

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1213 Monday, February 13, 2012

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School

Committee Members Present:

Duncan Leith, Chair	Julianne Kelley
Joseph Sova, Vice-chair	Deidre Kosky
Carmelo Bazzano	Robert Pelczarski
Colleen Cipro	Norman Plourde
Steven Hammond	Robert Remillard
Lance Harris	Michelle Sciabarrasi
Robert Imber	Dawn Torres-Gale
Stacey Jackson	Margaret Watson

Committee Members Absent:

Cynthia Bazinet	James Mason
William Clute	Athas Tsongalis

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:

Jonathan Latino

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

Chair Leith called the regular meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:03 PM. He took this opportunity to welcome Holden's new School Committee representative Deidre Kosky, appointed on February 6, 2012 to fill the seat vacated by Kristine Goodwin.

I. Public Hearing

No members of the public wished to address the Committee.

II. Secretary's Report

- A. Approval of 1212th Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on January 23, 2012

Motion: To approve the minutes of the regular School Committee meeting held January 23, 2012.

(J. Sova)
(S. Hammond)

The minutes of the regular School Committee meeting held January 23, 2012 were approved, by consensus, with Members Kelley, Kosky, Remillard and Sciabarrasi abstaining.

- B. Approval of 290th Special Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on February 4, 2012

Member Watson noted the minutes should be corrected to reflect the accurate spelling of McGraw-Hill.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the special School Committee meeting held February 4, 2012, as corrected.

(J. Sova)
(S. Hammond)

The minutes of the special School Committee meeting held February 4, 2012 were approved, by consensus, with Member Kosky abstaining.

III. Treasurer's Report/Financial Statements

Chair Leith 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.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Leith welcomed Glenwood Elementary School principal Anthony Gasbarro. Mr. Gasbarro's presentation focused on elementary math and he showed a PowerPoint presentation entitled Elementary Mathematics Report (attachment 2). Mr. Gasbarro shared the podium with Glenwood Elementary School teacher Karen Cappucci and Literacy Coach Charlene Griffin. Following the presentation, members were given the opportunity to ask questions about elementary math. At the conclusion of the Q&A session, Mr. Gasbarro, Ms. Cappucci, and Ms. Griffin were thanked for attending.

- B. Student Representatives (Tyler Gibbs, Jonathan Latino)

Jonathan Latino reported that Winter Carnival was held on February 11th, that February school vacation was quickly approaching, and he commented on the lack of snow days this school year (only one to date, which was in October). A brief overview of how the high school's winter sports teams are doing was given.

7:45 PM Student Representative Latino left the meeting.

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

Chair Leith reported that a quorum was not achieved for the February 7th meeting of the Management Subcommittee. The next meeting of this subcommittee will be posted for Monday, February 27th, at 6:00 PM.

- 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 that the scheduled February 6th meeting of the Education Subcommittee was postponed due to illness. The next meeting of this subcommittee will be posted for Monday, February 27th, at 6:00 PM.

1. Draft Policy – DP6613.2 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Athletic Concussion Policy** – first reading

Education Subcommittee Chair Hammond read aloud the draft policy language. He noted that the Concussion Protocol and the three DPH forms are attachments to the policy, but are separate from the policy and are not a part of the policy. Discussion about the draft policy ensued. Note was made that a School Committee policy addressing the requirements of 105 CMR 201.000 must be in place no later than March 1, 2012.

Motion: To approve the first reading of DP6613.2 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Athletic Concussion Policy**.

(S. Hammond)
(L. Harris)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro

Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

The motion passed unanimously.

- 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 Chair Sova reported this subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting. The next meeting of this subcommittee will be posted for Monday, February 27th, at 6:00 PM.

1. WRSD Educational Foundation Trust

Vice-chair Sova reported that members of the WEFT Board of Trustees have been attending SIMCO/PTA/PTO meetings during the month of February, hoping to solicit ideas for joint fund raising efforts. WEFT has been well received by these parent groups.

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

Community Outreach Subcommittee Chair Sciabarrasi reported this subcommittee met immediately before this School Committee meeting. This subcommittee is seeking suggestions from all members of the School Committee on how the Community Outreach Subcommittee can “do its job” (community outreach) with regards to the budget. There was discussion about the roles and responsibilities of the four standing subcommittees and it was suggested this topic be discussed after town elections in May, but before the new subcommittees are named.

1. Amended Policy – AP8211 **Policy Relating to Communication/Public Relations Organization and Function of School Councils** – first reading

Community Outreach Subcommittee Chair Sciabarrasi read aloud the bullet to be deleted from this policy. Member Pelczarski spoke to this recommended deletion.

Motion: To approve the first reading of AP8211 **Policy Relating to Communication/Public Relations Organization and Function of School Councils**.

(M. Sciabarrasi)

(R. Pelczarski)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting of this subcommittee will be posted for Monday, February 27th, at 6:00 PM.

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

AAB Chair Sova reported that on February 2, 2012 the Audit Advisory Board met with representatives from four accounting firms, and the AAB met again on February 9th to review and rank each proposal. The recommendation of the Audit Advisory Board will be brought before the full School Committee at its February 27, 2012 meeting.

H. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Develop a Social Media Policy (S. Hammond, J. Kelley, Student Representatives Tyler Gibbs and Jonathan Latino, and other non-School Committee members)

Ad Hoc Subcommittee Chair Hammond reported this subcommittee has met twice already and will meet again on February 14th.

I. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee (M. Watson)

Member Watson reported on the January 24th meeting of this building committee and announced the next meeting is scheduled for February 28, 2012. Member Watson explained that later in this meeting the School Committee will be asked to vote to authorize the Superintendent to execute and deliver the Feasibility Study Agreement between the Wachusett Regional School District and the Massachusetts School Building Authority. Superintendent Pandiscio reported a walk through for architects is scheduled for 1:00 PM on February 15, 2012.

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

At Chair Leith's request, Business Manager Brennan reported on progress being made on the three Green Repair projects (Naquag Elementary School, Paxton Center School, Thomas Prince School), noting that the roof at PCS is essentially complete, and work on the roof at Naquag is scheduled to begin on February 15th.

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 – ECC – February 8, 2012 SIMCO meeting

Member Jackson – SEPAC – February 16, 2012 – Motor Planning workshop

Member Sciabarrasi – TPS – February 7, 2012 SIAM meeting

V. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

Superintendent Pandiscio took time to show a PowerPoint presentation “identifying the problem” of the District’s budget shortfalls. Members were provided with hard copies of the presentation (attachment 3). Following review and explanation of the data in the PowerPoint, many questions were asked and answered, and much discussion followed.

Superintendent Pandiscio asked members to particularly note two attachments in his February 9, 2012 Report: the new School Improvement Plan template; and the article entitled “Feds Look to Accelerate E-Textbook Adoption with ‘Digital_Textbook Playbook’,” a link to which was included in the Report.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

1. To authorize the Superintendent to execute and deliver the Feasibility Study Agreement between the Wachusett Regional School District and the Massachusetts School Building Authority, and any amendments thereto, for the Mountview Middle School on behalf of the Wachusett Regional School District

and to bind the Wachusett Regional School District to its terms and conditions,

and, to authorize the Superintendent to undertake the Feasibility Study and consummate all transactions contemplated by the Agreement and to make final binding decisions on behalf of the Wachusett Regional School District with respect to the Proposed Project described in the Feasibility Study Agreement.

(M. Watson)

(J. Sova)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber

Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

2. To acknowledge that the Wachusett Regional School District Committee has been notified, in writing, by FLLAC Educational Collaborative Executive Director Richard W. Murphy that the School Committee of the Quabbin Regional School District has requested to join the FLLAC Collaborative. The FLLAC Collaborative Board of Directors proposes to amend the FLLAC Collaborative Agreement to include the Quabbin Regional School District as a member of the collaborative.

(J. Sova)

(S. Hammond)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Deidre Kosky
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Julianne Kelley

The motion passed 15-0-1.

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

Member Plourde presented a motion he asked be included on the agenda for the February 27, 2012 regular School Committee meeting. The motion pertains to relieving the Director of Human Resources of the task of chronicling District related newspaper articles.

IX. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(J. Sova)
(S. Hammond)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

TGP:rlp