

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1272 Tuesday, June 23, 2015
7:00 PM

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School
1401 Main Street, Holden

Committee Members Present:

Lance Harris, Chair	Robert McCarthy
Robert Imber, Vice-chair	Kenneth Mills
Scott Brown	Jon Edward Novak
Thomas Curran	Steve Porter
Harriet Fradellos	Barbara Renzoni
Susan Hitchcock	Asima Silva
Sarah LaMountain	Christina Smith
Linda Long-Bellil	Adam Young
Lauren Maldonado	Charles Witkes

Committee Members Absent:

Michael Dennis	Matthew Ehrenworth
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Committee Members Participating Remotely:

Stacey Jackson

Administration Present:

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

Student Representatives Present:

Liam Fritsche

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 7:05 PM. Chair Harris noted Member Jackson would be participating remotely; therefore, all votes would be by roll call.

- I. Executive Session to discuss strategy for contract negotiations with the Wachusett Administrators' Association, the Wachusett Regional Education Association, and Teamsters Union Local 170 (paraprofessionals), as the Chair deems a discussion in public session would have an adverse effect on the District's bargaining position, to reconvene in public session.

(S. Brown)

(K. Mills)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

The Committee adjourned to executive session at 7:08 PM.

The Committee reconvened in public session at 8:19 PM.

Chair Harris announced the PEC (Public Employee Committee) Agreement had been previously approved. Chair Harris announced in public session the ratification of three contracts between the Wachusett Regional School District and three bargaining units – Wachusett Regional Education Association, Wachusett Administrators Association, and Teamsters Union Local 170 (paraprofessionals) (attachments 2, 3, 4). The three contracts are for two years, July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017. Chair Harris extended thanks to Superintendent McCall and members of the Legal Affairs Subcommittee, Members Mills, Brown, Ehrenworth, Hitchcock, and former School Committee member Julianne Kelley.

II. Public Hearing

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

III. Chair's Opening Remarks

Due to time, Chair Harris reported he would forego Chair's remarks.

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

Student Representative Fritsche reported on a petition being circulated, signed by approximately 175 students to date, petitioning to remove use of class rank from all classes at the high school, not just for the incoming freshman and sophomore classes.

V. Superintendent's Report

A. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

Motion: To adopt the amended FY16 Appropriation in the amount of \$83,349,726 and assessments, including debt service, to the Member Towns of:

Holden	\$23,080,227
Paxton	\$5,834,383
Princeton	\$4,354,822
Rutland	\$9,861,126
Sterling	\$10,249,216
Total	\$53,379,774

(K. Mills)

(C. Witkes)

Director of Business and Finance Scanlon approached the podium and spoke about the amended FY16 budget, recommending that the School Committee take action on the amended proposal at this meeting in order to begin the new budget approval process. Superintendent McCall also spoke to the amended budget, explaining how District administration had come to the new FY16 budget number. Chair Harris explained he would open the floor to comments, calling on members using a randomized list.

Member Hitchcock
 Member Novak – no comment
 Vice-chair Imber
 Member Renzoni – no questions
 Member Silva – no comment
 Member LaMountain
 Member Smith
 Member Witkes
 Member Maldonado
 Member Brown
 Member Mills
 Member McCarthy
 Member Porter
 Superintendent McCall
 Member Curran

Superintendent McCall
Member Young
Member Jackson
Member Fradellos
Member Long-Bellil
Chair Harris

Once all members were given the opportunity to speak, Chair Harris opened the floor for further discussion.

Member Smith
Superintendent McCall
Member Hitchcock
Member Silva

9:02 PM Member Brown left the table

Superintendent McCall

9:05 PM Member Brown returned to the table.

Discussion concluded.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To approve the sale of \$16,500,000 General Obligation Revenue Anticipation Notes (the "Notes") of the District dated July 2, 2015, payable May 27, 2016, at a price of par and accrued interest, if any, plus the premiums indicated as follows:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Denomination</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Premium</u>	<u>Purchaser</u>
1	\$10,000,000	1.25%	\$40,715.27	Eastern Bank
2	\$6,500,000	2.25%	\$82,160.79	Jefferies LLC

Further Voted: that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Notes, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated June 11, 2015, and a final Official Statement dated June 18, 2015, each in such form as may be approved by the District Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

Further Voted: that the District Treasurer and the Chair of the Committee be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver a significant events disclosure undertaking in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such form as may be approved by bond counsel to the District, which undertaking shall be incorporated by reference in the Notes for the benefit of the holders of the Notes from time to time.

Further Voted: that the each member of the Committee, the District Secretary and the District Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

(B. Renzoni)

(R. Imber)

Director Scanlon was at the podium to answer questions. There was some discussion about the timing of town assessment payments and whether or not a change to the Regional Agreement is required to change the assessment schedule. Some discussion ensued.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
 Robert Imber
 Scott Brown
 Thomas Curran
 Harriet Fradellos
 Susan Hitchcock
 Stacey Jackson
 Sarah LaMountain
 Linda Long-Bellil
 Lauren Maldonado

Robert McCarthy
 Kenneth Mills
 Jon Edward Novak
 Steve Porter
 Barbara Renzoni
 Asima Silva
 Christina Smith
 Charles Witkes
 Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To authorize the following FY 2016 Revolving Funds in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 44, Sect. 53E ½, to be expensed under the direction of the Superintendent of Schools (or designee), to be credited with receipts from acknowledged revenue sources, to be expended for their respective stated purposes, and not to exceed the authorized amounts.

Name of Fund	Legal Citation	Authorized
Adult Education	M.G.L. Ch. 71 Sect. 71E	\$10,000
Applied Arts	M.G.L. Ch. 71 Sect. 71C	\$75,000
Athletics	M.G.L. Ch. 71 Sect. 47	\$500,000
Building Use	M.G.L. Ch. 40, Sect 3, Ch.	\$80,000
Cafeteria	(548 of Acts of 1948) [3]	\$2,000,000
Circuit Breaker	M.G.L. Ch. 71B, C.M.R.	\$2,700,000
Drivers Education	M.G.L. Ch. 71 Sect. 71C	\$80,000
ECC Tuition	M.G.L. Chapter 71: Sect.	\$170,000
Extended Day	M.G.L. Ch. 71 Sect. 71F	\$20,000
Gifts & Grants	M.G.L. Ch. 71 Sect. 47	\$50,000
Insurance Reimbursement	M.G.L. Ch. 71 Sect. 47	\$40,000
Kindergarten	M.G.L. Ch. 71 Sect. 71F	\$750,000
Locker Fees	M.G.L. Ch. 71 Sect. 47	\$25,000
Lost Books Damaged	M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section	\$15,000
Parking Fees	M.G.L. Ch. 71 Sect. 47	\$60,000
Performing Arts	M.G.L. Ch. 71 Sect. 71C	\$30,000
Program Initiatives	M.G.L. Ch. 71 Sect. 71C	\$120,000
School Choice	M.G.L. Ch. 76 Sect. 12B(O)	\$1,400,000
Summer School	M.G.L. Ch. 71 Sect. 71C	\$15,000

(B. Renzoni)

(S. Hitchcock)

Roll call vote:*In favor:*

Lance Harris
 Robert Imber
 Scott Brown
 Thomas Curran

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

Opposed:
None

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To approve the appropriation of Massachusetts School Building Authority funds in the amount of \$963,911. to the Town of Holden for reimbursement for Mountview Middle School

(R. Imber)
(K. Mills)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To accept the 2015-2016 Wachusett Regional School District School Improvement Plans

(K. Mills)

(T. Curran)

Member Mills commented that the School Improvement Plan for the high school was well done, but very sobering. Member LaMountain expressed her opinion that the three new principals, especially the Chocksett Middle School principal, have input into the School Improvement Plans for the coming year. Superintendent McCall assured the Committee that the three new principals all had the opportunity to review the School Improvement Plans before the SIPs were submitted to the School Committee for acceptance.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris

Robert Imber

Scott Brown

Thomas Curran

Harriet Fradellos

Susan Hitchcock

Stacey Jackson

Sarah LaMountain

Linda Long-Bellil

Lauren Maldonado

Robert McCarthy

Kenneth Mills

Jon Edward Novak

Steve Porter

Barbara Renzoni

Asima Silva

Christina Smith

Charles Witkes

Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

B. Discussion of Report

Superintendent McCall took the opportunity to speak about the District operating under a one-twelfth budget, explaining how some months may be more challenging, financially, than others. He explained that monthly spending will be capped at \$6.8 million dollars. Some discussion took place.

VI. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the School Committee.

VII. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of Organizational Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on May 20, 2015

Motion: To approve minutes of the Organizational meeting of the WRSDC held on May 20, 2015.

(R. Imber)

(K. Mills)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Harriet Fradellos
Charles Witkes

The minutes were approved 17-0-2.

B. Approval of 1271st Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on May 20, 2015

Motion: To approve minutes of the regular meeting of the WRSDC held on May 20, 2015.

(S. Porter)

(K. Mills)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Christina Smith
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Harriet Fradellos
Asima Silva
Charles Witkes

The minutes were approved 16-0-3.

C. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on May 20, 2015

Motion: To approve executive session minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on May 20, 2015, to be released.

(R. Imber)

(T. Curran)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Susan Hitchcock
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Barbara Renzoni
Christina Smith

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Harriet Fradellos
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Steve Porter
Asima Silva
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

The minutes were approved 12-0-7.

VIII. 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.

IX. Committee Reports

A. Management Subcommittee (L. Harris, Chair, R. Imber, Vice-chair, S. Jackson, K. Mills)

Chair Harris expects to schedule a meeting of the Management Subcommittee in advance of the July 13, 2015 regular School Committee meeting.

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

Subcommittee Chair Imber reported the Education Subcommittee met before this regular School Committee meeting and will meet next on July 1, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

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

Subcommittee Chair Jackson reported on the June 15, 2015 meeting of the Business/Finance Subcommittee, and reported the subcommittee will meet next on July 6, 2015.

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

Legal Affairs Subcommittee Chair Mills welcomed Member Curran to the subcommittee. Subcommittee Chair Mills reported on the meeting of the Legal Affairs Subcommittee held just before this regular School Committee meeting.

- E. Audit Advisory Board

AAB Chair Jackson reported Princeton resident Phil Mighdoll has agreed to serve another three year term on the Board. She also reported the Board has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

- F. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review Evaluation and Hiring Policy (K. Mills, Chair, S. Brown, M. Ehrenworth, C. Smith)

Ad Hoc Subcommittee Chair Mills reported this subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

- G. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee

Member McCarthy updated the Committee on progress being made on the Mountview project, and reported that the next meeting of the Mountview Building committee will be July 14, 2015.

- 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

Paxton Center School – Member Fradellos

X. Public Hearing

No members of the public addressed the School Committee.

XI. New Business

Member Long-Bellil reported on how the state has changed how low income students are calculated, and this change has impacted the number of students the state considers living “in poverty,” or the new term “economically disadvantaged.” Superintendent McCall commented on this change, explaining this new calculation will impact the FY17 budget, but acknowledging that Title 1 could be impacted.

Member LaMountain requested District administration investigate the possibility of offering additional AP (Advanced Placement) courses through the Adult Education program at the high school. Superintendent McCall reported he has asked WRHS Principal Beando to explore virtual high school options/opportunities as a way for students to access AP courses.

Vice-chair Imber asked the Committee be updated on the status of the Adult Education program offered at Wachusett Regional High School, commenting it would be better to get the program underway early in the school year, rather than later.

XII. Executive Session

Chair Harris reported a second executive session this evening would not be necessary. He also informed the Committee that the special meeting of the School Committee that had been posted for June 25, 2015 would be canceled, since the amended FY16 budget was supported by the Committee this evening.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(K. Mills)

(R. McCarthy)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Linda Long-Bellil

Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Asima Silva
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:
None

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DM:rlp