

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1191 Monday, November 22, 2010

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School

Committee Members Present:

Duncan Leith, Chair	Robert Imber
Cynthia Bazinet	Stacey Jackson
Robert Carter	Julianne Kelley
Colleen Cipro	Robert Pelczarski
William Clute	Norman Plourde
Shirley Conrad	Robert Remillard
Kristine Goodwin	Dawn Torres-Gale (7:03 PM)
Steven Hammond	Athas Tsongalis
Lance Harris	Margaret Watson

Committee Members Absent:

Michelle Sciabarrasi	Joseph Sova
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Administration Present:

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

Student Representatives Present:

Katie Sands

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 7:01 PM.

I. Public Hearing

Holden resident Hal Lane, President, Wachusett Independent Scholastic Endowment, Inc. (W.I.S.E.) addressed the School Committee

7:03 PM Member Torres-Gale joined the meeting.

Following Mr. Lane's address, members of the Committee were given the opportunity to ask questions.

7:10 PM Member Plourde left the table.

II. Secretary's Report

- A. Approval of 1190th Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on November 9, 2010

Motion: To approve the minutes of the regular School Committee meeting held on November 9, 2010.

(S. Conrad)

(R. Carter)

Chair Leith noted a correction to be made on page 2, Section III – "Vice-chair Sova reminded the Committee...." The minutes of the regular meeting of the School Committee held November 9, 2010 were approved, as corrected, by consensus, with Members Hammond, Harris and Tsongalis 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 wished members of the Committee a Happy Thanksgiving and he extended congratulations to the high school girls' cross country team for participation in recent District and State meets.

- B. Student Representatives (Brian Clement, Katie Carlson, Katie Sands)

Student Representative Katie Sands told of the upcoming home Thanksgiving Day football game. She reported that the recent production *And Then There Were None* was a great success and that DECA will be sponsoring a school dance.

7:13 PM Member Plourde returned to the table.

Chair Leith reminded Student Representative Sands that she, and the other students, are welcome to participate in discussions throughout School Committee meetings, not only at this point on the agenda.

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

Chair Leith reported the Management Subcommittee had not met since the last School Committee meeting. Chair Leith read aloud for the record an opinion, dated November 16, 2010, received from Attorney Naomi Stonberg with regard to the Superintendent's evaluation process (attachment 2). This opinion and this matter will be on the agenda for a future Management Subcommittee meeting.

- 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)

Subcommittee Chair Hammond reported the subcommittee had met on November 15, 2010 and voted to bring forward draft policy language for a first reading.

1. Draft Policy – DP6438 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Anti-Bullying Policy** – first reading

Motion: To approve the first reading of draft policy 6438 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Anti-Bullying Policy**.

(S. Hammond)

(C. Bazinet)

7:20 PM Superintendent Pandiscio left the table.

Chair Hammond read into the record draft policy 6438 (attachment 3).

There was brief discussion about the draft policy and the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan.

7:25 PM Superintendent Pandiscio returned to the table.

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro

William Clute
Shirley Conrad
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Dawn Torres-Gale
Athas Tsongalis
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

Subcommittee Chair Hammond will post the next meeting of the Education Subcommittee for mid-January.

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

In Subcommittee Chair Sova's absence, Subcommittee Vice-chair Conrad reported on the November 16th meeting of the subcommittee and told of the next posted meeting which is on December 6th. District Treasurer Dunbar will attend the December 6th meeting and the subcommittee will conduct Treasurer Dunbar's annual evaluation at that time. Subcommittee Vice-chair Conrad also announced the Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the Business Manager's Contract will meet on Tuesday, November 30th, at 6:30 PM.

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

Community Outreach Chair Goodwin announced the next regular meeting of the subcommittee will be Monday, December 13th, at 6:00 PM in the Media Center. She also reported that subcommittee members were available at 6:30 PM this date, before the start of the regular School Committee meeting, in the event members of the public wished to speak with a Community Outreach representative.

7:33 PM Municipal Representative Joseph O'Brien joined the meeting.

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

AAB Chair Conrad read aloud the October 21, 2010 report of the Audit Advisory Board (attachment 4).

Motion: Move the recommendation of the Audit Advisory Board to accept the findings and recommendations contained in District Auditor Powers & Sullivan's *Management Letter, Report on Examination of Basic Financial Statements and Reports on Federal Award Programs* for the year ended June 30, 2010.

(S. Conrad)
(A. Tsongalis)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Shirley Conrad
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Dawn Torres-Gale
Athas Tsongalis
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

H. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Review the Business Manager's Contract
(C. Cipro, S. Conrad, D. Leith, M. Sciabarrasi, J. Sova)

Member Conrad reported the first meeting of this ad hoc subcommittee will be held Tuesday, November 30, 2010, at 6:30 PM in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

I. Building Committee

1. Mountview Building Committee (M. Watson)

Member Watson reported on the November 16th meeting of the Mountview Building Committee. This building committee is expected to meet monthly and Member Watson will report to the full School Committee on a regular basis.

J. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School (C. Cipro), Chocksett Middle School (J. Sova), Davis Hill Elementary School (S. Jackson), Dawson Elementary School (R. Carter), 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 – SEPAC hosted a well received workshop (WRSD Basic Rights, Procedural Safeguards and District-wide Programs) on November 17th and Member Jackson extended thanks to Administrator of Special Education Marie Harrington for her help in coordinating this presentation.

Member Jackson – ECC - November 16, 2010

Member Carter – Dawson Elementary School SIMCO

Member Watson – Mayo Elementary School SIMCO - November 22, 2010

V. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

At Member Kelley's request for details about the Green Schools Repair Program, Superintendent Pandiscio referenced his November 18th letters to the towns of Paxton, Princeton and Rutland (attachment 5 of his November 18, 2010 Superintendent's Report) and he explained the process and the time frame the towns and District must follow.

7:58 PM Member Plourde left the table.

There was general discussion of the Green Schools Repair Program, as well as the PEP grant.

Member Watson had questions about Attorney McCabe's letter of November 9, 2010 with regard to School Lease Agreements (attachment 4 of the November 18, 2010 Superintendent's Report). She asked specifically if amending School Lease Agreements would require Town Meeting approval, to which the Superintendent responded such amending should be able to be done at the Selectboard level.

8:01 PM Member Plourde returned to the table.

Motion: To direct the Superintendent of Schools to have Attorney McCabe draft a School Lease Agreement amendment, striking all reference(s) to \$75,000 in Section 7 of School Lease Agreements.
(S. Hammond)
(S. Conrad)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Shirley Conrad
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard

Dawn Torres-Gale
Athas Tsongalis
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

The motion passed unanimously.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

Motion: To authorize the funding of an Owner's Project Manager to oversee Green Schools Repair Program projects at Paxton Center School, Thomas Prince School, Naquag Elementary School
(R. Imber)
(A. Tsongalis)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Shirley Conrad
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Dawn Torres-Gale
Athas Tsongalis
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To authorize the transfer of funds to the Professional Development Revolving Account from the following grants:

240	IDEA – Federal Special Education Entitlement	\$16,921
305	Title I, Part A	\$ 5,042
760	IDEA – Special Education ARRA	\$11,542
762	IDEA – Early Childhood/Special Education/ARRA	\$ 369
770	Title I/ ARRA	\$ 1,848
	Total	\$35,722

(M. Watson)
(A. Tsongalis)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

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

Member Carter commented he found interesting the MCAS results and per pupil spending data that was included in the Superintendent's Report and asked the Superintendent the status of a previously requested analysis of this data.

Member Kelley asked Superintendent Pandiscio the status of a full-day kindergarten report, which the Superintendent explained Director McCall is working on.

At Member Torres-Gale's inquiry following Hal Lane's address at the start of this meeting, there was brief discussion about W.I.S.E v W.E.F.T.

VIII. New Business

Motion: That the School Committee formally accept the gifts of a television with VCR, and backpacks and school supplies given to the Dawson Elementary School by Holden residents Dr. and Mrs. Rosenfeld.

(M. Watson)

(S. Conrad)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Shirley Conrad
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Dawn Torres-Gale
Athas Tsongalis
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn to executive session for the purpose of contract negotiations, not to return to public session.

(K. Goodwin)

(R. Imber)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Shirley Conrad
Kristine Goodwin
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Dawn Torres-Gale
Athas Tsongalis
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

TGP:rlp