

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Executive Session

Monday, February 22, 2010

Media Center

Wachusett Regional High School

Committee Members Present:

Margaret Watson, Chair	Julianne Kelley
John Nunnari, Vice-chair	Duncan Leith
Robert Carter	Michael Pantos
Colleen Cipro	Robert Pelczarski
William Clute	Norman Plourde
Sherry Conrad	Michelle Sciabarrasi
Kristine Goodwin	Joseph Sova
Steven Hammond	Kori Stuart
Robert Imber	Dawn Torres-Gale
Stacey Jackson	

Committee Members Absent:

Cynthia Bazinet

Administration Present:

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Superintendent of Schools
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

Chair Watson called the executive session of the School Committee to order at 9:17 PM.

Approval of Minutes of the Executive Session of the Wachusett Regional District School Committee held on February 8, 2010

On page 3 of the draft minutes, the makers of the motion to adjourn were incorrectly listed as Members Nunnari and Conrad. The minutes were corrected to reflect that Members Pantos and Imber made the motion to adjourn.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the executive session of the School Committee held February 8, 2010, as corrected, not to be released.

(M. Pantos)
(S. Hammond)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson

John Nunnari
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Duncan Leith
Michael Pantos
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale

Opposed:
None

Abstained:
Shirley Conrad
Julianne Kelley
Joseph Sova
Kori Stuart

(The motion passed 15-0-4.)

Chair Watson turned the meeting over to Superintendent Pandiscio. Superintendent Pandiscio called the Committee's attention to *Revenue and Assessment History – Revenue Contract Obligations + 1.5% with E&D and Preliminary FY11 Appropriation 02.22.10 DRAFT* (attachments 1 & 2). He explained these spreadsheets did not factor in retirements. Superintendent Pandiscio assured the Committee that he is not looking for an authorization to “give away” a 1.5% salary increase. What he is looking for from the Committee is authorization to bargain with the unions as if he had the revenue numbers projected in attachments 1 and 2.

Motion: To endorse a non-binding motion to accept the revenue projections stated in *Revenue and Assessment History – Revenue Contract Obligations + 1.5% with E&D and Preliminary FY11 Appropriation 02.22.10 DRAFT*, as presented.

(R. Imber)

Chair Watson explained that, per parliamentary procedure, the motion that was tabled during the February 8, 2010 executive session needs to be renewed before another motion can be put on the table.

Motion: To renew and place on the table the motion made at the February 8, 2010 executive session which reads: *To endorse Superintendent Pandiscio's recommendation that, for planning purposes only, he use Revenue and Assessment History – Contract*

Obligations + 1% with E&D (Attachment 1 – page E) when he is conducting contract negotiations with six of the District’s collective bargaining units.

(J. Nunnari)
(N. Plourde)

Motion: To amend the motion on the floor changing the percentage from “*Contract Obligations + 1% with E&D*” to “*Contract Obligations + 1.5% with E&D.*”

(R. Imber)
(S. Hammond)

Member Goodwin recused herself and left the meeting.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson
John Nunnari
Robert Carter
William Clute
Shirley Conrad
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Joseph Sova
Kori Stuart
Dawn Torres-Gale

Opposed:

Colleen Cipro
Julianne Kelley
Michael Pantos

Abstained:

Duncan Leith

(The motion passed 14-3-1.)

Motion: To renew and place on the table the motion made at the February 8, 2010 executive session, now amended to read as follows: *To endorse Superintendent Pandiscio’s recommendation that, for planning purposes only, he use Revenue and Assessment History – Contract Obligations + 1.5% with E&D when he is conducting contract negotiations with six of the District’s collective bargaining units.*

(J. Nunnari)
(N. Plourde)

Discussion ensued, with Rutland Representatives Kelley and Pantos voicing they are uncomfortable, on behalf of the Town of Rutland, with using 1.5%. Superintendent Pandiscio commented he can accept their political view, on behalf of the Town of Rutland, but he cannot move forward with contract negotiations based on “soft budget numbers” from the state. Superintendent Pandiscio told the Committee he is hoping for full support of the budget by all School Committee members. Superintendent Pandiscio reminded the Committee that according to recently released FY09 per pupil expenditures Wachusett Regional School District is still at the bottom of the cohort. Superintendent Pandiscio again assured the Committee that he is not looking for an authorization to “give away” a 1.5% salary increase. Member Hammond reminded the Committee that at this time they are not voting on a budget, but are voting on a set of numbers that the Superintendent can use when he sits at the negotiating table.

Motion: To extend the executive session for twenty minutes, until 10:20 PM.

(S. Hammond)

(R. Pelczarski)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson
John Nunnari
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Shirley Conrad
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Duncan Leith
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Joseph Sova
Kori Stuart
Dawn Torres-Gale

Opposed:

Michael Pantos

(The motion passed 17-0-1.)

Discussion of the motion on the floor continued.

Chair Watson re-read the motion on the floor.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson

John Nunnari
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Shirley Conrad
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Duncan Leith
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Joseph Sova
Kori Stuart
Dawn Torres-Gale

Opposed:

Michael Pantos

(The motion passed 17-0-1.)

Motion: To adjourn.

(R. Carter)
(S. Conrad)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson
John Nunnari
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Shirley Conrad
Steven Hammond
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Duncan Leith
Michael Pantos
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Joseph Sova
Kori Stuart
Dawn Torres-Gale

Opposed:

None

(The motion passed unanimously.)

The executive session adjourned at 10:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

TGP:rlp