

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1302

Monday, September 11, 2017

7:00 PM

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School
1401 Main Street, Holden

Wachusett Regional School District Committee

Kenneth Mills, Chair	Linda Long-Bellil
Christina Smith, Vice-chair	Lauren Maldonado
Scott Brown	Jon Edward Novak
Thomas Curran	Asima Silva
Harriet Fradellos	Robin Van Liew
Stephen Godbout	Charles Witkes
Robert Imber	Adam Young
Matthew Lavoie	

Committee Members Absent:

Michael Dennis	Benjamin Mitchel
Susan Hitchcock	Michael Rivers
Sarah LaMountain	Megan Weeks

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:

Philip Baird (7:12 PM)	Donroy Ferdinand
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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 7:03 PM. Chair Mills announced the meeting was being shown live on Channel 194 and is streaming on Holden Cable Television. It was noted that the reporter from *The Landmark* was also recording the meeting.

7:04 PM Member Van Liew left the table.

I. Public Hearing

No members of the public wished to address the School Committee

II. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Mills asked those present to observe a moment of silence on this anniversary of 9/11.

Chair Mills welcomed all back at the start of this school year. Member Mills welcomed new Student Representative DJ Ferdinand to the table, and also announced the second Student Representative, Philip Baird, is expected to join the meeting shortly.

Chair Mills spoke about a community meeting held on September 6, 2017, a meeting focused on supporting the District. Chair Mills was very encouraged by the turnout and the positive energy at the meeting.

Chair Mills reported the town of Rutland may be posting a meeting to prepare for the upcoming budget season, a meeting that may be held at the Sterling Senior Center. The Committee will be keep apprised if and when details of this meeting are finalized.

Chair Mills reported there are still two vacant seats on the Audit Advisory Board. Volunteers from the towns of Paxton and Rutland are being sought to fill these vacancies. Chair Mills also reported the Holden Selectboard is in the process of interviewing candidates for the vacant seat on the School Committee, a result of Robert McCarthy's recent resignation.

III. Student Representatives' Reports

Student Representative Ferdinand briefly introduced himself. He also reported the start of the new school year is going well, and that a recent canned soup drive, being coordinated by the Junior Class, resulted in over 1,200 cans of soup being donated to the Rutland Food Bank.

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

Superintendent McCall reported that the opening of schools went smoothly and there were very few transportation issues. He spoke about the distribution of Chromebooks to members of the Freshmen Class, which took place two afternoons in August. Superintendent McCall commended high school and Information Services staff for the organization done in advance of distributing this technology and for the smooth process followed the two distribution dates. Superintendent McCall spoke about the Technology Committee meeting held at the high school this date, meetings he intends to attend throughout the year.

7:13 PM Student Representative Baird joined the meeting.

Student Representative Baird was welcomed to the meeting, and he briefly introduced himself.

7:14 PM Member Van Liew returned to the table.

Some discussion about Chromebook use at the high school and across the District took place, with Members Imber and Novak both asking to be kept updated about Chromebook use as the school year moves forward.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

There were no recommendations requiring School Committee action.

V. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the Committee.

VI. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of 1300th Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on July 12, 2017

Motion: To approve minutes of the regular meeting of the WRSDC held on July 12, 2017.

(R. Imber)

(S. Brown)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Harriet Fradellos
Stephen Godbout
Robert Imber
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long-Bellil
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Lauren Maldonado
Jon Edward Novak

The minutes were approved 13-0-2.

B. Approval of 1301st Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on August 21, 2017

Motion: To approve minutes of the regular meeting of the WRSDC held on August 21, 2017.

(T. Curran)
(H. Fradellos)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Harriet Fradellos
Stephen Godbout
Matthew Lavoie
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Robert Imber
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Jon Edward Novak
Charles Witkes

The minutes were approved 10-0-5.

At Member Young's inquiry, it was confirmed that the School Improvement Plans for the Early Childhood Center and the Wachusett Regional High School were accepted by the School Committee at the August 21, 2017 meeting.

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 (K. Mills, Chair, C. Smith, Vice-chair, M. Dennis, S. Hitchcock)

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

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

Education Subcommittee Chair Smith reported on the meeting of this subcommittee that took place just before this School Committee meeting.

Motion: To approve the second reading of Draft Policy 6121 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Student Residency Policy**, waiving the reading.
(C. Smith)
(S. Godbout)

Vote:

In favor:

Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Harriet Fradellos
Stephen Godbout
Robert Imber
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Jon Edward Novak
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

Kenneth Mills

Abstained:

Christina Smith

The motion passed 13-1-1.

- C. Business/Finance Subcommittee (M. Dennis, Chair, Adam Young, Vice-chair, L. Long-Bellil, B. Mitchel, J. E. Novak, C. Witkes)

In Business/Finance Subcommittee Chair Dennis' absence, Vice-chair Young reported on the September 5, 2017 meeting of the subcommittee. He also noted that in light of Robert McCarthy's resignation from the School Committee, a second member of the School Committee is needed to sit on the Audit Advisory Board and that Business/Finance Member Mitchel has volunteered to fill that seat.

Superintendent McCall took the opportunity to speak about the condition of the turf field at the high school, informing the Committee this field is in need of replacement. Discussion ensued, with Member Long-Bellil asking about fundraising to help pay for the turf field replacement. Superintendent McCall said that the cost of this field replacement and possible options to help with paying the cost, including fundraising, are being considered and are on the radar. Chair Mills stated this is something that has also been discussed at a meeting of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Budget Sustainability.

Motion: To approve the first reading of amended Policy 4610 **Policy Relating to Budget/Finance Bank Account Maintenance**, waiving the reading.

(L. Long-Bellil)
(J. E. Novak)

Vice-chair Young gave a brief explanation of the proposed edits to the policy.

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Harriet Fradellos
Stephen Godbout
Robert Imber
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Jon Edward Novak
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

- D. Legal Affairs Subcommittee (S. Hitchcock, Chair, S. Brown, Vice-chair, T. Curran, H. Fradellos, Stephen Godbout, Michael Rivers)

In Subcommittee Chair Hitchcock's absence, Vice-chair Brown reported this subcommittee will meet next on September 25, 2017. He also gave a brief update on the schedule for upcoming negotiations with the eight bargaining units.

- E. Superintendent Goals and Evaluation Subcommittee (K. Mills, Chair, C. Smith, Vice-chair, S. LaMountain, M. Lavoie, M. Weeks)

Chair Mills reported on the September 6, 2017 meeting of this subcommittee and called members' attention to two attachments in the September 7, 2017 Superintendent's Report (Superintendent Goal 2017 – 2018 DRAFT (9/8/2017) and Educator Plan Form DRAFT (9/8/2017) (attachments 2 & 3)). Chair Mills reported his intent this evening is to give all members of the full Committee the opportunity to provide feedback on these two draft documents, explaining the full School Committee will be asked to vote on approving the Superintendent's goals at the October 16, 2017 regular School Committee meeting. No members had comments or questions about Superintendent McCall's proposed goals.

- F. Audit Advisory Board (C. Witkes, Chair, R. McCarthy)

AAB Chair Witkes reported District Auditors Lynch, Malloy, Marini have just about concluded their field work. Chair Mills took this opportunity to again mention the need for representation from Paxton and Rutland to serve on the AAB.

- G. Ad Hoc Subcommittees

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Budget Sustainability (K. Mills, Chair, A. Young, Vice-chair, M. Lavoie, L. Long-Bellil)

Chair Mills reported this ad hoc subcommittee will meet next on October 10, 2017 at 6:00 PM.

- H. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee

Superintendent McCall reported on a phone conversation he had with Paul Challenger about unfinished punch list items.

- H. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School (J. E. Novak), Chocksett Middle School (S. Godbout), Davis Hill Elementary School (A. Silva), Dawson

Elementary School (A. Young), Glenwood Elementary School (M. Lavoie), Houghton Elementary School (S. Godbout), Mayo Elementary School (T. Curran), Mountview Middle School (S. Brown), Naquag Elementary School (C. Witkes), Paxton Center School (B. Mitchel), Thomas Prince School (M. Weeks), Wachusett Regional High School (S. LaMountain/M. Rivers), Special Education Parent Advisory Council (A. Young), Early Childhood Center (L. Maldonado)

Member Young – SEPAC – SEPAC Officers meeting scheduled for 6:00 PM on September 12, 2017 and all are welcome to attend.

IX. Public Hearing

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

X. New Business

At Member Novak's inquiry about foreign language at the middle schools, Superintendent McCall spoke about what languages are offered at the middle school level and that he and Deputy Superintendent Berlo have been looking into foreign language offerings at this level.

XI. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(T. Curran)

(L. Long-Bellil)

Vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Harriet Fradellos
Stephen Godbout
Robert Imber
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Jon Edward Novak
Asima Silva
Robin Van Liew
Charles Witkes
Adam Young

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DM:rlp

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 – Sign-in sheets
- Attachment 2 – Superintendent Goal 2017 – 2018 DRAFT (9/8/2017)
- Attachment 3 – Educator Plan Form DRAFT (9/8/2017)