

**WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**HOLDEN \* PAXTON \* PRINCETON \* RUTLAND \* STERLING**

Minutes

Special Meeting #266, Wednesday, July 27, 2005  
Executive Session  
6:30 PM

Library  
Central Tree Middle School, Rutland

*Committee Members Present:*

Alice Livdahl, Chair	Mary Catherine Maher
Michael Sherman, Vice-Chair	Kelly Maxwell (7:50 PM arrival)
Cynthia Ahearn	Phillip Mighdoll
Cynthia Bazinet	Judith Newton
Elizabeth Brennan	John Nunnari
Charles Capparelli	Norman Plourde
Robert Carter	Kathleen Sweeney
Shirley Conrad	Tammy Tod
David Gibbs	Margaret Watson
Mark James	

*Committee Member Absent:*

Cheryl Rauh

*Others Present:*

Attorney Leo McCabe, District Counsel

Chair Livdahl called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and reminded Members that the Committee remained in the executive session that began at the meeting of July 20, 2005.

Copies of a revised draft of Dr. Pandiscio's contract, as updated by Attorney Naomi Stonberg, were distributed. The draft incorporated changes requested by the Committee during its July 20 meeting as well as responses, commentary, and advice from Attorney Stonberg.

Chair Livdahl recognized District Counsel Leo McCabe, who advised the Committee that language within the provisions of Article 2.2.2 should be amended so as to be in accord with the provisions of Open Meeting Law. The language change was adopted by consensus.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Committee would vote on a final draft of Dr. Pandiscio's contract, adopting all amendments with one vote, at the end of the session.

The Committee acknowledged the need to fully consider the makeup of the District's negotiating team for collective bargaining--a team that, by contract, would include the services of Dr. Pandiscio. The issue was referred to the Management Subcommittee.

Member Brennan left the meeting at 7:40.

Member Maxwell arrived at 7:50.

Motion: To have the language of the contract state that Dr. Pandiscio shall begin his contract with 90 days of accrued sick leave.

(D. Gibbs)

(M. James)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Alice Livdahl  
Michael Sherman  
Chythia Ahearn  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Charles Capparelli  
Robert Carter  
Shirley Conrad  
David Gibbs  
Mark James  
Mary Catherine Maher  
Kelly Maxwell  
Phillip Mighdoll  
Judith Newton  
John Nunnari  
Norman Plourde  
Kathleen Sweeney  
Tammy Tod  
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

(Motion carried unanimously)

Member Mighdoll left the meeting at 8:20.

Motion: The Committee approves, as amended, the terms and language of Dr. Pandiscio's contract and authorizes Chair Alice Livdahl and Vice-chair Michael Sherman to execute this agreement on the Committee's behalf.

(D. Gibbs)  
(M. Sherman)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Alice Livdahl  
Michael Sherman  
Chythia Ahearn  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Charles Capparelli  
Robert Carter  
Shirley Conrad  
David Gibbs  
Mark James  
Mary Catherine Maher  
Kelly Maxwell  
Judith Newton  
John Nunnari  
Norman Plourde  
Kathleen Sweeney  
Tammy Tod  
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

(Motion carried unanimously)

Attorney McCabe distributed copies of a letter from attorney Michael Long, Superintendent Tutela's legal counsel, which detailed the terms of a proposed severance agreement.

Motion: To accept, as written, the severance agreement presented by Attorney Long.

(M. James)  
(D. Gibbs)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

D. Gibbs  
M. James

Opposed:

Alice Livdahl  
Michael Sherman  
Chythia Ahearn  
Cynthia Bazinet

Charles Capparelli  
Robert Carter  
Shirley Conrad  
Mary Catherine Maher  
Kelly Maxwell  
Judith Newton  
John Nunnari  
Norman Plourde  
Kathleen Sweeney  
Tammy Tod  
Margaret Watson

(Motion failed unanimously)

Motion: To place Superintendent Alfred Tutela on administrative leave for not performing to the best of his abilities.

(K. Maxwell)

(T. Tod)

After being reminded that an employee has a legal right to be present and represented by legal counsel at discussions of his or her character or performance, and any disciplinary action, Member Maxwell withdrew the motion.

Motion: To follow District Counsel Leo McCabe's recommendations for a response to Attorney Long's proposal, and to direct Attorney McCabe to make the following counter-offer:

- The Superintendent will begin a paid administrative leave on August 1, 2005.
- The Superintendent will take his accrued vacation without further payment.
- Any release, indemnification, or hold harmless will be limited to the terms of the Superintendent's employment contract.
- Any future consulting services on issues arising from the long-term, high school building project will be compensated at a rate of \$75 per hour.

(R. Carter)

(D. Gibbs)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Tally sheet unavailable

Opposed:

M. C. Maher

Abstained:

Tally sheet unavailable

(Motion carried)

Motion: To adjourn.

(M. Sherman)  
(C. Capparelli)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Alice Livdahl  
Michael Sherman  
Chythia Ahearn  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Charles Capparelli  
Robert Carter  
Shirley Conrad  
David Gibbs  
Mark James  
Mary Catherine Maher  
Kelly Maxwell  
Judith Newton  
John Nunnari  
Norman Plourde  
Kathleen Sweeney  
Tammy Tod  
Margaret Watson

Opposed:  
None

(Motion carried unanimously)

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Sherman, Acting Secretary

NOTE: Tally sheets of individual votes have been misplaced for this meeting.