

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1202 Monday, June 13, 2011

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School

Committee Members Present:

Duncan Leith, Chair	James Mason
Cynthia Bazinet	Robert Pelczarski
Carmelo Bazzano	Norman Plourde
Colleen Cipro	Robert Remillard
Kristine Goodwin	Michelle Sciabarrasi
Steven Hammond	Dawn Torres-Gale
Stacey Jackson	Margaret Watson
Julianne Kelley	

Committee Members Absent:

Joseph Sova, Vice-chair	Robert Imber
William Clute	Athas Tsongalis
Lance Harris	

Administration Present:

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Superintendent of Schools
Darryll McCall, Director of Operations
Peter Brennan, Business Manager
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

Student Representatives Present:

None

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 7:00 PM. He announced the meeting was being broadcast live. He reported Member Watson would sit in as Vice-chair in Member Sova's absence.

I. Public Hearing

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

II. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of the Organizational Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on May 25, 2011

Motion: To approve the minutes of the organizational meeting of the School Committee held May 25, 2011.

(N. Plourde)
(S. Hammond)

The minutes of the organizational meeting of the School Committee held May 25, 2011 were approved, by consensus, with Members Remillard and Sciabarrasi abstaining.

B. Approval of 1201st Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on May 25, 2011

Motion: To approve the minutes of the regular School Committee meeting held May 25, 2011.

(K. Goodwin)
(C. Cipro)

The minutes of the regular School Committee meeting held May 25, 2011 were approved, by consensus, with Members Remillard and Sciabarrasi 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.

7:02 PM Member Bazinet returned to the table.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Leith told members he is working on subcommittee assignments and expects to have the listing finalized by the time the next Superintendent's Report is prepared.

Chair Leith spoke about the June 4th Wachusett Regional High School graduation, and he encouraged those interested to view, on cable, the student speeches given at the ceremony. Chair Leith told that members of Science Seminar would address the Committee later on in this meeting.

Chair Leith commented that the District's health insurance expenditures have increased by 111% in the last ten years, according to Business Manager Brennan's report.

Chair Leith is seeking a volunteer to replace Audit Advisory Board member/chair Shirley Conrad. Interested member(s) should speak with Chair Leith.

B. Student Representatives

There were no Student Representatives in attendance.

C. Management Subcommittee

The Management Subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

D. Education Subcommittee

The Education Subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

E. Business/Finance Subcommittee (J. Sova, Chair, C. Cipro, W. Clute, D. Leith, M. Sciabarrasi, A. Tsongalis)

The Business/Finance Subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting, although the subcommittee has continued to sign both Payroll and A/P warrants.

1. WRSD Educational Foundation Trust

The WEFT Board of Trustees has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

F. Community Outreach Subcommittee

The Community Outreach Subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

G. Audit Advisory Board (J. Sova)

The Audit Advisory Board has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

H. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

I. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee (M. Watson)

Member Watson reported this building committee has not met since the last School Committee meeting, and the next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

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

Chair Leith reminded members that on Monday, June 20th, the Town of Rutland will be voting on the Naquag Elementary School Green Repair Project.

J. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School, Chocksett Middle School, Davis Hill Elementary School, Dawson Elementary School, Glenwood Elementary School, Houghton Elementary School, Mayo Elementary School, Mountview Middle School, Naquag Elementary School, Paxton Center School, Thomas Prince School, Wachusett Regional High School, Special Education Parent Advisory Council, Early Childhood Center

Member Jackson – SEPAC – The meeting and election of officers which was scheduled for June 9th has been rescheduled to June 16th.

V. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

At Member Plourde's inquiry, there was some discussion about what the District could expect from the State for transportation reimbursement.

Several members commented they were very intrigued by the article Superintendent Pandiscio shared in his Report (**Harvard Education Letter** *Hybrid Schools for the iGeneration*) and they asked if additional information on this topic could be provided them. One source for information would be the Sloan Consortium. Much discussion about technology, use of technology, curriculum, hybrid schools ensued.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

Motion: To authorize the Wachusett Regional School District Treasurer, acting under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 71, Section 16(g) as amended by Chapter 134 of the Acts of 1972, and with the approval of the Chairman of the District Committee, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011 and to issue a note

or notes therefore, payable within one year, in accordance with
Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 17.

(M. Watson)
(S. Hammond)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Cynthia Bazinet
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
James Mason
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To approve the appropriation of School Building Authority
funds in the amount of \$1,034,230 to the Town of Sterling for
reimbursement for Chocksett/Houghton Schools.

(N. Plourde)
(R. Pelczarski)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Cynthia Bazinet
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
James Mason
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard

Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To approve the transfer of indirect costs from the Academic Support Allocation grant (632) in the total amount of \$198 to the Professional Development revolving account.

(S. Hammond)
(M. Watson)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Cynthia Bazinet
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
James Mason
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To approve the FY12 Pre-Approved Vendor List

(C. Bazinet)
(M. Watson)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Cynthia Bazinet
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro

Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
James Mason
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To accept the 2011-2012 Wachusett Regional School District School Improvement Plans, as summarized

(C. Bazinet)
(K. Goodwin)

Vote:

In favor:
Duncan Leith
Cynthia Bazinet
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
James Mason
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

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.

8:01 PM Superintendent Pandiscio left the table, to greet incoming Science Seminar students.

VIII. New Business

Member Watson raised a matter that was briefly addressed at the last School Committee regarding student representation on School Councils. There was discussion about what defines the membership of School Councils, student representation on School Councils, ages/grades of students who serve on School Councils, who votes, and who does not, on School Councils (School Committee members, students). Following discussion, Member Watson voiced her opinion that it might be best to obtain an opinion from District Counsel about students serving on School Councils.

Chair Leith welcomed WRHS teachers Carol Sullivan and Nick Guerin, along with student members of Science Seminar. Ms. Sullivan thanked the Committee for inviting them to the meeting and proudly introduced the following, who each spoke briefly, explaining their projects:

- Emma West
- Zoey Sloate
- Kristen Goehl
- Harihar Subramanyan
- Eric Stolz
- Andrew Bellesis

At the conclusion of these brief addresses, the School Committee gave the students, and teachers, a round of applause and a standing ovation.

IX. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(S. Hammond)

(R. Pelczarski)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Cynthia Bazinet
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Stacey Jackson

Julianne Kelley
James Mason
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

TGP:rlp