

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1285 Monday, May 23, 2016  
7:00 PM

Media Center  
Wachusett Regional High School  
1401 Main Street, Holden

*Wachusett Regional School District Committee*

Kenneth Mills, Chair	Lauren Maldonado
Robert Imber, Vice-chair	Robert McCarthy
Scott Brown	Jon Edward Novak
Thomas Curran	Steve Porter
Michael Dennis	Barbara Renzoni
Harriet Fradellos	Michael Rivers
Susan Hitchcock	Christina Smith
Sarah LaMountain	Megan Weeks
Matthew Lavoie	Charles Witkes
Linda Long-Bellil	Adam Young

*Committee Members Absent:*

Stacey Jackson	Asima Silva
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*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:*

Linnea Budd	Liam Fritsche
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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 7:08 PM. Chair Mills announced the meeting was being recorded by HCTV.

I. Public Hearing

No members of the public wished to address the Committee.

II. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Mills welcomed the two new School Committee members to the table – Matthew Lavoie of Rutland and Michael Rivers of Sterling. Chair Mills publically thanked former School Committee member and Committee Chair Lance Harris of Sterling for his six years of service on the School Committee and former member Matthew Ehrenworth of Rutland for his three years on the Committee.

Chair Mills reminded members of new member orientation, Charting the Course, offered by MASC, and encouraged the two members and other members who have not yet participated in this orientation to consider doing so as soon as possible.

Chair Mills also strongly encouraged all members to complete the online conflict of interest/ethics training, as it is a requirement for all members.

Chair Mills took a moment to speak about the four standing subcommittees (Business/Finance, Education, Legal Affairs, and Management), and told he would be appointing an Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the School Calendar. Chair Mills asked members to complete and turn in their subcommittee preference sheets and he also asked members to list their interest and willingness to represent the School Committee on school councils.

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

Both Student Representatives expressed how much they enjoyed serving on the School Committee the past two years, and excitedly reported seniors having two more days of classes. Chair Mills thanked Linnea and Liam for their services and wished them the best. Linnea and Liam were given a round of applause. Superintendent McCall also thanked Linnea and Liam, mentioning they also served on the Strategic Plan Steering Committee.

### IV. Superintendent's Report

#### A. Discussion of FY17 Budget

Chair Mills plans to schedule a special meeting of the School Committee on June 6, 2016. The Committee will be asked to take action to amend the FY17 Appropriation. Chair Mills explained to members that a two-thirds (of the full School Committee) vote in favor (fifteen affirmative votes) is needed to amend the budget. Chair Mills will ask the Business/Finance Subcommittee to schedule a meeting on June 2, 2016 to discuss the budget with Superintendent McCall and Director of Business and Finance Scanlon, in advance of the special meeting of the full Committee. Chair Mills further explained that if a fifteen day extension to amend the FY17 budget is granted by DESE, he might consider changing the date of the special School Committee meeting to a date after June 6, 2016. Chair Mills invited Superintendent McCall and Director Scanlon to speak about the budget. Director Scanlon approached the podium. Superintendent McCall spoke about the FY17 budget process to date. He reported override votes were not

successful in Paxton or Rutland. Director Scanlon gave a status report on the FY16 budget, calling attention to his monthly report which was included in the Superintendent's Report. Superintendent McCall gave an overview of the budget timeline, explaining that 30 days from the second Town Meeting where the District's FY17 budget did not gain approval is June 8, 2016. If DESE grants a fifteen day extension, the deadline for the District to provide Member Towns with an amended FY17 Appropriation would be June 23, 2016. If DESE grants the fifteen day extension, Superintendent McCall would want to look at scheduling the special School Committee meeting on June 15, 2016. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions about the budget and the budget process, with most members participating in the discussions. Chair Mills emphasized that the District does have to get an amended budget to the Member Towns for their consideration. Member Dennis asked if District administration could provide an updated forecast of the District operating under a one-twelfth budget from July 2016 to January 2017. Discussion continued, with the Student Representatives also participating. At the conclusion of the budget discussion, Chair Mills and Superintendent McCall let members know they would keep them posted on plans and dates for upcoming meetings.

#### B. Discussion of Report

Member Weeks had questions about the draft Professional Development Plan, asking how it will align with the strategic plan. Superintendent McCall explained that the Professional Development Plan is still in draft form, awaiting a review by the WREA. Member Dennis requested a presentation be made to the School Committee once the Professional Development Plan is finalized.

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

1. Motion: To authorize the Wachusett Regional School District Treasurer, acting under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 71, Section 16(g) as amended by Chapter 134 of the Acts of 1972, to solicit proposals for borrowing funds in anticipation of revenue, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, and to issue a note or notes therefore, payable within one year, in accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 17, with the approval of the School Committee.

(R. McCarthy)

(B. Renzoni)

Both Superintendent McCall and Director Scanlon spoke about the motion, explaining there may be a possible need for a small RAN (Revenue Anticipation Note). Director Scanlon explained this motion merely authorizes the District Treasurer to solicit proposals for borrowing; it is not to approve a RAN.

Vote:

*In favor:*

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

*Opposed:*

None

The motion was unanimously approved.

2. Motion: To authorize the Director of Business and Finance to transfer \$104,450.85 to the Instructional Support appropriation from the Benefits and Insurance appropriation.

(R. Imber)

(M. Weeks)

Director Scanlon spoke to the motion.

Vote:

*In favor:*

Kenneth Mills  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Thomas Curran  
Michael Dennis  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Sarah LaMountain  
Matthew Lavoie  
Linda Long-Bellil  
Robert McCarthy

Lauren Maldonado  
Jon Edward Novak  
Steve Porter  
Barbara Renzoni  
Michael Rivers  
Christina Smith  
Megan Weeks  
Charles Witkes  
Adam Young

*Opposed:*

None

The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Motion: To authorize the School Committee to appoint Fletcher Tilton; Brody, Hardoon, Perkins & Kesten LLP; and Sullivan, Nuttall and MacAvoy as District Legal Counsel.

(S. Brown)

(R. McCarthy)

Chair Mills briefly spoke to the motion.

Vote:

*In favor:*

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

*Opposed:*

None

The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Motion: To approve the Superintendent's Vacation Carry-Over  
(S. Brown)  
(M. Weeks)

Vote:

*In favor:*

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

*Opposed:*

None

The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Motion: To approve the 2016-2017 School Committee Meeting  
Schedule  
(R. McCarthy)  
(T. Curran)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Kenneth Mills  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Thomas Curran  
Michael Dennis  
Harriet Fradellos

Susan Hitchcock  
Sarah LaMountain  
Matthew Lavoie  
Linda Long-Bellil  
Robert McCarthy  
Lauren Maldonado  
Jon Edward Novak  
Steve Porter  
Barbara Renzoni  
Michael Rivers  
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 School Committee.

VI. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of 1284<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on April 25, 2016

Member Hitchcock noted a correction on page 6, under Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the Regional Agreement, where she is recorded as addressing the School Committee, when she was not present at the meeting.

Motion: To approve minutes, as corrected, of the regular meeting of the WRSDC held on April 25, 2016.

(M. Weeks)

(T. Curran)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Kenneth Mills  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Thomas Curran  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Sarah LaMountain  
Robert McCarthy

Lauren Maldonado  
Jon Edward Novak  
Steve Porter  
Barbara Renzoni  
Christina Smith  
Megan Weeks  
Charles Witkes

*Opposed:*  
None

*Abstained:*  
Michael Dennis  
Matthew Lavoie  
Linda Long-Bellil  
Michael Rivers  
Adam Young

The minutes were approved 15-0-5.

- B. Approval of 314<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on May 5, 2016

Motion: To approve minutes of the special meeting of the WRSDC held on May 5, 2016.

(R. Imber)  
(T. Curran)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Kenneth Mills  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Thomas Curran  
Michael Dennis  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Sarah LaMountain  
Linda Long-Bellil  
Robert McCarthy  
Lauren Maldonado  
Jon Edward Novak  
Steve Porter  
Barbara Renzoni  
Christina Smith  
Megan Weeks  
Charles Witkes  
Adam Young

*Opposed:*

None

*Abstained:*

Matthew Lavoie

Michael Rivers

The minutes were approved 18-0-2.

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

Chair Mills explained as School Committee Chair and Vice-chair, he and Vice-chair Imber will serve as Chair and Vice-chair of the Management Subcommittee, and the Chairs of the Education Subcommittee and the Legal Affairs Subcommittee will also serve on the Management Subcommittee.

B. Education Subcommittee

Vice-chair Imber reported the Education Subcommittee had not met since the last regular School Committee meeting.

8:41 PM Member Smith left the table.

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

It was explained that the Business/Finance Subcommittee stays seated until the next Business/Finance Subcommittee is appointed, in order to approve warrants.

8:43 PM Member Smith returned to the table.

Motion: To renew the contract by and between the Wachusett Regional School Committee and James J. Dunbar, referred to as the Treasurer, for a period of twelve months (7/1/2016-6/30/2017), and to grant an increase in the salary of District Treasurer James Dunbar commensurate with the WREA COLA adjustment for 2016-2017 (1.5% 7/1/2016; additional 0.5% 1/1/2017), to a monthly salary of \$1,244.44 effective July 1, 2016, increasing to \$1,250.66 per month effective January 1, 2017.

(M. Dennis)  
(B. Renzoni)

Vote:

*In favor:*

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

*Opposed:*

None

The motion was unanimously approved.

D. Legal Affairs Subcommittee

This subcommittee has not met since the last regular School Committee meeting.

E. Audit Advisory Board

AAB Vice-chair Dennis reported the Audit Advisory Board has not met since the last regular 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)

The duties of this ad hoc subcommittee have concluded and the subcommittee will be discharged in the near future.

G. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee

Member McCarthy briefly reported on the status of the new school, and also that the Building Committee continues to meet. Member Curran asked about the lack of facilities at Mountview for the track team, consisting of approximately 100 students, to practice.

H. 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

There were no reports made.

IX. Public Hearing

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

X. New Business

Member LaMountain inquired when the Administrator of Special Education will be invited to address the School Committee. Superintendent McCall answered, letting the Committee know this presentation will be scheduled, during the summer or later. Chair Mills asked that this presentation be kept on the School Committee agenda under New Business.

XI. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(R. McCarthy)

(T. Curran)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Kenneth Mills  
Robert Imber  
Scott Brown  
Thomas Curran  
Michael Dennis  
Harriet Fradellos  
Susan Hitchcock  
Sarah LaMountain

Matthew Lavoie  
Linda Long-Bellil  
Robert McCarthy  
Lauren Maldonado  
Jon Edward Novak  
Steve Porter  
Barbara Renzoni  
Michael Rivers  
Christina Smith  
Megan Weeks  
Charles Witkes  
Adam Young

*Opposed:*  
None

The motion was unanimously approved

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

DM:rlp