

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Special Meeting #270, Monday, November 7, 2005
Executive Session
8:40 PM

Cafeteria

Davis Hill Elementary School, Holden

Committee Members Present:

Alice Livdahl, Chair	Mark James
Michael Sherman, Vice-chair	Kelly Maxwell
Cynthia Ahearn	Judith Newton
Cynthia Bazinet	John Nunnari
Elizabeth Brennan	Norman Plourde
Charles Capparelli	Kathleen Sweeney
Robert Carter	Tammy Tod
Shirley Conrad	Margaret Watson

Committee Members Absent:

David Gibbs	Phillip Mighdoll
Mary Catherine Maher	Cheryl Rauh

Administration Present:

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

Chair Livdahl called the meeting to order and recognized Superintendent Pandiscio, who informed the School Committee that he would be entering into negotiations with the nurses on Wednesday with Attorney Stonberg and was seeking guidance from the School Committee. He pointed out that we had turned down every request the nurses had made and that he thought we could address some issues. His suggestions were:

- To remain at the 6% increase, spread over three years;
- To eliminate the bottom three salary steps (as they were too low and no nurses were on them);
- To add a new top step (which would affect about 10 nurses and cost in total about \$9,300 per year);

- To add a provision agreeing in writing to the practice that presently exist of paying nurses \$25.00 per hour for hours in excess of seven hours per day.

Dr. Pandiscio also mentioned that the nurses were concerned with the substitute nurse situation.

Discussion began with a question of whether Kenneth O'Brien, Municipal Representative, was notified of the meeting. It was determined that he was not notified, but that Dr. Pandiscio would discuss the actions of the School Committee with him, if possible before the meeting with the union.

Robert Carter made a motion to have the Superintendent look into the problem surrounding substitute nurses and report back to the School Committee with a recommendation at the first meeting in December. He then withdrew the motion because Members felt that it was outside the scope of the executive session.

Discussion occurred regarding belief that WRSD nurses are underpaid relative to the market and received less of a raise than other employees of the District in the last round of negotiations. Concern was expressed regarding staffing levels, particularly at the high school.

Motion: To approve the Superintendent's recommendation.

(M. Sherman)

(M. James)

Further discussion followed.

Motion: To move the question.

(M. James)

(J. Nunnari)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Michael Sherman

Cynthia Bazinet

Elizabeth Brennan

Charles Capparelli

Robert Carter

Shirley Conrad

John Nunnari

Mark James

Kelly Maxwell

Norman Plourde

Kathleen Sweeney
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

Cynthia Ahearn
Judith Newton
Tammy Tod

Abstained:

Alice Livdahl

(Motion passed 12-3-1)

Roll call vote on main motion:

In favor:

Alice Livdahl
Michael Sherman
Cynthia Ahearn
Cynthia Bazinet
Elizabeth Brennan
Robert Carter
Shirley Conrad
Mark James
John Nunnari
Norman Plourde
Kathleen Sweeney
Tammy Tod
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

Kelly Maxwell
Judith Newton

Abstained:

Charles Capparelli

(Motion passed 13-2-1)

Motion: To adjourn.

(M. Sherman)
(C. Capparelli)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Alice Livdahl
Michael Sherman
Cynthia Ahearn
Cynthia Bazinet
Elizabeth Brennan
Charles Capparelli
Robert Carter
Shirley Conrad
Mark James
Kelly Maxwell
Judith Newton
John Nunnari
Norman Plourde
Kathleen Sweeney
Tammy Tod
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Livdahl
Acting Secretary