

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1263 Monday, November 24, 2014
7:00 PM

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School
1401 Main Street, Holden

Committee Members Present:

Lance Harris, Chair	Stacey Jackson
Robert Imber, Vice-chair	Robert McCarthy
Scott Brown	Kenneth Mills
Thomas Curran	Steve Porter
Michael Dennis	Robert Remillard
Matthew Ehrenworth	Barbara Renzoni
Timothy Ethier	Erik Scheinfeldt
Harriet Fradellos	Christina Smith
Susan Hitchcock	Charles Witkes

Committee Members Absent:

Julianne Kelley	Sarah LaMountain
Deidre Kosky	Brian Ruttle

Committee Members Participating Remotely:

None

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:

Linnea Budd	Liam Fritsche
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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 7:00 PM.

I. Public Hearing

Heidi Lahey, President, WREA, read a prepared statement (attachment 2).

II. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Harris invited WRHS Principal William Beando to the podium, and Mr. Beando introduced WRHS Assistant Principal Anthony DiBenedetto, who joined him at the podium. Mr. Beando and Mr. DiBenedetto's presentation focused on the March 2014 accreditation visit by NEASC.

7:05 Chair Harris left the table.

Mr. Beando and Mr. DiBenedetto showed a PowerPoint presentation, and spoke to the presentation (attachment 3).

7:06 PM Chair Harris returned to the table.

At the conclusion of the presentation, members were given the opportunity to ask questions about the March 2014 NEASC site visit. Vice-chair Imber and Member Smith both extended thanks to Mr. Beando and the staff of WRHS for efforts expended in preparation for, during, and following the NEASC accreditation visit. Several members asked questions of the Principal and Assistant Principal.

7:32 PM Mr. Beando and Mr. DiBenedetto left the meeting.

Chair Harris announced that the meeting was being streamed live on the internet (Channel 194 in Holden).

III. Student Representatives Reports

Student Representative Budd reported on a talent show recently held at the high school.

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

Chair Harris distributed copies of a draft letter addressed to Governor-elect Baker, to be signed by Chair Harris and Superintendent McCall, urging Governor-elect Baker to rescind the proposed cuts to regional school transportation aid (9C cuts) (attachment 4). Chair Harris turned the meeting over to Superintendent McCall, who spoke about the proposed 9C cuts and the impact these cuts will have on the District. Discussion ensued about the proposed 9C cuts, with most members of the Committee participating in the discussion.

At Chair Harris' invitation, Member Jackson spoke about the Foundation Forum held on November 20, 2014. Member Mills thanks School Committee Members Jackson and Kelley for the time and effort they put into organizing this event, along with Representative Ferguson, Senator Gobi, and others. Discussion ensued about the forum and the Foundation formula. Member Ethier asked about the State Auditor's Report and Member Brown asked

about the Holden pupil population study taskforce membership. With the Committee's consent. Chair Harris temporarily turned the gavel over to Vice-chair Imber, in order to make a motion.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

Motion: To formally request Governor-elect Baker to rescind the proposed 9C cuts to regional transportation, circuit breaker, and charter school reimbursement fund.

(L. Harris)

(T. Ethier)

Chair Harris gave the brief history of previous 9C cuts. Much discussion took place, with most members of the Committee participating in the discussion.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Timothy Ethier
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Robert Remillard
Barbara Renzoni
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Vice-chair Imber passed the gavel back to Chair Harris.

Motion: To approve the goals of the Wachusett Regional School District for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years, as presented.

(R. McCarthy)

(R. Remillard)

Chair Harris explained how the Management Subcommittee developed the five goals, after seeking input from the four other standing subcommittees (attachment 5).

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Timothy Ethier
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Robert Remillard
Barbara Renzoni
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

8:30 PM Student Representative Liam Fritsche left the meeting.

V. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the School Committee.

VI. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting 1262nd of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on November 10, 2014

Motion: To approve minutes of regular meeting #1262 of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on November 10, 2014

(K. Mills)

(S. Jackson)

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

VII. 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.

VIII. Committee Reports

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

Chair Harris reported on the November 19, 2014 meeting of this subcommittee, during which the District's long-term plan was discussed.

Chair Harris spoke about the By-Law amendment being proposed by the Management Subcommittee (Article III, Section 1) and explained the purpose behind the proposed amendment. School Committee action on this proposed amendment will be on the agenda for the December 15, 2014 School Committee meeting.

- B. Education Subcommittee (R. Imber, Chair, C. Smith, Vice-chair, T. Ethier, H. Fradellos, R. Remillard)

Subcommittee Chair Imber reported this subcommittee had met just before this School Committee meeting.

Subcommittee Chair Imber explained that Attorney Bartulis had reviewed the proposed amendments to Policy 6312, which the subcommittee discussed and considered at its meeting.

Motion: To approve the second reading of Amended Policy 6312 ***Policy Relating to Pupil Services Regular Attendance***, waiving the reading.

(R. Imber)
(T. Ethier)

Some discussion ensued.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth

Timothy Ethier
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Robert Remillard
Barbara Renzoni
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:
None

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To approve the second reading of Draft Policy 6531.2
Policy Relating to Pupil Services BYOD (Bring Your Own Device), waiving the reading.

(R. Imber)
(S. Jackson)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Timothy Ethier
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Robert Remillard
Barbara Renzoni
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:
None

The motion passed unanimously.

Subcommittee Chair Imber reported the Education Subcommittee will be reviewing Policy 6532 ***Policy Relating to Pupil Services Videotaping and Photographing of District Students***. He also reported that the Education Subcommittee will revisit the educational impact of the copier/printer contract (which expires December 2015), in preparation for the 2015-2016 school year. Member Jackson expressed her thanks to the Education Subcommittee for keeping the copier/printer contract on its radar.

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

Subcommittee Chair Renzoni reported on the November 17, 2014 meeting of this subcommittee. She reported the evaluations of the Director of Business and Finance and the District Treasurer have been completed and copies of the evaluations are available at the District Central Office.

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

Subcommittee Chair Mills reported on the November 17, 2014 meeting of this subcommittee. The subcommittee will meet again on December 4, 2014. Subcommittee Chair Mills reported the IBB (interest-based bargaining) training session will be held Saturday, December 6, 2014, in the Media Center of WRHS.

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

Subcommittee Chair Scheinfeldt reported on the November 13, 2014 meeting of this subcommittee. He reported a school security survey had been sent out to principals the first part of the school year. The topic of ALiCE training is a continuing item on Facilities & Security agendas. The question is if ALiCE is supported, how would it be implemented District-wide. The subcommittee continues to review capital budgets.

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

In AAB Chair Kelley's absence, no report was made.

- G. Collaborative Budget Task Force (S. Jackson, Chair, R. Imber, S. Hitchcock, J. Keley, B. Renzoni)

Task Force Chair Jackson reported the next meeting is December 3, 2014. Member Ethier asked if all five towns are taxing to their full

limits, which Task Force Chair Jackson will ask at the December 3rd meeting.

H. 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 this subcommittee will meet at 5:30 PM on December 4, 2014.

I. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee

Member McCarthy reported the next Mountview Building Committee meeting is December 2, 2014.

J. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School (TBD), Chocksett Middle School (S. LaMountain), Davis Hill Elementary School (C. Smith), Dawson Elementary School (D. Kosky), Glenwood Elementary School (TBD), Houghton Elementary School (TBD), Mayo Elementary School (T. Curran), Mountview Middle School (S. Brown), Naquag Elementary School (M. Ehrenworth), Paxton Center School (TBD), Thomas Prince School (R. Imber/B. Ruttle), Wachusett Regional High School (E. Scheinfeldt), Special Education Parent Advisory Council (S. Jackson), Early Childhood Center (TBD)

Member Smith – Davis Hill Elementary School

8:53 PM Student Representative Linnea Budd left the meeting.

Member Scott – Mountview Middle School

Member Jackson – SEPAC

IX. Public Hearing

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

X. New Business

Motion: To cancel the regular meeting of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee scheduled for January 26, 2015, pursuant to Article III, Section 1 of the WRSDC By-Laws.

(K. Mills)
(E. Scheinfeldt)

Member Mills explained the intent of the motion, and further explained he would suggest the School Committee Annual Budget Retreat be held on Monday, January 26, 2015, as a special School Committee meeting.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Timothy Ethier
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Robert Remillard
Barbara Renzoni
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

XI. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(M. Ehrenworth)
(R. McCarthy)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran

Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Timothy Ethier
Harriet Fradellos
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Steve Porter
Robert Remillard
Barbara Renzoni
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Charles Witkes

Opposed:
None

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned to executive session at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DM:rlp