

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1258 Monday, August 11, 2014
7:00 PM

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School
1401 Main Street, Holden

Committee Members Present:

Lance Harris, Chair	Deidre Kosky
Scott Brown	Robert McCarthy (7:05 PM)
Thomas Curran	Kenneth Mills
Michael Dennis	Steve Porter
Matthew Ehrenworth	Barbara Renzoni
Timothy Ethier	Brian Ruttle (7:08 PM)
Susan Hitchcock	Erik Scheinfeldt
Stacey Jackson	Christina Smith
Julianne Kelley	Charles Witkes

Committee Members Absent:

Robert Imber, Vice-chair	Robert Remillard
Sarah LaMountain	

Committee Members Participating Remotely:

None

Administration Present:

Darryll McCall, Superintendent of Schools
Joseph Scanlon, Director of Business and Finance
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 7:04 PM.

I. Public Hearing

Margaret Watson, Holden, read a prepared statement (attachment 2).

7:05 PM Member McCarthy joined the meeting.

7:08 PM Member Ruttle joined the meeting.

Louis Cornacchioli, Rutland, addressed the School Committee.

Chair Harris polled members to find out if there would be any objection to altering the meeting agenda, moving Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools to agenda item II. There were no objections.

II. Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools

Chair Harris explained how the evaluation process would unfold. After the motion is made to accept the evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools, Chair Harris would call on members, in random order, giving all members the opportunity to ask questions if they wish. All members will be given two opportunities to ask questions, after which the School Committee will vote on the motion to accept the evaluation.

Motion: To accept the evaluation of Superintendent of Schools Darryll McCall, as presented.

(M. Ehrenworth)
(R. McCarthy)

Chair Harris read into the record the Superintendent's Evaluation Narrative, written by Chair Harris, dated August 11, 2014 (attachment 3).

Members were given the opportunity to ask question/make comments, in the following order:

Member Hitchcock – no questions/comments
Member Renzoni
Member Scheinfeldt
Member Ethier
Member Ruttle – no questions/comments
Member Porter
Member Kosky
Member Mills
Member McCarthy
Member Jackson – no questions/comments
Member Curran – no questions/comments
Member Smith
Member Brown
Member Dennis
Member Witkes
Member Ehrenworth
Member Kelley
Chair Harris
Student Representative Fritsche

At the conclusion of the first round of questions, Chair Harris asked if any members would like a second opportunity to speak. No members had additional questions or comments.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Timothy Ethier
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Deidre Kosky
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Brian Ruttle
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Julianne Kelley

The motion passed 17-0-1.

Superintendent McCall addressed the Committee.

III. Secretary's Report

- A. Approval of Special Meeting 1257th Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on July 14, 2014

Motion: To approve minutes of regular meeting #1257 of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on July 14, 2014

(K. Mills)

(T. Ethier)

The minutes were approved, with Members Curran, Dennis, Ehrenworth and Ruttle abstaining.

- B. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on May 6, 2014.

Motion: To approve minutes of the May 6, 2014 executive session of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee, to be released.

(K. Mills)

(R. McCarthy)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Barbara Renzoni
Brian Ruttle
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Timothy Ethier
Susan Hitchcock
Steve Porter

The motion passed 13-0-5.

- C. Approval of Executive Session I Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on July 14, 2014.

Motion: To approve minutes of July 14, 2014 executive session I of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee, to be released.

(K. Mills)

(E. Scheinfeldt)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Scott Brown

Thomas Curran
Timothy Ethier
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Deidre Kosky
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Barbara Renzoni
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:
None

Abstained:
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Julianne Kelley
Steve Porter
Brian Ruttle

The motion passed 13-0-5.

- D. Approval of Executive Session II Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on July 14, 2014.

Motion: To approve minutes of July 14, 2014 executive session II of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee, to be released.

(K. Mills)

(E. Scheinfeldt)

Roll call vote:

In favor:
Lance Harris
Scott Brown
Timothy Ethier
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Deidre Kosky
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Barbara Renzoni
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Julianne Kelley
Steve Porter
Brian Ruttle

The motion passed 12-0-6.

IV. 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.

V. Committee Reports

A. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Harris took the opportunity to publically thank William Clute for his service as a School Committee member representing the Town of Paxton. Mr. Clute recently resigned from the School Committee.

Chair Harris reported that there is a resident of Holden who has expressed interested in serving on the Audit Advisory Board. When this candidate accepts the position, Chair Harris will make an announcement. A Sterling representative on the AAB is still needed.

Chair Harris has worked on School Council liaison appointments, reporting there are still some vacancies to be filled.

B. Student Representatives (Linnea Budd, Liam Fritsche)

At Student Representative Fritsche's inquiry, Member Scheinfeldt gave an update on the Mock Trial program, reporting some donations have already been received.

C. Management Subcommittee (L. Harris, Chair, R. Imber, Vice-chair, K. Mills, Barbara Renzoni, E. Scheinfeldt)

Chair Harris reported the Management Subcommittee has met twice since the last regular School Committee meeting, focusing specifically on the Superintendent's evaluation. Chair Harris may schedule a meeting of the

Management Subcommittee between now and the next regular School Committee meeting.

- D. Education Subcommittee (R. Imber, Chair, T. Ethier, R. Remillard, C. Smith)

Due to Education Subcommittee Chair Imber's absence, no report was made.

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

Subcommittee Chair Renzoni reported on the August 4, 2014 meeting of this subcommittee.

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

1. Amended Policy – 5241.12 **Policy Relating to Personnel Management ~~Criminal Record Check (CORI*)~~ Background Checks** – first reading

Motion: To approve the first reading of Amended Policy 5241.12 **Policy Relating to Personnel Management ~~Criminal Record Check (CORI*)~~ Background Checks**

(K. Mills)

(M. Ehrenworth)

Subcommittee Chair Mills read aloud the amended policy.

8:13 PM Member Renzoni left the table.

8:15 PM Member Renzoni returned to the table.

8:17 PM Member Kosky left the meeting.

When Subcommittee Chair Mills concluded reading the policy, he gave background behind amending the current policy and developing new policy language.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris

Scott Brown

Thomas Curran

Michael Dennis

Matthew Ehrenworth

Timothy Ethier

Susan Hitchcock

Stacey Jackson

Julianne Kelley
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Brian Ruttle
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:
None

The motion passed unanimously.

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

Facilities & Security Chair Scheinfeldt reported that at the July 16th meeting of the subcommittee, Member McCarthy was elected Vice-chair of the subcommittee and the subcommittee also recommended that Member McCarthy serve as the School Committee representative on the Mountview Building Committee. Subcommittee Chair Scheinfeldt reported on the July 16th meeting and announced the subcommittee will meet next on August 14th.

8:30 PM Member Ehrenworth left the meeting.

- H. Audit Advisory Board (J. Kelley, Chair)

AAB Chair Kelley reported District auditors (Lynch, Malloy, Marini) will be at the Central Office beginning August 26, 2014, to start the FY14 audit.

- I. 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 on the August 4th meeting of this subcommittee.

- a. Draft Policy – 5222 **Policy Relating to Personnel Management Evaluation of Principals** – first reading

Motion: To approve the first reading of Draft Policy 5222 **Policy Relating to Personnel Management Evaluation of Principals**

(K. Mills)
(E. Scheinfeldt)

Subcommittee Chair Mills read aloud the draft policy, after which he explained how the draft policy was developed. Many members of the Committee had comments to make and questions to ask about the draft policy.

Motion: To remand Draft Policy 5222 **Policy Relating to Personnel Management Evaluation of Principals** back to the Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review Evaluation and Hiring Policy for further review and consideration

(B. Renzoni)
(J. Kelley)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Timothy Ethier
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Brian Ruttle
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Amended Policy – 5100 **Policy Relating to Personnel Management Personnel Policy Policies Goals** – first reading

Motion: To approve the first reading of Amended Policy 5100 **Policy Relating to Personnel Management Personnel Policy Policies Goals**

(K. Mills)
(S. Porter)

Subcommittee Chair Mills read aloud the amended policy,
and then spoke about the proposed amendments.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Timothy Ethier
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Brian Ruttle
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

J. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee

The next meeting of the Mountview Building Committee is scheduled for August 12, 2014. Chair Harris took the opportunity to thank former School Committee Member Margaret Watson for her service on the Mountview Building Committee when she represented the School Committee.

2. Green Repair School Building Committee

No report made.

K. School Council Reports:

9:00 PM Member Smith left the table.

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

Chair Harris reported School Council liaison appointments will be forthcoming.

Chair Harris circulated a sign-up sheet if members of the Committee are willing and interested in manning a table at Holden Days, to be held Saturday, August 23, 2014.

VI. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

9:02 PM Member Ethier left the table.

Superintendent McCall called members' attention to the section of his Report where he focuses on English Learner Education. He spoke about where the District stands with ELE and what he envisions moving forward. He reported that student numbers are increasing and of the need to appoint a half-time ELE coordinator. Superintendent McCall will keep the Committee updated on this topic.

9:03 PM Member Ethier returned to the table.

Superintendent McCall spoke about Dawson Elementary School's quickly increasing enrollment, explaining that grades 3, 4 and 5 at Dawson are looking at class sizes of 27/28 students per classroom. Superintendent McCall has been working with Dawson Principal Scales to address the need for additional staff to help in these grades.

9:04 PM Member Smith returned to the table.

Superintendent McCall spoke in general about class sizes and alerted the Committee of the need, in the near future, to address these concerns. He told the School Committee of his conversation with Holden Town Manager Kelly when they discussed Holden's increasing population. Superintendent McCall advised the School Committee that the District will most likely have to look at Holden school boundary lines to address the problem of overcrowding at the elementary schools. Superintendent McCall wanted to make the School Committee aware of the situation and the possible need to re-district the elementary schools and he assured the members he will keep the Committee fully informed of this situation.

Many members of the Committee had questions about re-districting and student enrollment in general. Member Kelley asked the Superintendent if it would be possible for him to provide the Committee with the number of move-ins by school. Member Ethier asked if the Superintendent could provide enrollment numbers by towns, going back three years. Member Ethier would also like to see per pupil costs and changes over the last three years.

At Member Smith's inquiry, Superintendent McCall explained that the annual "opt out" letter gives high school parents and eligible students the option to request that student information not be released to military recruiters and/or institutions of higher learning without their consent.

At Member Dennis' inquiry, Superintendent McCall explained the hiring process for the Administrator of Assessment and Accountability.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

1. Motion: To approve Proposed Amendments to Wachusett Regional District School Committee By-Laws
(K. Mills)
(E. Scheinfeldt)

Chair Harris spoke to the motion, explaining the Management Subcommittee's rationale for recommending the changes to Section 5 of the By-Laws, amending the order of regular School Committee meeting agendas.

Vote:
In favor:

Lance Harris
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Timothy Ethier
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Brian Ruttle
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:
None

The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Harris noted the new agenda order will be in place for the September 15, 2014 regular meeting of the School committee.

2. Motion: To increase the contract to Rockwell Roofing (Early Childhood Center roof project) for Change Order 001 to include charges of \$14,940.00 for asbestos abatement plus a credit deduct of (\$4,500.00) for excess snow guards for total of \$10,440.00, plus Change Order 002 to include charges of \$3,500.00 to replace rotted fascia and deck sessions and \$3,713.00 for down time related to the bomb scare for a total of \$7,213.00, for a total contract increase of \$17,653.00

(K. Mills)

(T. curran)

There was some discussion about the ECC roof project.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Timothy Ethier
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Brian Ruttle
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:
None

The motion passed unanimously.

3. Motion: To approve registration costs for School Committee Member Julianne Kelley's attendance at November 2014 MASC/MASS Joint Conference in Hyannis, Massachusetts

(S. Jackson)
(K. Mills)

Some discussion ensued.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Timothy Ethier
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Brian Ruttle
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Julianne Kelley

The motion passed 15-0-1.

VII. Public Hearing

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

VIII. Unfinished Business

Motion: To amend motion to accept School Improvement Plans by adding the words "with the exception of Davis Hill Elementary School"

Vote:

In favor:

Thomas Curran
Timothy Ethier

Opposed:

Lance Harris
Scott Brown

Michael Dennis
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Brian Ruttle
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

The motion failed 2-14.

Motion: To accept the 2014-2015 Wachusett Regional School District School Improvement Plans

Motion: To amend motion “To accept the 2014-2015 Wachusett Regional School District School Improvement Plans” by adding the words “with the exception of Davis Hill Elementary School.”

(M. Dennis)

Following Chair Harris checking procedure in Robert’s Rules of Order, it was determined a motion to reconsider could be made.

Motion: To reconsider the previously voted motion.

(M. Dennis)

(T. Ethier)

Vote:

In favor:

Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Timothy Ethier
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Brian Ruttle
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Lance Harris

The motion passed 15-0-1.

Motion: To amend motion “To accept the 2014-2015 Wachusett Regional School District School Improvement Plans” by adding the words “with the exception of Davis Hill Elementary School.”

(M. Dennis)
(R. McCarthy)

Discussion ensued. Comment was made that School Councils most likely will not meet before the September 15, 2014 School Committee meeting, meaning School Council action on School Improvement Plans will not be taken until sometime after that date. Chair Harris explained that School Committee action on acceptance of School Improvement Plans could be included on the School Committee’s regular meeting agenda for the first meeting in October.

Motion: To postpone to a time certain, October 14, 2014, action on motion on the floor.

(R. McCarthy)
(T. Ethier)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Timothy Ethier
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Brian Ruttle
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

IX. New Business

Member Kelley requested that Policy 5234.1 (*Policy Relating to Personnel Management Employee Use of Information Technology*) to remanded to the Management Subcommittee for review.

X. Adjournment

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Timothy Ethier
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Barbara Renzoni
Brian Ruttie
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DM:rlp