

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1268 Monday, March 30, 2015  
7:00 PM

Media Center  
Wachusett Regional High School  
1401 Main Street, Holden

*Committee Members Present:*

Lance Harris, Chair	Julianne Kelley
Robert Imber, Vice-chair	Deidre Kosky
Scott Brown	Sarah LaMountain (7:09 PM)
Michael Dennis	Kenneth Mills
Matthew Ehrenworth	Steve Porter
Timothy Ethier	Robert Remillard (7:23 PM)
Harriet Fradellos	Erik Scheinfeldt
Susan Hitchcock	Christina Smith
Stacey Jackson	Charles Witkes

*Committee Members Absent:*

Thomas Curran	Barbara Renzoni
Robert McCarthy	Brian Ruttle

*Committee Members Participating Remotely:*

None

*Administration Present:*

Darryll McCall, Superintendent  
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

*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 7:01 PM.

I. Public Hearing

Jennifer Lee, West Brookfield resident and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher in the District, addressed the Committee (attachment 2).

At the conclusion of Ms. Lee's address, Member Ehrenworth thanked her and the WREA for advocating for students.

## II. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Harris announced he would forego his remarks.

## III. Student Representatives Reports

Student Representative Budd reported on a recent Model UN conference held in Boston.

## IV. Superintendent's Report

### A. Discussion of Report

Superintendent McCall reported on the appointment of Shannon Sutton as the new Thomas Prince School principal. He updated the Committee on the Chocksett Middle School principal search, which he is hoping to finalize the process within the week. Superintendent McCall reported on the progress of the Dawson Elementary School principal search, anticipating that search will conclude within a two week timeframe.

### B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

1. Motion: To approve the resolution confirming the Wachusett Regional School District will use the EPA's Portfolio Manager to track energy usage, space attributes, and operating hours.

(J. Kelley)  
(S. Jackson)

Superintendent McCall spoke to the motion, explaining the attributes of the EPA Portfolio Manager.

#### Vote:

#### *In favor:*

Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Michael Dennis  
Matthew Ehrenworth  
Timothy Ethier  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Kenneth Mills  
Steve Porter  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Christina Smith  
Charles Witkes

*Opposed:*

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To approve the appropriation of Massachusetts School Building Authority funds in the amount of \$336,471. to the Town of Rutland for reimbursement for Naquag Elementary School.

(S. Brown)

(M. Ehrenworth)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Michael Dennis  
Matthew Ehrenworth  
Timothy Ethier  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Kenneth Mills  
Steve Porter  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Christina Smith  
Charles Witkes

*Opposed:*

None

The motion passed unanimously.

V. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the School Committee.

7:09 PM Member LaMountain joined the meeting.

VI. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of WRSDC held on March 16, 2015

Motion: To approve minutes of WRSDC executive session held on March 16, 2015, not to be released.

(K. Mills)

(M. Ehrenworth)

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Michael Dennis  
Matthew Ehrenworth  
Timothy Ethier  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Sarah LaMountain  
Kenneth Mills  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Christina Smith  
Charles Witkes

*Opposed:*

None

*Abstained:*

Deidre Kosky  
Steve Porter

The minutes were approved 15-0-2.

- B. Approval of 1267<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on March 16, 2015

Motion: To approve minutes of the regular meeting of the WRSDC held on March 16, 2015.

(S. Brown)

(K. Mills)

Vote:

*In favor:*

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

Julianne Kelley  
Sarah LaMountain  
Kenneth Mills  
Steve Porter  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Christina Smith  
Charles Witkes

*Opposed:*  
None

*Abstained:*  
Deidre Kosky

The minutes were approved 16-0-1.

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, K. Mills, Barbara Renzoni, E. Scheinfeldt)

Chair Harris reported the Management Subcommittee will meet on April 9, 2015 and April 16, 2015 to focus on the Superintendent's evaluation. Chair Harris explained the timeline of the evaluation process.

- B. Education Subcommittee (R. Imber, Chair, C. Smith, Vice-chair, T. Ethier, H. Fradellos, R. Remillard)

Subcommittee Chair Imber reported this subcommittee had met immediately before this School Committee meeting. At the subcommittee's next meeting, discussion on field trip procedures and a draft policy addressing life threatening allergies will continue.

- C. Business/Finance Subcommittee (B. Renzoni, Chair, M. Dennis, Vice-chair, S. Jackson, B. Ruttle, C. Witkes)

In Subcommittee Chair Renzoni's absence, Vice-chair Dennis reported on the March 20, 2015 meeting of this subcommittee.

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

Legal Affairs Subcommittee Chair Mills reported members of this subcommittee continue to work on collective bargaining.

- E. Facilities & Security Subcommittee (E. Scheinfeldt, Chair, R. McCarthy, Vice-chair, T. Curran, S. LaMountain, S. Porter)

Facilities & Security Subcommittee Chair Scheinfeldt reported on the February 24, 2015 meeting of this subcommittee.

1. Amended Policy – 7124 **Policy Relating to Support Operations Facilities Security of the School Facility**– first reading

Motion: To approve the first reading of amended policy 7124 **Policy Relating to Support Operations Facilities Security of the School Facility**, waiving the reading.

(E. Scheinfeldt)  
(J. Kelley)

Director Scanlon approached the podium. Member Mills questioned the new language added to the end of the third paragraph “Any individual with regular access to students will go through a criminal background check and will be fingerprinted.” noting a similar requirement is covering in Policy 5241.12.

Motion: To delete sentence “Any individual with regular access to students will go through a criminal background check and will be fingerprinted.” from Amended Policy 7124.

(K. Mills)  
(J. Kelley)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Michael Dennis  
Matthew Ehrenworth  
Timothy Ethier  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
Kenneth Mills  
Steve Porter  
Erik Scheinfeldt

Christina Smith  
Charles Witkes

*Opposed:*

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To approve the first reading of amended policy 7124 **Policy Relating to Support Operations Facilities Security of the School Facility**, deleting “Any individual with regular access to students will go through a criminal background check and will be fingerprinted.”.

(E. Scheinfeldt)

(J. Kelley)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Michael Dennis  
Matthew Ehrenworth  
Timothy Ethier  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
Kenneth Mills  
Steve Porter  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Christina Smith  
Charles Witkes

*Opposed:*

None

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Draft Policy – 7156 **Policy Relating to Support Operations Emergency Response Plan**– first reading

Motion: To approve the first reading of draft policy 7156 **Policy Relating to Support Operations Emergency Response Plans**, waiving the reading.

(E. Scheinfeldt)

(J. Kelley)

Subcommittee Chair Scheinfeldt spoke to the draft policy.

Vote:

*In favor:*

Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Michael Dennis  
Matthew Ehrenworth  
Timothy Ethier  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
Kenneth Mills  
Steve Porter  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Christina Smith  
Charles Witkes

*Opposed:*

None

The motion passed unanimously.

3. Deleted Policy – 7158.1 **Policy Relating to Support Operations ~~Bomb~~ Threats Against Schools**– first reading

Motion: To approve the first reading to delete policy 7158.1 **Policy Relating to Support Operations ~~Bomb~~ Threats Against Schools**, waiving the reading.

(E. Scheinfeldt)

(J. Kelley)

7:23 Member Remillard joined the meeting.

Subcommittee Chair Scheinfeldt explained the rationale behind the subcommittee's recommendation to delete this policy, explaining language similar to that in Policy 7158.1 will now be included in Policy 7156. Discussion ensued. Member Ehrenworth asked that, before a second reading of draft Policy 7156, the Committee be provided with an example of language that will be used to let students and parents know of the severity of making bomb threats. Vice-chair Imber suggested Draft Policy 7156 be remanded back to the Facilities & Security Subcommittee for consideration of how to communicate to



students and parents the ramifications of threats of terrorism and/or bomb threats.

Vote:

*In favor:*

Scott Brown  
Michael Dennis  
Timothy Ethier  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
Steve Porter  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Charles Witkes

*Opposed:*

Robert Imber  
Kenneth Mills  
Christina Smith

*Abstained:*

Lance Harris  
Matthew Ehrenworth

The motion passed 13-3-2.

4. Amended Policy – 7159 **Policy Relating to Support Operations Vandalism**– first reading

Motion: To approve the first reading of amended policy 7159 **Policy Relating to Support Operations Vandalisms**, waiving the reading.

(E. Scheinfeldt)  
(S. Jackson)

Member Mills questioned the first sentence in the second paragraph, expressing his opinion that the requirement that all acts of vandalism being reported seems strong. Discussion ensued.

Motion: To remand amended policy 7159 **Policy Relating to Support Operations Vandalism** back to the Facilities & Security Subcommittee for further consideration.

(M. Ehrenworth)  
(K. Mills)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Michael Dennis  
Matthew Ehrenworth  
Timothy Ethier  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
Kenneth Mills  
Steve Porter  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Christina Smith  
Charles Witkes

*Opposed:*

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Harris advised members to send their specific suggestions/comments about the policy to Director Scanlon.

F. Audit Advisory Board (J. Kelley, Chair)

AAB Chair Kelley reported the AAB has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

G. Collaborative Budget Task Force (S. Jackson, Chair, R. Imber, S. Hitchcock, J. Keley, B. Renzoni)

Collaborative Budget Task Force Chair Jackson reported on the March 18, 2015 meeting of this task force. The task force will meet again on April 8, 2015.

H. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review Evaluation and Hiring Policy (K. Mill, Chair, R. Remillard, Vice-chair, S. Brown, M. Ehrenworth, C. Smith)

Ad Hoc Subcommittee Chair Mills reported this subcommittee will meet again after all principal searches have been completed.

I. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee

In Member McCarthy's absence, no report was made.

J. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School (TBD), Chocksett Middle School (S. LaMountain), Davis Hill Elementary School (C. Smith), Dawson Elementary School (D. Kosky), Glenwood Elementary School (TBD), Houghton Elementary School (TBD), Mayo Elementary School (T. Curran), Mountview Middle School (S. Brown), Naquag Elementary School (M. Ehrenworth), Paxton Center School (TBD), Thomas Prince School (R. Imber/B. Ruttle), Wachusett Regional High School (E. Scheinfeldt), Special Education Parent Advisory Council (S. Jackson), Early Childhood Center (TBD)

Naquag Elementary School – Member Ehrenworth

IX. Public Hearing

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

X. New Business

Motion: That Wachusett Regional School District request a waiver for school year 2015-2016 allowing it to use Leominster Credit Union as part of its banking system until legislation which has been filed to allow credit union use by school districts is voted on in the state house and senate.

(T. Ethier)

(R. Remillard)

Member Ethier spoke to the motion, giving the history of the relationship between WRSD and LCU and reviewing the many positive aspects of LCU (Leominster Credit Union). Member Remillard spoke in favor of credit unions. When asked, Chair Harris explained that a waiver would be directed to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. Discussion continued. Director Scanlon spoke about the RFP (Request for Proposals) process. A friendly amendment was offered, inserting a deadline for receipt of a response to the request for a waiver, plus including where the request for waiver would be directed.

Motion: That Wachusett Regional School District request a waiver from the Department of Revenue, and a response to the request for waiver be received no later than June 30, 2015, for school year 2015-2016 allowing it to use Leominster Credit Union as part of its banking system until legislation which has been filed to allow credit union use by school districts is voted on in the state house and senate.

(T. Ethier)

(M. Dennis)

Discussion continued, with a comment being made that obtaining a response to the request for waiver should be sooner than June 30, 2015. More discussion ensued.

Motion: To amend the motion on the floor by inserting "May 1, 2015" in place of "June 30, 2015."

(K. Mills)

(M. Ehrenworth)

8:05 PM Member Smith left the table.

Discussion about when a decision about a waiver should be received took place.

8:07 Member Smith returned to the table.

Vote on amending the amended motion:

*In favor:*

Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Michael Dennis  
Matthew Ehrenworth  
Timothy Ethier  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
Kenneth Mills  
Steve Porter  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Christina Smith  
Charles Witkes

*Opposed:*

None

The motion passed unanimously.

More discussion took place. Chair Harris re-read the motion.

Motion: That Wachusett Regional School District request a waiver from the Department of Revenue, and a response to the request for waiver be received no later than May 1, 2015, for school year 2015-2016 allowing it to use Leominster

Credit Union as part of its banking system until legislation which has been filed to allow credit union use by school districts is voted on in the state house and senate.

(K. Mills)

(M. Ehrenworth)

Vote on amended motion:

*In favor:*

Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Michael Dennis  
Matthew Ehrenworth  
Timothy Ethier  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
Kenneth Mills  
Steve Porter  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Christina Smith  
Charles Witkes

*Opposed:*

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Member Scheinfeldt asked that the Superintendent provide a summary of the full-day kindergarten lottery in his next Superintendent's Report.

Member Fradellos asked that a presentation on MCAS results be made to the School Committee at a future meeting.

Member Smith asked that the transportation contract be reviewed and consideration be given to adding late buses to the budget.

XI. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(M. Ehrenworth)

(E. Scheinfeldt)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Michael Dennis  
Matthew Ehrenworth  
Timothy Ethier  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
Deidre Kosky  
Sarah LaMountain  
Kenneth Mills  
Steve Porter  
Robert Remillard  
Erik Scheinfeldt  
Christina Smith  
Charles Witkes

*Opposed:*

None

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

DM:rlp