

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1278 Monday, December 14, 2015
7:00 PM

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School
1401 Main Street, Holden

Committee Members Present:

Lance Harris, Chair	Linda Long-Bellil
Robert Imber, Vice-chair	Robert McCarthy (7:11 PM)
Thomas Curran	Lauren Maldonado
Michael Dennis	Kenneth Mills
Matthew Ehrenworth	Jon Edward Novak
Harriet Fradellos	Barbara Renzoni
Susan Hitchcock	Megan Weeks
Stacey Jackson	Charles Witkes
Sarah LaMountain	

Committee Members Absent:

Scott Brown	Christina Smith
Steve Porter	Adam Young
Asima Silva	

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 meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

I. Public Hearing

Heidi Lahey, WREA President, addressed the School Committee.

II. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Harris said he would forego comments, but took a moment to explain this evening's meeting format: (1) MCAS presentation; (2) FY17 budget priorities; (3) PARCC v MCAS would be discussed under the Superintendent's Report.

Administrator of Assessment and Accountability Nancy Fournier was introduced and welcomed to the podium. Members were provided with a hard copy of the PowerPoint presentation which Ms. Fournier spoke to (attachment 2).

7:11 PM Member McCarthy joined the meeting.

7:24 PM Student Representative Fritsche left the meeting.

At the conclusion of Ms. Fournier's presentation, Chair Harris asked for a show of hands which members might have questions for Ms. Fournier. Using a randomized list, Chair Harris called upon members to ask their questions of Ms. Fournier.

Member McCarthy

Member Renzoni

Member Novak – did not ask a question

Member Witkes – did not ask a question

Member Fradellos

Member Dennis

Member Jackson

Member Weeks

Member Mills

Member Long-Bellil – did not ask a question

Member Ehrenworth – did not ask a question

Member Maldonado – did not ask a question

Member LaMountain – did not ask a question

Member Curran – did not ask a question

Member Hitchcock

8:00 PM Member Ehrenworth left the table.

Vice-chair Imber

8:03 PM Member Ehrenworth returned to the table.

It was noted that data on slide 13 was incorrect. Members will be provided with a corrected slide 13.

At the conclusion of questions and answers regarding the MCAS presentation, Chair Harris announced the next topic for discussion would be FY17 budget priorities.

8:10 PM Student Representative Budd left the meeting.

Superintendent McCall called members' attention to Attachment 4 of his December 11, 2015 Superintendent's Report, responses to a FY17 budget priorities survey which had

been posted in Goggle and shared with members (attachment 3). Superintendent McCall asked members if there are other priorities they would want considered as the FY17 budget is being developed, aside from what is listed on the survey. Responses, comments, and questions included:

- Additional advance placement classes (LaMountain)
- Late buses (Imber)
- School libraries (Weeks)
- Class size (Long-Bellil)
- Late buses (Frandellos)
- School librarians (Mills)
- Exactly what technology is needed in each school (Hitchcock)
- What are the principals' FY17 budget priorities? (Dennis)
- When looking to bring staffing back to libraries, determine what technology is needed in school libraries (LaMaountain)
- Technology needs (Long-Bellil)
- Technology (Curran)
 - Two levels of technology investments:
 - What is needed for MCAS 2.0?
 - What is needed beyond MCAS 2.0?
- List of grants (currently receiving, currently applying for, being considered) (Novak)
- E-rate (Ehrenworth)
- What is e-rate money being used for? (Renzoni)

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

The Student Representatives had left the meeting.

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

At Member Novak's inquiry, Superintendent McCall gave an overview of the search for a Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, confirming for the Committee that three finalists will be interviewed on December 17, 2015, beginning at 4:00 PM. The interviews, which are public, will be held in the Curriculum Center at the District Central Office and all are invited to attend. Superintendent McCall further explained that, following the interviews on December 17, 2015, he is anticipating bringing his recommendation for appointment of the Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment before the full School Committee at the January 11, 2016 regular School Committee meeting.

Member Dennis asked Superintendent McCall to report on and provide explanation of his discussions with District principals and other superintendents regarding administration of PARCC v MCAS in the spring of 2016.

Superintendent McCall reported on discussions had with District principals at the weekly PLT (Principal Leadership Team) and Cabinet meetings, as well as recent conversations he has had with other school superintendents. When further questioned about his reasoning for recommending the District not move to PARCC for spring 2016 testing, Superintendent McCall stated that, at this time, he is hesitant to tie the District to PARCC, since nothing has yet been finalized at the state level.

Member Mills asked questions of Director Scanlon with regard to FY16 regional transportation and Medicaid reimbursement, which Director Scanlon will review further with the Business/Finance Subcommittee.

8:40 PM Member Fradellos left the meeting.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

Motion: To authorize the Director of Business and Finance to transfer \$679,029.13 to the Salaries and Stipend appropriation from the Benefits and Insurance appropriation

(C. Witkes)

(T. Curran)

Director Scanlon spoke to the motion.

8:44 PM Member LaMountain left the meeting.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Barbara Renzoni
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

V. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the School Committee.

VI. Secretary's Report

- A. Approval of 1277th Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on November 16, 2015

Motion: To approve minutes of the regular meeting of the WRSDC held on November 16, 2015.

(R. Imber)

(K. Mills)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Barbara Renzoni
Megan Weeks
Charles Witkes

Opposed:

None

The minutes were unanimously approved.

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, S. Jackson, K. Mills)

Chair Harris reported this subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting. The subcommittee is scheduled to meet on January 6, 2016.

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

Education Subcommittee Chair Imber reported this subcommittee will meet on December 15, 2015

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

Business/Finance Subcommittee Chair Jackson reported on the December 7, 2015 meeting of this subcommittee, which will meet next on January 4, 2016. Subcommittee Chair Jackson also reminded members of the FY17 Budget Roundtable scheduled for Tuesday, January 5, 2016.

1. Amended Policy – 4330 **Policy Relating to Budget/Finance Warrants** – first reading

Motion: To approve the first reading of Amended Policy 4330 **Policy Relating to Budget/Finance Warrants**, waiving the reading.

(S. Jackson)

(M. Dennis)

Subcommittee Chair Jackson explained the reasoning behind recommending amendments to the policy.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Thomas Curran
Michael Dennis
Matthew Ehrenworth
Susan Hitchcock
Stacey Jackson
Linda Long-Bellil
Lauren Maldonado
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Jon Edward Novak
Barbara Renzoni
Megan Weeks

Charles Witkes

Opposed:
None

The motion passed 15-0.

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

Legal Affairs Subcommittee Chair Mills reported on the December 8, 2015 meeting of this subcommittee, and announced the subcommittee will meet next on January 12, 2016 at 7:30 PM.

- E. Audit Advisory Board

AAB Chair Jackson reported the Audit Advisory Board will meet again once the auditors have completed the FY15 audit.

- F. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the Regional Agreement (S. Hitchcock, Chair, R. Imber, K. Mills, B. Renzoni, C. Witkes)

Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the Regional Agreement Chair Hitchcock reported on the December 10, 2015 meeting of this subcommittee, and announced the subcommittee will meet next on January 12, 2016 at 6:00 PM.

- G. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee

Member McCarthy gave an overview of the progress being made on the Mountview building project, reporting construction is moving along and noting the weather conditions have been favorable. Questions were asked about the floors and moisture, and it was explained that the moisture content in the floors is being tested on a daily basis. Superintendent McCall also spoke about the project, specifically speaking about the floors, and reporting on recent weekly construction meetings he has attended.

- H. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School (J. E. Novak), Chocksett Middle School, Davis Hill Elementary School (A. Silva), Dawson Elementary School, Glenwood Elementary School, Houghton Elementary School, Mayo Elementary School (T. Curran), Mountview Middle School (S. Brown), Naquag Elementary

School (M. Ehrenworth), Paxton Center School (H. Fradellos), Thomas Prince School (R. Imber/M. Weeks), Wachusett Regional High School (L. Maldonado), Special Education Parent Advisory Council (S. Jackson), Early Childhood Center

Chair Harris continues to seek School Committee liaisons to serve on some of the school councils.

Member Ehrenworth –Naquag Elementary School, next meeting January 27, 2016

Member Novak – Central Tree Middle School – a round of applause was given recognizing CTMS moving from a Level 2 school to a Level 1 school

Member Weeks – Thomas Prince School, November 19, 2015

Member Curran – Mayo Elementary School

IX. Public Hearing

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

X. New Business

Member Curran asked that consideration be given to altering February vacations moving forward.

XI. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(R. McCarthy)

(M. Ehrenworth)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris

Robert Imber

Thomas Curran

Michael Dennis

Matthew Ehrenworth

Susan Hitchcock

Stacey Jackson

Linda Long-Bellil

Lauren Maldonado

Robert McCarthy

Kenneth Mills

Jon Edward Novak

Barbara Renzoni

Megan Weeks

Charles Witkes

Opposed:
None

The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DM:rlp