

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1211 Monday, January 9, 2012

Media Center  
Wachusett Regional High School

*Committee Members Present:*

|                 |                            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Cynthia Bazinet | Julianne Kelley            |
| Carmelo Bazzano | James Mason                |
| Colleen Cipro   | Robert Pelczarski          |
| William Clute   | Norman Plourde             |
| Steven Hammond  | Robert Remillard           |
| Lance Harris    | Dawn Torres-Gale (7:53 PM) |
| Robert Imber    | Athas Tsongalis            |
| Stacey Jackson  | Margaret Watson            |

*Committee Members Absent:*

|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Duncan Leith, Chair     | Kristine Goodwin     |
| Joseph Sova, Vice-chair | Michelle Sciabarrasi |

*Administration Present:*

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Superintendent of Schools  
Peter Brennan, Business Manager  
Kelley Gangi, Director of Curriculum  
Darryll McCall, Director of Operations  
Susan Sullivan, Director of Human Resources  
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

*Student Representatives Present:*

Tyler Gibbs  
Jonathan Latino

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

Superintendent Pandiscio called the regular meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:48 PM. He explained both Chair Leith and Vice-chair Sova would not be in attendance and asked for a motion to appoint an Acting Chair for this meeting.

Motion: To appoint Steven Hammond as Acting Chair of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee for the January 9, 2012 regular School Committee meeting.

(A. Tsongalis)

(C. Cipro)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Cynthia Bazinet  
Carmelo Bazzano  
Colleen Cipro  
William Clute  
Steven Hammond  
Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
James Mason  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Robert Remillard  
Athas Tsongalis  
Margaret Watson

*Opposed:*

None

Motion passed unanimously.

Member Hammond assumed the role as Acting Chair at 7:50 PM.

I. Public Hearing

No members of the public wished to address the Committee.

II. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of 1210<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on December 13, 2011

Motion: To approve the minutes of the regular School Committee meeting held December 13, 2011.

(J. Mason)

(A. Tsongalis)

The minutes of the regular School Committee meeting held December 13, 2011 were approved, by consensus, with Member Bazinet abstaining.

III. Treasurer's Report/Financial Statements

Acting Chair Hammond reminded the Committee that if there were questions regarding the Business Manager'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.

7:53 PM Member Torres-Gale joined the meeting.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Chair's Opening Remarks

B. Student Representatives (Tyler Gibbs, Jonathan Latino)

Tyler Gibbs reported that winter school break is over and mid-year exams at the high school will soon be underway.

Jonathan Latino spoke about goings on in his Environmental Science classroom, and he spoke enthusiastically about the possibility of establishing a vegetable garden on the grounds of the high school. He will bring forward additional information, and perhaps a formal proposal, as plans develop.

C. Management Subcommittee (D. Leith, Chair, J. Sova, Vice-chair, C. Bazinet, C. Cipro, K. Goodwin, S. Hammond, R. Imber, J. Kelley, N. Plourde, M. Watson)

Member Watson reported on the December 14, 2011 meeting of this subcommittee. She told that the Management Subcommittee voted to continue using the Superintendent's evaluation instrument which has been used the last several years. Chair Leith will provide a timeline and other evaluation documents with the next Superintendent's Report.

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

Education Subcommittee Chair Hammond reported the Education Subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting. The subcommittee will meet on Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM in the Curriculum Center at the District Central Office.

E. Business/Finance Subcommittee (J. Sova, Chair, R. Remillard, Vice-chair, C. Cipro, W. Clute, D. Leith, M. Sciabarrasi, D. Torres-Gale, A. Tsongalis)

Business/Finance Subcommittee Vice-chair Remillard reported this subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

1. WRSD Educational Foundation Trust

Because both Member Sciabarrasi and Member Sova were absent, there was no report on WEFT.

- F. Community Outreach Subcommittee (M. Sciabarrasi, Chair, A. Tsongalis, Vice-chair, C. Bazzano, K. Goodwin, L. Harris, J. Mason, R. Pelczarski, M. Watson)

Community Outreach Subcommittee Vice-chair Tsongalis reported the Community Outreach Subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

- G. Audit Advisory Board (J. Sova, Chair, J. Mason)

Member Mason reported the Audit Advisory Board will be meeting in the near future.

- H. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

Member Hammond, who has been named Chair of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Develop a Social Media Policy, reported this subcommittee will have its initial meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2012, at 5:30 PM in the Curriculum Center at the District Central Office.

- I. Building Committees

- 1. Mountview Building Committee (M. Watson)

Member Watson reported the Mountview Building Committee will meet on the January 10, 2012.

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

Business Manager Brennan reported on progress being made on the three Green Repair projects.

- J. School Council Reports:

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

Member Jackson – Davis Hill Elementary School

Member Jackson – ECC – The Early Childhood Center is accepting enrollment applications for the 2012-2013 school year.

Member Jackson – SEPAC

Member Hammond – Mountview Middle School – December 13, 2011 meeting

Member Pelczarski – Paxton Center School – Members Clute and Pelczarski are working with PCS administration to come up with mutually convenient dates and times for PCS's SIMCO meetings, so that School Committee representation at the meetings is possible.

V. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

Acting Chair Hammond commended Superintendent Pandiscio on his *State of the District* presentation, made immediately before the start of this School Committee meeting. Superintendent Pandiscio reported the information presented at the *State of the District* (PowerPoint, narrative) will be posted on the District website and links to the information will be available shortly. There was general discussion about revenue sharing with the Member Towns, and if this is something the School Committee votes in support of, the Superintendent would then recommend a task force be named to investigate this possibility. A question and answer session following the *State of the District* was not entertained because, at this time, this concept is simply a proposal and has not yet been acted upon by the School Committee.

Member Kelley raised the topic of the Early Childhood Center and renovations/repairs needed to be made on the building (roof work and window replacement). District administration is in agreement with Member Kelley that this work is necessary and the Superintendent explained various routes that may be taken. Discussion and consideration of this matter will continue.

Acting Chair Hammond publicly thanked Kristine Goodwin for her time representing the Town of Holden on the School Committee and wished her well in the future.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

1. Motion: To accept the donation of a computer-controlled telescope and mounting from Princeton resident Brian Lula  
(R. Imber)  
(J. Mason)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Cynthia Bazinet  
Carmelo Bazzano  
Colleen Cipro  
William Clute  
Steven Hammond  
Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
James Mason  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Robert Remillard  
Dawn Torres-Gale  
Athas Tsongalis  
Margaret Watson

*Opposed:*

None

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Motion: To approve the School Calendar for School Year 2012-2013, "version #2" (PD half days on both Wednesdays & Fridays) (attachment 2).

(A. Tsongalis)

(J. Mason)

Following discussion around the table about the pros and cons of professional development half days alternating between Wednesdays and Fridays, the maker and the seconder of the motion withdrew the motion on the floor.

- Motion: To approve the School Calendar for School Year 2012-2013, "version #1" (PD half days on Wednesdays only), as presented (attachment 3).

(R. Imber)

(C. Bazinet)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Cynthia Bazinet  
Carmelo Bazzano  
Colleen Cipro  
William Clute  
Steven Hammond  
Lance Harris  
Robert Imber

Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
James Mason  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Robert Remillard  
Dawn Torres-Gale  
Athas Tsongalis  
Margaret Watson

*Opposed:*  
None

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Public Hearing

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

VII. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the School Committee.

VIII. New Business

There was no new business brought before the School Committee.

IX. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(A. Tsongalis)  
(R. Remillard)

Vote:

*In favor:*

Cynthia Bazinet  
Carmelo Bazzano  
Colleen Cipro  
William Clute  
Steven Hammond  
Lance Harris  
Robert Imber  
Stacey Jackson  
Julianne Kelley  
James Mason  
Robert Pelczarski  
Norman Plourde  
Robert Remillard

Dawn Torres-Gale  
Athas Tsongalis  
Margaret Watson

*Opposed:*  
None

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
TGP:rlp