

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1219 Wednesday, May 23, 2012

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School

Committee Members Present:

Duncan Leith, Chair	Deidre Kosky
Colleen Cipro, Vice-chair	Sarah LaMountain
Cynthia Bazinet	Norman Plourde
William Clute	Robert Remillard (7:29 PM)
Steven Hammond	Erik Scheinfeldt
Lance Harris	Michelle Sciabarrasi
Robert Imber	Athas Tsongalis
Julianne Kelley	Margaret Watson

Committee Members Absent:

Carmelo Bazzano	James Mason
Stacey Jackson	Robert Pelczarski

Administration Present:

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Superintendent of Schools
Peter Brennan, Business Manager
Kelley Gangi, Director of Curriculum
Darryll McCall, Director of Operations (8:21 PM)
Susan Sullivan, 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 Leith called the regular meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:14 PM. Chair Leith noted the meeting agenda had been revised, adding an executive session (attachment 2).

I. Public Hearing

Paul Challenger, Mountview Building Committee Chair, addressed the School Committee

II. Secretary's Report

- A. Approval of 1218th Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on April 30, 2012

Motion: To approve the minutes of the regular School Committee meeting held April 30, 2012.

(N. Plourde)
(S. Hammond)

The minutes of the regular School Committee meeting held April 30, 2012 were approved, by consensus, with Members Harris, Imber, and Tsongalis abstaining.

- B. Approval of Emergency Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on May 17, 2012

Motion: To approve the minutes of the emergency meeting of the School Committee held May 17, 2012.

(S. Hammond)
(R. Imber)

The minutes of the emergency meeting of the School Committee held May 17, 2012 were approved, by consensus, with Members Kosky and LaMountain abstaining.

III. Treasurer's Report/Financial Statements

Chair Leith reminded the Committee that if there were questions regarding the Business Manager'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. Chair Leith explained that the standing Business/Finance Subcommittee will continue to serve until the new subcommittees are appointed.

- IV. Executive Session for the Purpose of Contract Negotiations, to return to public session

Motion: To adjourn to executive session, to return to public session.

(C. Bazinet)
(S. Hammond)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Colleen Cipro
Cynthia Bazinet
William Clute

Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
Sarah LaMountain
Norman Plourde
Erik Scheinfeldt
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Athas Tsongalis
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

The Committee adjourned to executive session at 7:26 PM.

The Committee returned to public session at 8:55 PM.

V. Committee Reports

A. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Leith welcomed new members Erik Scheinfeldt, who had been on the Committee in time to attend the May 17th emergency meeting, and Sarah LaMountain, and he congratulated the members who had been re-elected at the recent annual town elections. Chair Leith publicly expressed thanks to former Sterling representative Joseph Sova.

Chair Leith is hoping to have Revenue Sharing Task Force membership and organization finalized by the time the School Committee meets next.

Chair Leith encouraged members to submit their biographical information to the Central Office, for posting on the District website.

As suggested previously, Chair Leith invited members to meet at 6:00 PM on June 11th, before the start of the regular School Committee meeting. At the 6:00 meeting, members will review the roles and responsibilities of the four standing subcommittees and subcommittee assignments can be discussed.

B. Student Representatives (Tyler Gibbs and Jonathan Latino)

There were no Student Representatives in attendance.

C. Management Subcommittee

The Management Subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

D. Education Subcommittee

The Education Subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

E. Business/Finance Subcommittee (R. Remillard, Vice-chair, C. Cipro, W. Clute, D. Leith, M. Sciabarrasi, A. Tsongalis)

The Business/Finance Subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting. Chair Leith again mentioned that membership of this subcommittee continues until the new Business/Finance Subcommittee is appointed.

1. WRSD Educational Foundation Trust

No report was made.

F. Community Outreach Subcommittee

The Community Outreach Subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

G. Audit Advisory Board (J. Mason)

The Audit Advisory Board has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

H. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

I. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee (M. Watson)

Member Watson gave her report on the Mountview Building Committee.

2. Green Repair School Building Committee (D. Leith)

At Chair Leith's request, Business Manager Brennan gave a brief update on progress being made with the three Green Repair projects.

J. 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

The following members volunteered to represent the School Committee at the upcoming graduations:

June 9th – Wachusett Regional High School – Duncan Leith
June 14th – Central Tree Middle School – Colleen Cipro
June 14th – Chocksett Middle School – Sarah LaMountain
June 14th – Mountview Middle School – Erik Scheinfeldt
June 14th – Paxton Center School – Robert Pelczarski
June 18th – Thomas Prince School – Robert Imber

Member Kelley – May 22nd SEPAC Wind Beneath Their Wings awards ceremony

VI. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

At Member Watson's request, Superintendent Pandiscio will provide the School Committee with school enrollment figures. This information, by grade and by school, will be included in the Superintendent's Reports in October and in April.

The Committee was informed about the results of the recent Member Town votes on the budget. The Town of Paxton's support of the budget is contingent on an override vote, scheduled for June 26, 2012.

At Member Harris' inquiry, Director of Human Resources Susan Sullivan gave an overview of the recent health insurance open enrollment period, explaining that there were more changes (from one plan to another) than had been expected.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

1. To approve the 2012-2013 School Committee Meeting Schedule

Action on approval of the 2012-2013 School Committee meeting schedule was deferred until there is clarification when Passover will be observed in 2013.

VII. Public Hearing

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

VIII. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the School Committee.

IX. New Business

Motion: To accept a grant from New England BioLabs, to Dawson Elementary School, for the purchase of two iPads and printer with supplies.
(M. Watson)
(R. Imber)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Colleen Cipro
Cynthia Bazinet
William Clute
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
Sarah LaMountain
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Athas Tsongalis
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Pandiscio assured the Committee he would be available to work with the Town of Paxton to assist with fact finding and to help plan an informational meeting in advance of the June 26th override vote, if so requested.

At Member Watson's suggestion, the Management Subcommittee will be asked to review School Committee By-Laws and policies dealing with Emergency School Committee meetings v Special School Committee meetings.

X. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(S. Hammond)
(J. Kelley)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Colleen Cipro
Cynthia Bazinet
William Clute
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
Sarah LaMountain
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Athas Tsongalis
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools