills and Superintendent McCall provided brief history about School Committee membership and

Member Town representation. Both Chair Mills and Superintendent McCall acknowledged the WRSDC has been out of compliance with the “one person, one vote doctrine” for some time, explaining that in the past the School Committee has addressed this matter, without resolution.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

Motion: To approve the FY18 Appropriation of \$90,872,878, with assessments to the Member Towns of

Holden	\$26,495,981
Paxton	\$ 6,065,107
Princeton	\$ 4,712,838
Rutland	\$11,665,464
Sterling	<u>\$11,352,438</u>
	\$60,291,828

(R. McCarthy)

(S. Brown)

Deputy Superintendent Berlo and Director of Business and Finance Scanlon approached the podium. Members were provided with copies of the FY18 Budget Book (attachment 2). Chair Mills opened the floor to questions and comments from the School Committee.

Member Jackson
 Member Lavoie
 Member Smith
 Member Dennis
 Member Long-Bellil
 Member Novak
 Member Lavoie
 Member Smith
 Member Hitchcock

7:27 PM Member Smith left the table.

Superintendent McCall
 Member Weeks

7:31 PM Member Smith returned to the table.

Member Renzoni

At the conclusion of discussion about the motion on the table, Chair Mills reminded members that a two-thirds vote in favor (15 affirmative votes) is needed to approve the proposed FY18 Appropriation.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Scott Brown
Michael Dennis
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Adam Young

Opposed:

Matthew Lavoie
Jon Edward Novak
Charles Witkes

The motion was approved 16-3.

Motion: To endorse the naming of the gymnasium at Chocksett Middle School in honor of Susan Lauder, and to request the Town of Sterling place approval of this honor on the May 2017 Annual Town Meeting warrant

(S. LaMountain)

(S. Hitchcock)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Scott Brown
Michael Dennis
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter

Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion was unanimously approved.

V. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the Committee.

VI. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District
Committee Annual Budget Hearing held on February 13, 2017

Motion: To approve minutes of the WRSDC Annual Budget Hearing held
on February 13, 2017.

(R. McCarthy)

(S. Jackson)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Scott Brown
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Michael Dennis
Barbara Renzoni

The minutes were approved 17-0-2.

B. Approval of 1293rd Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on February 13, 2017

Motion: To approve minutes of the regular meeting of the WRSDC held on February 13, 2017

(S. Jackson)

(R. McCarthy)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Scott Brown
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Michael Dennis
Barbara Renzoni

The minutes were approved 17-0-2.

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, R. Imber, Vice-chair, S. Brown, B. Renzoni)

Chair Mills reported on the March 7, 2017 meeting of this subcommittee and also reported the subcommittee will meet again in advance of the next regular School Committee meeting.

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

In Subcommittee Chair Imber's absence, Vice-chair Smith reported this subcommittee had met immediately before this School Committee meeting. She reported the subcommittee has concluded development of a student residency policy, which will be forwarded to the full School Committee for a first reading.

C. Business/Finance Subcommittee (B. Renzoni, Chair, R. McCarthy, Vice-chair, M. Dennis, L. Long-Bellil, E. Novak, C. Witkes, A Young)

Subcommittee Chair Renzoni reported on the March 6, 2017 meeting of this subcommittee.

D. Legal Affairs Subcommittee (S. Brown, Chair, S. Hitchcock, Vice-chair, T. Curran, H. Fradellos, S. Jackson)

Subcommittee Chair Brown thanked members of this subcommittee for their ongoing participation in contract negotiations with the District's eight bargaining units. He reported the full Committee will be updated on negotiations in executive session at the conclusion of the March 27, 2017 regular School Committee meeting.

E. Audit Advisory Board (B. Renzoni, Chair, C. Witkes, Vice-chair)

AAB Chair Renzoni reported the Audit Advisory Board has not met since the last regular School Committee meeting.

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, 2016.

(B. Renzoni)
(C. Witkes)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Scott Brown
Michael Dennis
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion was unanimously approved.

F. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the School Calendar

Subcommittee Chair Smith thanked members of this subcommittee for their time and attention, as well as acknowledging with appreciation those who participated in the survey conducted by this subcommittee. She reported the last task of this subcommittee is preparing a report to the full School Committee about later school start times.

G. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee

Member McCarthy reported the work of this building committee is coming to conclusion, and that a meeting scheduled for March 14, 2017 has been cancelled due to lack of business that needs to be addressed.

H. School Council Reports:

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

Member Jackson - SEPAC

Member Fradellos – Paxton Center School will meet on March 14, 2017

Member Young – Dawson Elementary School

IX. Public Hearing

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

X. New Business

Member Lavoie suggested a “Social Media Manager” be appointed by Central Office administration to help with the organizing and sharing of budget information.

XI. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(R. McCarthy)

(A. Young)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Scott Brown
Michael Dennis
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva

Christina Smith
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:
None

The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DM:rlp