

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1048, Tuesday November 12, 2002  
7:00 p.m.

Media Center  
Wachusett Regional High School

*Committee Members Present:*

John Rokicki, Chairman	Peter MacDonald
Duncan Leith, Vice-Chairman	Kelly Maxwell
Carol Esperti	Natalie Mello
David Fedeli	Julie Scott
Kimberly Ferguson	Kathleen Singh
Jeffrey Gibbs (7:27 PM)	Tammy Tod
Jane James	Edwin Twarog
Alice Livdahl	Margaret Watson
David Lowenthal	Patricia Young (7:14 PM)

*Committee Members Absent:*

Donald Benson	John Nunnari
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*Administration Present:*

Alfred D. Tutela, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools  
Paul K. Soojian, Director of Operations  
Steven Penka, Director of Administrative Services  
Philip E. Campbell, Director of Student/Information Services  
Susan H. Sullivan, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

*Others Present:*

Linda Lehans, *The Landmark*  
Mary Anne Magiera, *Worcester Telegram & Gazette*  
Sue Staudaher, *Sterling Meetinghouse News*  
Joseph Sullivan, Chair, Holden Selectboard  
Remo Rossi, Chair, Sterling Selectboard  
Paul Sushchuk, Sterling Selectboard  
Joseph Giotta, Chair, Holden Finance Committee  
Edmund Benoit, Holden Finance Committee  
Marilynn Foley, Holden Finance Committee

Mark James, Holden  
Larry Floryan, Holden  
Maureen Floryan, Holden  
David Gibbs, Sterling  
David Clark, Sterling  
Ron Johnson, Paxton  
Melinda Johnson, Paxton  
Jeffrey Wentzell, Paxton  
Bill Theurkoff, Sterling  
Donna Dominguez, Sterling  
Al Ferron, Holden  
James Hedlund, Holden  
Kevin Viner, Holden  
Patricia Gates, Princeton  
Michael Esperti, Holden  
Peter Crowley, Princeton  
John Kilcoyne, Sterling  
Bill Rasku, Holden  
Ann Quill, Sterling  
Bob Williamson, Princeton  
Patrick McNamara, Sterling  
Karen Monfreda, Sterling  
Leo BACHANT ~~Bachand~~, Holden  
ED MEYER, HOLDEN

Chairman John Rokicki called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

I. Public Hearing

Ed MEYER ~~Myer~~, Holden, requested that the Committee change to a ballot vote since many citizens signed a petition requesting such a change.

Joseph Sullivan, Chairman, Holden Selectboard, reported that the Holden Selectboard voted unanimously to strongly support option A1 and to strongly disagree with option B1. He also reported that the Holden Finance Committee also voted to support option A1 and not B1.

Bill Theurkoff, Sterling, reported that such activities as Science Seminar may not be available with two schools and that the students should be the Committee's number one priority. He supports town meeting votes.

Peter Crowley, Princeton, read a prepared statement (attachment 1).

Maureen Floryan, Holden, read a prepared statement (attachment 2)

Mark James, Holden, read a prepared statement (attachment 3)

John Kilcoyne, Sterling, read a prepared statement (attachment 4)

II. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of the 1047<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes of the WRSD Committee held on October 28, 2002 – approved by consensus

B. Approval of the 243<sup>rd</sup> Special Meeting Minutes of the WRSD Committee held on October 28, 2002 – approved by consensus

III. Clarifications relating to Treasurer's Report and Financial Statement

A. Presentation of Warrants and Payroll – the warrants were circulated for signature.

IV. Communications

Dawson PTA is having an informational meeting.

The Superintendent reported that he did not notify Member David Lowenthal before including his communication in the packet.

The Superintendent confirmed that approximately \$1.5 is the amount in E & D to be certified, of which \$310,00 has already been reserved for FY03 expenditures, once certified. If the anticipated midyear Chapter 70 reductions are made, these funds will be critical.

Member Edwin Twarog read a statement by the Princeton Selectboard (attachment 5).

The Superintendent clarified a concern regarding the change in parent conferences this year. He explained that this is a provision of the contract and would need to be changed through negotiations.

Chairman Rokicki advised the Committee that the communication relating to intimidation of a staff member will be discussed under Management Subcommittee.

V. Committee Reports

- A. Student Advisory Committee (K. Brunelle, L. Zambetti, N. Leger, E. DeMarco)

The Student Advisory Members reported that Parents Night will take place Thursday night and that teachers are willing to set up times for conferences with parents, if desired.

- B. Management Subcommittee (J. Rokicki, Chair, D. Leith, C. Esperti, A. Livdahl, K. Maxwell, N. Mello, J. Scott, E. Twarog)

1. Motion: To adopt the 2003 School Committee Calendar  
(C. Esperti)  
(J. Scott)

Vote:

In favor

John Rokicki  
Duncan Leith  
Carol Esperti  
David Fedeli  
Kimberly Ferguson  
Jeffrey Gibbs  
Jane James  
Alice Livdahl  
David Lowenthal  
Peter MacDonald  
Kelly Maxwell  
Natalie Mello  
Julie Scott  
Kathleen Singh  
Tammy Tod  
Edwin Twarog  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

- C. Business/Finance Subcommittee (N. Mello, J. Rokicki, D. Leith, D. Benson, D. Fedeli, K. Singh)

Business/Finance Subcommittee Chair Natalie Mello reported that the next meeting of the subcommittee is scheduled for November 20, 2002 at 6:30 PM at the Curriculum Center.

- D. Business-related Ad-Hoc Subcommittees
- E. School Building Committees requiring the action of the School Committee

No reports.

VI. Superintendent's Report

- A. Discussion of report.

No discussion.

- B. Recommendations requiring action by the School Committee

- 1. Motion: That pursuant to School Committee Policy P4331 Policy Relating to Budget/Finance Payment for Special Town Meetings, the School Committee authorize the addition of articles, following the School Committee articles, to the Holden Special Town Meeting on November 16, 2002 and authorize payment for the Holden Special Town Meeting provided the Special Town Meeting follows the School Committee requirement

(C. Esperti)  
(N. Mello)

Vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki  
Duncan Leith  
Carol Esperti  
David Fedeli  
Kimberly Ferguson  
Jeffrey Gibbs  
Jane James  
Alice Livdahl

David Lowenthal  
Peter MacDonald  
Kelly Maxwell  
Natalie Mello  
Julie Scott  
Kathleen Singh  
Tammy Tod  
Edwin Twarog  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

2. Motion: That pursuant to School Committee Policy P4331 Policy Relating to Budget/Finance Payment for Special Town Meetings, the School Committee authorize the addition of articles, following the School Committee articles, to the Paxton Special Town Meeting on November 16, 2002 and authorize payment for the Paxton Special Town Meeting provided the Special Town Meeting follows the School Committee requirement

(A. Livdahl)

(N. Mello)

Vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki  
Duncan Leith  
Carol Esperti  
David Fedeli  
Kimberly Ferguson  
Jeffrey Gibbs  
Jane James  
Alice Livdahl  
David Lowenthal  
Peter MacDonald  
Kelly Maxwell  
Natalie Mello  
Julie Scott  
Kathleen Singh

Tammy Tod  
Edwin Twarog  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Opposed:  
None

(Motion passed unanimously)

3. Motion: To amend the FY02 Budget Appropriation, as presented by the Superintendent (attachment 6)  
(C. Esperti)  
(D. Leith)

Roll call vote:

In favor:  
John Rokicki  
Duncan Leith  
Carol Esperti  
David Fedeli  
Kimberly Ferguson  
Jeffrey Gibbs  
Jane James  
Alice Livdahl  
Peter MacDonald  
Kelly Maxwell  
Natalie Mello  
Julie Scott  
Kathleen Singh  
Tammy Tod  
Edwin Twarog  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Opposed:  
None

Abstained:  
David Lowenthal

(Motion passed 17-0-1)

4. Motion: To authorize the Treasurer to establish a Student Activity Account at the Spencer Savings Bank  
(J. Gibbs)  
(E. Twarog)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki  
Duncan Leith  
Carol Esperti  
David Fedeli  
Kimberly Ferguson  
Jeffrey Gibbs  
Jane James  
Alice Livdahl  
Peter MacDonald  
Kelly Maxwell  
Natalie Mello  
Julie Scott  
Kathleen Singh  
Tammy Tod  
Edwin Twarog  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

David Lowenthal

(Motion passed 17-0-1)

Motion: To recess the meeting to go to the Special Meeting  
(N. Mello)  
(T. Tod)

Vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki  
Duncan Leith  
Carol Esperti  
David Fedeli  
Kimberly Ferguson



Jeffrey Gibbs  
Jane James  
Alice Livdahl  
David Lowenthal  
Peter MacDonald  
Kelly Maxwell  
Natalie Mello  
Julie Scott  
Kathleen Singh  
Tammy Tod  
Edwin Twarog  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Opposed:  
None

(Motion passed unanimously)

The meeting was recessed at 8:08 PM.

Chairman John Rokicki reconvened the meeting at 10:30 PM.

- VII. Public Hearing
- VIII. Unfinished Business
- IX. New Business
- X. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn

(C. Esperti)  
(J. James)

Vote:  
In favor  
John Rokicki  
Duncan Leith  
~~Donald Benson~~  
Carol Esperti  
David Fedeli  
Jane James

David Lowenthal  
John Nunnari  
Julie Scott  
Kathleen Singh  
Tammy Tod  
Edwin Twarog  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Opposed:  
None

(Motion passed unanimously)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred D. Tutela, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

ADT:ss/School Committee/Minutes