

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1228 Monday, December 10, 2012

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School

Committee Members Present:

Duncan Leith, Chair	James Mason
Colleen Cipro, Vice-chair	Kenneth Mills
Cynthia Bazinet	Robert Pelczarski
William Clute	Norman Plourde
Steven Hammond	Robert Remillard
Robert Imber	Erik Scheinfeldt
Stacey Jackson	Michelle Sciabarrasi
Julianne Kelley	Margaret Watson
Deidre Kosky	

Committee Members Absent:

Lance Harris	Athas Tsongalis
Sarah LaMountain	

Administration Present:

Darryll McCall, Director of Operations
Susan Sullivan, Director of Human Resources
Kelley Gangi, Director of Curriculum
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

Student Representatives Present:

Emily Lindberg	Emily Tomczyk
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Others present, who desired to be recorded as present (see attached Attendance Sheet – attachment 1).

Chair Leith called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:05 PM. Chair Leith explained Superintendent Pandiscio was absent due to illness.

I. Public Hearing

There were no members of the public who wished to address the School Committee.

II. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of 1227th Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on November 26, 2012

Motion: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the School Committee held on November 26, 2012.

(J. Mason)

(R. Imber)

The minutes of the regular meeting of the School Committee held November 26, 2012 were approved, by consensus, with Members Bazinet, Cipro, Kelley, Kosky, Pelczarski, and Sciabarrasi abstaining.

III. Treasurer's Report/Financial Statements

Chair Leith reminded the Committee that if there were questions regarding the Treasurer's Report, members should contact the Business/Finance Subcommittee Chair.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Leith wished all a happy holiday season. Chair Leith read a prepared statement (attachment 2). Member Plourde read a prepared statement (attachment 3). Member Scheinfeldt read a prepared statement (attachment 4). Member Watson addressed the School Committee, speaking about Superintendent Pandiscio.

B. Student Representatives

Emily Lindberg spoke about recent activities that took place at WRHS: Wachusett's Got Talent contest held on November 30th; the December 7th performance by a "mentalist;" Jimmy Tingle comedy night on December 1st. Emily Tomczyk reported she has been in contact with WRHS Assistant Principal Weymouth, voicing concerns and complaints students have about the student parking situation. She explained that it appears that students who do not have parking passes are parking at the high school, and the problem is growing as the school year goes on. Member Kelley reported she has heard there have been some cases of vandalism in the parking lots at the high school. Both Student Representatives were of the opinion that what is being reported as "vandalism" is not actually vandalism, but more in line with practical jokes.

C. Management Subcommittee (D. Leith, Chair, C. Cipro, Vice-chair, C. Bazinet, S. Hammond, R. Imber, N. Plourde, R. Remillard, M. Sciabarrasi, M. Watson)

Chair Leith reported on the Management Subcommittee meeting held December 4th.

Motion: To approve the first reading of DP5271 **Policy Relating to Personnel Management Health Insurance – Surviving Spouse.**
(R. Imber)
(S. Hammond)

At Chair Leith's request, Director Sullivan gave the background that resulted in this draft policy.

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Colleen Cipro
Cynthia Bazinet
William Clute
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
James Mason
Kenneth Mills
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

- D. Education Subcommittee (S. Hammond, Chair, N. Plourde, Vice-chair, C. Bazinet, L. Harris, R. Imber, K. Mills, R. Pelczarski, M. Watson)

Subcommittee Chair Hammond reported the Education Subcommittee had not met since the last School Committee meeting, but has a meeting posted for December 17th.

- E. Business/Finance Subcommittee (R. Remillard, Chair, E. Scheinfeldt, Vice-chair, W. Clute, L. Harris, J. Kelley, S. LaMountain, D. Leith, J. Mason, M. Sciabarrasi)

Subcommittee Chair Remillard reported this subcommittee had convened just before this School Committee meeting and had met with District Treasurer James Dunbar. The Business/Finance Subcommittee and will be making a recommendation to the full

School Committee to extend Mr. Dunbar's contract for one year. Subcommittee Chair Remillard also reported the Business/Finance members are considering the best way for that subcommittee to have an opportunity to meet with building principals as the FY14 budget is being developed. Various options are being discussed and the full School Committee will be kept informed as these plans move forward. Member Jackson asked Subcommittee Chair Remillard the status of an RFP for a forensic audit, and she was told this topic is still on the Business/Finance Subcommittee docket.

- F. Community Outreach Subcommittee (S. Jackson, Chair, M. Sciabarrasi, Vice-chair, L. Harris, J. Kelley, J. Mason, K. Mills, A. Tsongalis, M. Watson)

Community Outreach Subcommittee Chair Jackson reported this subcommittee held its first off-site meeting at Thomas Prince School in Princeton on December 5th. Subcommittee Chair Jackson thanked TPS principal Mary Cringan and the TPS staff for their hospitality. She reported the meeting was well attended, and was a productive meeting. The Community Outreach Subcommittee will meet next on January 9th, at Houghton Elementary School in Sterling.

- G. Audit Advisory Board (J. Mason, R. Remillard)

No report was made.

- H. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Hire a Business Manager (W. Clute, L. Harris, J. Kelley, S. LaMountain, D. Leith, J. Mason, R. Remillard, E. Schneifeldt, M. Sciabarrasi)

Member Remillard reported this ad hoc subcommittee had met before this School Committee meeting, solely to approve meeting minutes, as the duties of the ad hoc subcommittee have been completed. Chair Leith thanked the members of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Hire a Business Manager and he discharged the subcommittee.

2. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the Regional Agreement (J. Kelley, Chair, W. Clute, S. Hammond, R. Imber, N. Plourde)

Ad Hoc Subcommittee Chair Kelley reported that the first of five public hearings will take place in Sterling on Wednesday, January 2nd. She went on to thank Member Hammond for the work he has done gathering, reviewing, and documenting Member Town census numbers so that the ad hoc subcommittee can address the issue of School Committee size.

Motion: To accept the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the Regional Agreement that Section 1.1.1 of the Regional Agreement be amended so that the membership of the WRSDC does not increase to 22 members as currently indicated in Section 1.1.1

(R. Imber)

(J. Kelley)

At Ad Hoc Subcommittee Kelley's request, Member Hammond spoke to the motion, and explained the intent behind the motion. Discussion ensued. Member Hammond explained that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the Regional Agreement is looking to get some direction from the full School Committee about how to address the possibility of needing to increase the membership of the School Committee to 22 members, based on population.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Colleen Cipro
Cynthia Bazinet
William Clute
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
James Mason
Kenneth Mills
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Ad Hoc Subcommittee – Superintendent Search (S. Hammond, Chair, N. Plourde, Vice-chair, C. Bazinet, C. Cipro, R. Imber, D. Leith, R. Pelczarski, R. Remillard, M. Sciabarrasi, M. Watson)

Ad Hoc Subcommittee Chair Hammond requested that full School Committee action on the matter listed on the meeting agenda be

deferred to executive session. Subcommittee Chair Hammond reported this subcommittee will meet next on December 12th.

I. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee (M. Watson)

Member Watson reported the Mountview Building Committee met with members of the public and neighbors, as well as some town officials, on November 27th. This building committee will meet next on December 11th.

2. Green Repair School Building Committee (D. Leith)

Chair Leith had nothing to report at this time.

J. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School (A. Tsongalis), Chocksett Middle School (S. LaMountain), Davis Hill Elementary School (S. Jackson, K. Mills), Dawson Elementary School (D. Kosky), Glenwood Elementary School (J. Kelley), Houghton Elementary School (L. Harris/N. Plourde), Mayo Elementary School (M. Watson), Mountview Middle School (S. Hammond/E. Scheinfeldt), Naquag Elementary School (C. Cipro), Paxton Center School (W. Clute/R. Pelczarski), Thomas Prince School (R. Imber/M. Sciabarrasi), Wachusett Regional High School (C. Bazinet/M. Sciabarrasi/A. Tsongalis), Special Education Parent Advisory Council (S. Jackson), Early Childhood Center (J. Mason)

Member Jackson – Davis Hill Elementary School, December 5, 2012

Member Watson – Mayo Elementary School, December 6, 2012

V. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

There were no questions raised regarding the Superintendent's Report.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

Motion: To approve the recommendation of the Business/Finance Subcommittee of a one year appointment of James Dunbar as WRSD Treasurer, January 1, 2013 – December 31, 2013, at a monthly salary of \$1,167.

(E. Scheinfeldt)
(J. Mason)

At Chair Leith's request, Business/Finance Subcommittee Chair Remillard reported that District Treasurer Dunbar had received a favorable evaluation, and that a 3% increase in his 2012 salary would be a \$34/month increase (to \$1,167/month).

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Colleen Cipro
Cynthia Bazinet
William Clute
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
James Mason
Kenneth Mills
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To approve the appropriation of Massachusetts School Building Authority funds in a total amount of \$35,999 (Request #8 \$14,690; Request #9 \$1,643; Request #10 \$19,666) to the Town of Princeton for reimbursement for the Thomas Prince School
(J. Kelley)
(R. Imber)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Colleen Cipro
Cynthia Bazinet
William Clute
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky

James Mason
Kenneth Mills
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Public Hearing

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

VII. Unfinished business

Member Pelczarski asked that a motion he previously had included on a School Committee agenda be brought back before the School Committee on January 14, 2013.

VIII. New Business

As a member of the Revenue Sharing Task Force, Member Pelczarski reported on a suggestion made at a task force meeting that Superintendent Reports and attachments be available on the District website. Director McCall acknowledged that task would be easy enough to accomplish. No motion is necessary for this to happen.

Chair Leith reported on his meeting with representative of MASBO while they were conducting the *Financial Operations Review* the end of November.

IX. Executive Session

Motion: To adjourn to executive session to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with union personnel, not to return to public session.

(S. Hammond)

(J. Mason)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Colleen Cipro
Cynthia Bazinet
William Clute
Steven Hammond

Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
James Mason
Kenneth Mills
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned to executive session at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Duncan Leith, Chair

DL:rlp