

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1284 Monday, April 25, 2016  
7:00 PM

Media Center  
Wachusett Regional High School  
1401 Main Street, Holden

*Committee Members Present:*

Lance Harris, Chair	Lauren Maldonado
Scott Brown	Robert McCarthy
Thomas Curran	Kenneth Mills
Harriet Fradellos	Barbara Renzoni
Stacey Jackson	Asima Silva
Sarah LaMountain	Megan Weeks

*Committee Members Absent:*

Robert Imber, Vice-chair	Steve Porter
Michael Dennis	Christina Smith
Matthew Ehrenworth	Charles Witkes
Susan Hitchcock	Adam Young
Linda Long-Bellil	

*Committee Members Participating Remotely:*

Jon Edward Novak

*Administration Present:*

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

*Student Representatives Present:*

None

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

Chair Harris called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. Chair Harris announced that Member Novak would be participating remotely due to geographic distance. Chair Harris further explained that due to this remote participation, all votes would be by roll call and he asked that members at the tables be sure to speak into the microphones.

I. Public Hearing

Wachusett Regional High School teachers Nick Guerin and Dan Whitmore were welcomed to the podium where they introduced nine students who recently participated in the regional science fair. The students each approached the podium and gave a brief explanation of their science project. The students and their projects were:

- Julia Danko (grade 9) *The Future of Plastics*
- Evan Mizerak (grade 10) *Debunking Diets: The Effect of a High-Fat Dairy Diet on Fertility in D. melanogaster*
- Anna Schmalz (grade 10) *The Effect of Aspartame on Planaria Locomotion*
- Mary Zgurzynski (grade 10) *The Effect of Confectioners' Sugar on Varroa destructor*
- Julie Goldberg (grade 11) *The Effect of Phytoremediation and Mycoremediation Oil Spill Collection on Winter Rye*
- Tiernan Kennedy (grade 11) *The Effect of Cellulase on Direct Paper Dye Removal*
- Kelsey Moulton (grade 11) *The Effect of Coconut and Fish Oils on the Learning and Memory of Alzheimer's Fruit Flies*
- Alexandra O'Connor (grade 11) *Can Bacteria Solve Our Energy Crisis? The Effect of Temperature on Microbial Fuel Cell Productivity*
- Nora Sweeney (grade 11) *Effects of Vitamins on Alph-synuclein Mutants of D. melanogaster*

At the conclusion of the presentations, the students were congratulated on their accomplishments and thanked for attending the meeting.

## II. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Harris took the opportunity to thank the School Committee for its support during his term on the School Committee, the last three years as Chair.

Chair Harris invited Deputy Superintendent Berlo to the podium. Superintendent McCall noted Supervisor of Information Services Barry Sclar was in the audience. Members were provided with copies of the *Technology Plan 2016-2021*, which Deputy Superintendent Berlo reviewed in detail and explained. At the conclusion of Deputy Superintendent Berlo's address, members were given the opportunity to ask questions. Supervisor of Information Services Sclar was invited to join Deputy Superintendent Berlo at the podium. Questions and answers and discussion continued with most members participating in the conversation.

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

Student Representatives were not present.

## IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

1. Superintendent's Self-evaluation

Chair Harris outlined the Superintendent evaluation timeline, asking School Committee members to complete and return the Superintendent evaluation rubric by noontime on Thursday, April 28, 2016. The Management Subcommittee is scheduled to meet the evening of April 28, 2016 and will review School Committee member evaluation submissions. The subcommittee will meet again on Tuesday, May 3, 2016, to review the evaluation narrative Chair Harris will prepare, and a special meeting of the full School Committee has been posted for 7:00 PM Thursday, May 5, 2016, for full School Committee consideration of the Superintendent's evaluation as well as consideration of the Superintendent's FY17 salary. Chair Harris gave Superintendent McCall the opportunity to address the Committee about his self-evaluation. Following Superintendent McCall's comments, the Committee was given the opportunity to ask questions of the Superintendent. No members had questions or comments.

Member Mills, on behalf of the Committee, extended thanks to Chair Harris and Chair Harris was given a round of applause.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

Motion: To authorize the Superintendent to notify the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Office of School Finance of the District's school choice participation for school year 2016-2017

(M. Weeks)

(S. Brown)

Superintendent McCall spoke about school choice participation and current and anticipated enrollment numbers. Some members asked questions, which the Superintendent answered.

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Scott Brown  
Stacey Jackson  
Kenneth Mills  
Jon Edward Novak  
Megan Weeks

*Opposed:*

Thomas Curran  
Harriet Fradellos  
Sarah LaMountain

Lauren Maldonado  
Robert McCarthy  
Barbara Renzoni  
Asima Silva

*Abstained:*

Lance Harris

The motion failed 5-7-1.

Chair Harris, seeking clarity on Wachusett's school choice participation for the 2016-2017 school year, asked for a motion that the District would opt out of participating in the school choice program for the 2016-2017 school year.

Motion: The Wachusett Regional School District will not participate in the school choice program for the 2016-2017 school year, and the Superintendent is directed to notify the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Office of School Finance that this district will not be accepting school choice students for the 2016-2017 school year.

(R. McCarthy)  
(S. Jackson)

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Scott Brown  
Thomas Curran  
Harriet Fradellos  
Stacey Jackson  
Sarah LaMountain  
Lauren Maldonado  
Robert McCarthy  
Jon Edward Novak  
Barbara Renzoni  
Asima Silva

*Opposed:*

Kenneth Mills  
Megan Weeks

*Abstained:*

Lance Harris

The motion passed 10-2-1.

V. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the School Committee.

VI. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of 1283<sup>rd</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on April 11, 2016

Motion: To approve minutes of the regular meeting of the WRSDC held on April 11, 2016.

(K. Mills)

(S. Jackson)

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Lance Harris  
Scott Brown  
Thomas Curran  
Harriet Fradellos  
Stacey Jackson  
Sarah LaMountain  
Kenneth Mills  
Jon Edward Novak  
Barbara Renzoni  
Asima Silva  
Megan Weeks

*Opposed:*

None

*Abstained:*

Lauren Maldonado  
Robert McCarthy

The minutes were approved 11-0-2.

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 the subcommittee will meet on April 28, 2016 and on

May 3, 2016 and the main agenda item would be the Superintendent's evaluation.

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

In Subcommittee Chair Imber's absence, Member LaMountain reported on the meeting of the Education Subcommittee, held before this meeting. The subcommittee is in the process of reviewing and amending Policy 6438 ***Policy Relating to Pupil Services Anti-bullying Policy*** and the subcommittee will continue this review at the next subcommittee meeting on May 4, 2016.

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

Business/Finance Subcommittee Chair Jackson reported due to lack of quorum, the subcommittee meeting posted for April 26, 2016 had to be canceled. Subcommittee members will be polled about a convenient date for the next meeting.

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

Legal Affairs Subcommittee Chair Mills reported this subcommittee will meet next on April 27, 2016.

- E. Audit Advisory Board

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

- F. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the Regional Agreement (S. Hitchcock, Chair, R. Imber, K. Mills, B. Renzoni, C. Witkes)

It was reported this subcommittee will meet at 6:00 PM on April 27, 2016, to prepare for May Annual Town Meetings.

- G. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee

Member McCarthy reported the Building Committee has not met since the new school opened on April 11, 2016.

- H. School Council Reports:

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

There were no reports made.

IX. Public Hearing

Heidi Lahey, Special Education teacher and WREA President, addressed the School Committee

X. New Business

In preparation for the upcoming Town Meetings, Member Novak requested information. At Superintendent McCall's request, Member Novak will email the specifics of what he is looking for to the Superintendent.

Member LaMountain spoke about Ms. Lahey's comments made at the second public hearing and also asked if the Administrator of Special Education could be invited to a School Committee meeting to address the School Committee.

XI. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(R. McCarthy)

(S. Brown)

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Lance Harris

Scott Brown

Thomas Curran

Harriet Fradellos

Stacey Jackson

Sarah LaMountain

Lauren Maldonado

Robert McCarthy

Kenneth Mills

Jon Edward Novak

Barbara Renzoni

Asima Silva

Megan Weeks

*Opposed:*  
None

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

DM:rlp