

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1185 Monday, July 19, 2010

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School

Committee Members Present:

Duncan Leith, Chair	Lance Harris
Joseph Sova, Vice-chair	Robert Imber
Cynthia Bazinet	Stacey Jackson
Colleen Cipro	Julianne Kelley
William Clute	Michael Pantos
Shirley Conrad	Robert Pelczarski
Kristine Goodwin	Norman Plourde
Steven Hammond	Dawn Torres-Gale

Committee Members Absent:

Robert Carter	Athas Tsongalis
Michelle Sciabarrasi	Margaret Watson

Administration Present:

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

Student Representatives Present:

Brian Clement	Katie Sands
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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 7:45 PM.

I. Public Hearing

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

II. Secretary's Report

- A. Approval of 1184th Regular Meeting Minutes of the WRSDC held on June 14, 2010

Motion: To approve the minutes of the regular School Committee meeting held June 14, 2010.

(K. Goodwin)

(C. Cipro)

The minutes of the regular School Committee meeting held June 14, 2010 were approved, by consensus, with Member Pantos abstaining.

7:46 PM Member Harris returned to the table.

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.

7:47 PM Member Pelczarski returned to the table.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Leith raised the matter of extensive discussions that took place at the June 2010 School Committee meeting and referenced School Committee By-Laws, Article IV, Section 2 *Conducting of Business*, reading aloud the four bullets.

Chair Leith reported the Committee has been offered the use, for free, of a table at Holden Days, to be held Saturday, August 28, 2010. Community Outreach Chair Goodwin asked that members who might be willing to volunteer to man a table at Holden Days, on behalf of the School Committee, let her know by July 26, 2010. Members were reminded that all School Committee members, not just Holden representatives, are welcome to volunteer to staff this table.

B. Student Representatives

Chair Leith welcomed new Student Representatives Brian Clement, of Rutland, and Katie Sands, of Princeton. Chair Leith noted the Management Subcommittee will meet at 6:00 PM on Monday, August 16th, just before the

regular School Committee meeting, in order to orient the students to their responsibilities in their roles as Student Representatives. At the Chair's request, both students introduced themselves.

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

The Management Subcommittee will meet at 6:00 PM on Monday, August 16, 2010, in the Media Center at the high school. Chair Leith noted that one item, in particular, this subcommittee will need to address this year is the process of evaluating the Superintendent of Schools in light of new requirements under the Open Meeting Law.

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

Subcommittee Chair Hammond reported this subcommittee will meet on Tuesday, July 27, 2010, at 7:00 PM in the Superintendent's Conference Room at the District Central Office.

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

Subcommittee Chair Sova reported this subcommittee has not yet met, but he expects to schedule a meeting in August.

- F. Community Outreach Subcommittee (K. Goodwin, Chair, L. Harris, R. Pelczarski, M. Sciabarrasi, A. Tsongalis, M. Watson)

Community Outreach Chair Goodwin reported this subcommittee will meet on Monday, September 13, 2010, at 6:00 PM in the Media Center at the high school.

- G. Audit Advisory Board (S. Conrad, J. Sova)

AAB Chair Conrad reported the Audit Advisory Board is at full membership, since Richard Carr of Holden and Brian Quinlivan of Paxton have both agreed to serve on the AAB another three years. AAB Chair Conrad reported the auditors will be conducting their audit in August.

- H. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

- 1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee for Supplemental Revenue FY11 (M. Sciabarrasi, J. Sova)

Ad Hoc Co-chair Sova reported the ad hoc subcommittee has plans to send out one last letter to parents, after which this subcommittee's work should be completed. It is expected the work of this ad hoc subcommittee will conclude by the end of the summer and a report will be made to the School Committee in September.

I. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School (C. Cipro), Chocksett Middle School (J. Sova), Davis Hill Elementary School (S. Jackson), Dawson Elementary School, 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 (M. Sciabarrasi), Special Education Parent Advisory Council (S. Jackson), Early Childhood Center (S. Jackson)

Member Jackson reported SEPAC is pleased with the Mid-cycle Report which was recently received, a copy of which was included in the Superintendent's Report.

Chair Leith continues to seek a volunteer from the Committee to serve on the Dawson Elementary School School Council.

V. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

Member Cipro noted that she and Member Tsongalis received warrant training on July 12th, not June 12th as reported in the Superintendent's Report.

8:05 PM Member Harris left the table.

Chair Leith referenced the letter from a 1999 WRHS graduate and a **Landmark Speak Out** submission, copies of both were included in the Superintendent's Report, noting how gratifying it is to hear positive comments about the District.

Member Torres-Gale asked the Superintendent for clarification of how the high school administration handles military recruiters visiting the high school to speak with students, similar to college and university admissions visits. Superintendent Pandiscio told how such visits were handled when he was

principal at the high school and will speak with the high school principal about current practice. The Superintendent will report back to the Committee.

8:07 PM Member Harris returned to the table.

Member Kelley asked the status of the met tower proposed to be erected on the high school site. The Superintendent reported on the Holden Board of Appeals public hearing he attended on June 24, 2010. He further reported the appeal deadline is July 22, 2010.

Member Torres-Gale took a moment to wish Member Pantos well at his last meeting as a member of the WRSDC. Member Pantos was extended thanks by all for his service to the District.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

1. To approve the sale by the District of three separate Revenue Anticipation Notes totaling \$13,800,000 as follows:
 - \$5,000,000, 1.50 percent coupon rate, Revenue Anticipation Note, dated July 23, 2010 and payable June 30, 2011, to Eastern Bank at par and accrued interest plus a premium of \$6,641.94
 - \$5,000,000, 1.50 percent coupon rate, Revenue Anticipation Note, dated July 23, 2010 and payable June 30, 2011, to Eastern Bank at par and accrued interest plus a premium of \$5,429.44.
 - \$3,800,000, 2.125 percent coupon rate, Revenue Anticipation Note, dated July 23, 2010 and payable June 30, 2011, to Oppenheimer & Co at par and accrued interest plus a premium of \$24,755.07.

Further, that the consent to bid as executed by the Treasurer to First Southwest Company, the financial advisor, to bid the note is hereby confirmed.

Motion: To approve the sale by the District of three separate Revenue Anticipation Notes totaling \$13,800,000 as follows:

- \$5,000,000, 1.50 percent coupon rate, Revenue Anticipation Note, dated July 23, 2010 and payable June 30, 2011, to Eastern Bank at par and accrued interest plus a premium of \$6,641.94

- \$5,000,000, 1.50 percent coupon rate, Revenue Anticipation Note, dated July 23, 2010 and payable June 30, 2011, to Eastern Bank at par and accrued interest plus a premium of \$5,429.44.
- \$3,800,000, 2.125 percent coupon rate, Revenue Anticipation Note, dated July 23, 2010 and payable June 30, 2011, to Oppenheimer & Co at par and accrued interest plus a premium of \$24,755.07.

Further, that the consent to bid as executed by the Treasurer to First Southwest Company, the financial advisor, to bid the note is hereby confirmed.

(J. Sova)

(M. Pantos)

Business Manager Brennan corrected the figure in the first bullet of the motion, stating that “accrued interest plus a premium of \$9,641.94” is accurate. He then went on to explain how the bids came in and why the premiums for the two \$5 million notes are different. Business Manager Brennan assured the Committee that the motion on the floor is the best financial offering for borrowing. Superintendent Pandiscio reminded the Committee that additional borrowing, in the neighborhood of \$2 million, will need to be done in March 2011 to cover the cash shortfall that is expected to be experienced toward the end of the fiscal year.

Corrected motion: To approve the sale by the District of three separate Revenue Anticipation Notes totaling \$13,800,000 as follows:

- \$5,000,000, 1.50 percent coupon rate, Revenue Anticipation Note, dated July 23, 2010 and payable June 30, 2011, to Eastern Bank at par and accrued interest plus a premium of \$9,641.94
- \$5,000,000, 1.50 percent coupon rate, Revenue Anticipation Note, dated July 23, 2010 and payable June 30, 2011, to Eastern Bank at par and accrued interest plus a premium of \$5,429.44.
- \$3,800,000, 2.125 percent coupon rate, Revenue Anticipation Note, dated July 23, 2010 and payable June

30, 2011, to Oppenheimer & Co at par and accrued interest plus a premium of \$24,755.07.

Further, that the consent to bid as executed by the Treasurer to First Southwest Company, the financial advisor, to bid the note is hereby confirmed.

(J. Sova)
(M. Pantos)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Cynthia Bazinet
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Sherry Conrad
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Michael Pantos
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Dawn Torres-Gale

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

2. To approve the transfer of indirect costs from the Title I – ARRA Teacher Quality grant (770) in the total amount of \$1,437 to the Professional Development revolving account

Motion: To approve the transfer of indirect costs from the Title I – ARRA Teacher Quality grant (770) in the total amount of \$1,437 to the Professional Development revolving account

(S. Conrad)
(R. Imber)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Cynthia Bazinet
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Sherry Conrad
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Michael Pantos
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Dawn Torres-Gale

Opposed:
None

(Motion passed unanimously)

3. To accept a \$100 donation received by Dawson Elementary School

Motion: To accept a \$100 donation from Holden parents Nikolas Gatsonis and Marie Kefallinou to Dawson Elementary School.

(S. Conrad)
(J. Kelley)

Vote:
In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Cynthia Bazinet
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Sherry Conrad
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley

Michael Pantos
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Dawn Torres-Gale

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.

VIII. New Business

Member Torres-Gale spoke of School Committee representation at Holden Days and also at other public events. She reminded the Committee of a draft policy she had presented to the School Committee for consideration last spring. It was agreed this matter would be included on the agenda of the September 13, 2010 Community Outreach Subcommittee meeting.

IX. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(M. Pantos)
(S. Hammond)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Cynthia Bazinet
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Sherry Conrad
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson

Julianne Kelley
Michael Pantos
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Dawn Torres-Gale

Opposed:
None

(Motion passed unanimously)

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

TGP:rlp