

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Special Meeting #279 Thursday, August 9, 2007

Cafeteria
Davis Hill Elementary School

Committee Members Present:

Margaret Watson, Chair	Duncan Leith
Cynthia Bazinet, Vice-chair	Judith Newton
Robert Carter	John Nunnari
Colleen Cipro	Norman Plourde
Steven Hammond	Kathleen Sweeney
Julianne Kelley	

Committee Members Absent:

Thomas Ackerman	Mark James
Cynthia Ahearn	Michael Sherman
Shirley Conrad	Joseph Sova
Melinda Coyle	Marcie Zaharee
Robert Imber	

Administration Present:

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Superintendent of Schools
Jack Locke, Director of Operations
Darryll McCall, Interim Director of Operations
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

Chair Watson called the special meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:02 PM.

Motion: To amend the agenda, moving the review of the goals resulting from Strategic Plan Steering Committee meetings to after action on the authorization to borrow money.

(D. Leith)
(J. Nunnari)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
Steven Hammond
Julianne Kelley

Duncan Leith
Judith Newton
John Nunnari
Norman Plourde
Kathleen Sweeney

Opposed:
None

(Motion unanimously)

- II. 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, 2007 and to issue a note or notes therefore, payable within one year, in accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 17.
(J. Nunnari)
(S. Hammond)

Member Newton recused herself and the left the table.

The Superintendent explained the purpose for this recommendation is to relieve cash flow issues. Chair Watson read the motion aloud for the benefit of the public.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
Steven Hammond
Julianne Kelley
Duncan Leith
John Nunnari
Norman Plourde
Kathleen Sweeney

Opposed:
None

(Motion unanimously)

Member Newton returned to the table.

- III. Review of Goals Resulting from Strategic Plan Steering Committee Meetings

The Committee proceeded to review individually each Strategic Plan Goal, as well as the Success Measures, discussing as needed and amending as agreed upon (attachment 1).

Motion: To accept Goal 1: Unify the community around the vision, mission, core values and goals.

(R. Carter)
(D. Leith)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 2: Provide an environment where students are safe, supported, empowered, and held accountable, and where respect for self and others is highly valued.

(R. Carter)
(J. Nunnari)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 3 as amended: Strengthen partnerships among staff, students, parents and community members that support teaching and learning.

(D. Leith)
(J. Nunnari)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 4: Ensure that instructional practices recognize and accommodate a range of abilities and learning styles in an effort to promote excellence and assist students in reaching their potential.

(S. Hammond)
(K. Sweeney)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 5: Develop programs to increase equitable educational opportunities to all students in the District.

(D. Leith)
(J. Nunnari)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 6 as amended: Develop programs that ensure there is consistency in instruction and continuity of curriculum in what we teach.

(S. Hammond)
(J. Nunnari)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 7: Enhance the District's capacity to identify and respond to students at risk.

(J. Nunnari)
(S. Hammond)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 8: Promote/provide programs and practices that enhance the social/emotional well being of all students.

(S. Hammond)
(J. Nunnari)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 9: Create more opportunities for collaboration and mentoring.

(K. Sweeney)
(J. Nunnari)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To refer Goals 11 – 20 to School Committee subcommittees for refining.

(J. Newton)

Motion died due to lack of second.

Motion: To accept Goal 10: Develop more professional development opportunities within the District and make available more programs outside the school district. Professional development opportunities will be focused and targeted.

(K. Sweeney)
(D. Leith)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 11 as amended: Develop recruitment approaches that maximize the District's ability to recruit high quality staff.

(K. Sweeney)
(J. Nunnari)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 12: Develop a long-term plan for the renovation and maintenance of school facilities.

(C. Bazinet)
(D. Leith)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 13: Identify and plan for the use of technology and media that will enhance education and/or increase the efficiency of administration.

(C. Bazinet)
(J. Nunnari)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 14: Work cooperatively with town governments to improve communication and mutual understanding.

(D. Leith)
(K. Sweeney)

There was discussion of the wording of Success Measure #1. It was recommended that the word *cooperative* be replaced by the word *transparent*.

Motion: To retain the word *cooperative* in the body of the language of Success Measure #1.

(J. Newton)
(no second)

Vote:

In favor:

Judith Newton

Opposed:

Margaret Watson
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Steven Hammond
Julianne Kelley
Duncan Leith
John Nunnari
Norman Plourde
Kathleen Sweeney

Abstained:

Colleen Cipro

(Motion failed 1-9-1)

Vote on main motion:

In favor:

Margaret Watson
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
Steven Hammond
Julianne Kelley
Duncan Leith
Judith Newton
John Nunnari
Norman Plourde
Kathleen Sweeney

Opposed:

None

(Motion unanimously)

9:06 PM Member Cipro left the table.

9:06 PM Member Newton left the meeting.

9:07 PM Member Cipro returned to the table.

Motion: To accept Goal 15: Increase accessibility of school facilities and programs to residents and communities

(D. Leith)
(R. Carter)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 16: Maintain a continuing self-review of productivity, roles and operations by the school administration and the School Committee.

(J. Nunnari)
(C. Bazinet)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 17: Identify/promote succession planning at all administrative levels.

(R. Carter)
(J. Nunnari)

Following discussion, it was agreed this Goal should also have the School Committee and the Management Subcommittee listed under **Responsible Party/Parties**.

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 18 as amended: Improve communication with staff, students, parents and the community.

(S. Hammond)
(J. Nunnari)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 19 as amended: Seek financial efficiencies and maximize the cost effectiveness of programs and services while meeting improvement goals.

(K. Sweeney)
(R. Carter)

This motion passed by consensus.

Motion: To accept Goal 20: Secure funding and resources to support programs and planning efforts.

(J. Nunnari)
(S. Hammond)

This motion passed by consensus.

9:20 PM Member Sweeney left the table.

9:21 PM Member Sweeney returned to the table.

Motion: To direct the Chair to send a letter of appreciation to members of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee, thanking them for the time, attention and interest they put into developing the Strategic Plan.

(K. Sweeney)
(R. Carter)

Vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
Steven Hammond
Julianne Kelley
Duncan Leith
John Nunnari
Norman Plourde
Kathleen Sweeney

Opposed:

None

(Motion unanimously)

IV. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(J. Nunnari)
(K. Sweeney)

Vote:

In favor:

Margaret Watson
Cynthia Bazinet
Robert Carter
Colleen Cipro
Steven Hammond
Julianne Kelley
Duncan Leith
John Nunnari
Norman Plourde
Kathleen Sweeney

Opposed:

None

(Motion unanimously)

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

TGP:rlp