

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Special Meeting #281 Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Cafeteria

Davis Hill Elementary School, Holden

*Committee Members Present:*

Margaret Watson, Chair	Mark James
Cynthia Bazinet, Vice-chair	Julianne Kelley
Thomas Ackerman	Duncan Leith
Robert Carter	Judith Newton
Colleen Cipro	Norman Plourde
Shirley Conrad	Michael Sherman
Melinda Coyle	Joseph Sova
Steven Hammond	Kathleen Sweeney (7:05 PM)
Robert Imber	Marcie Zaharee

*Committee Members Absent:*

Cynthia Ahearn	John Nunnari
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*Administration Present:*

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Superintendent of Schools  
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

*Others Present:*

Leo P. McCabe, Esq., District Counsel  
Denise O' Leary, Court Stenographer  
John Doe #1  
Parents of John Doe #1  
Lindsey Hefferman, Esq., Counsel for John Doe #1  
Lisa Gigliotti, Social Service Advocate  
William Beando, Principal, Wachusett Regional High School  
Peter McMorrow, Assistant Principal, Wachusett Regional High School  
Jean Hill, Worcester Telegram & Gazette  
Sue Staudeher, Sterling Meetinghouse News

Chair Watson called the special meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 PM. Chair Watson asked School Committee members to introduce themselves for the record. Superintendent Pandiscio introduced himself and Chair Watson introduced District Counsel Leo McCabe.

Chair Watson asked Attorney McCabe to give direction to the School Committee on procedures that will be followed for these exclusionary hearings.

Attorney McCabe requested of Attorney Hefferman, on behalf of the family of John Doe #1, the intention of John Doe #1 to go into executive session or remain in public session. Attorney Hefferman requested a closed session.

Motion: To enter executive session pursuant to General Laws Chapter 39, Section 23B, to consider the disciplinary charges against an individual.

(J. Sova)  
(S. Hammond)

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Margaret Watson  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Thomas Ackerman  
Robert Carter  
Colleen Cipro  
Shirley Conrad  
Melinda Coyle  
Steven Hammond  
Robert Imber  
Mark James  
Julianne Kelley  
Duncan Leith  
Judith Newton  
Norman Plourde  
Michael Sherman  
Joseph Sova  
Kathleen Sweeney  
Marcie Zaharee

*Opposed:*

None

(Motion passed unanimously.)

Meeting adjourned to executive session at 7:07 PM.

Meeting returned to public session at 9:53 PM.

9:54 PM Member Kelley left the meeting.

9:55 PM Member Newton left the meeting.

Motion: To enter executive session pursuant to General Laws Chapter 39, Section 23B, to consider the disciplinary charges against an individual.

(T. Ackerman)  
(M. Sherman)

9:56 PM Member Leith recused himself and left the meeting.

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Margaret Watson  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Thomas Ackerman  
Robert Carter  
Colleen Cipro  
Shirley Conrad  
Melinda Coyle  
Steven Hammond  
Robert Imber  
Mark James  
Norman Plourde  
Michael Sherman  
Joseph Sova  
Kathleen Sweeney  
Marcie Zaharee

*Opposed:*

None

(Motion passed unanimously.)

Meeting adjourned to executive session at 9:56 PM.

Meeting returned to public session at 10:24 PM.

School Committee members were reminded minutes of executive session #1 and executive session #2, held on May 6, 2008, are confidential until released by vote of the School Committee.

Motion: That the Wachusett Regional District School Committee, acting pursuant to its authority under M.G.L. c. 76, §17, and based upon the Findings of Fact adopted by the Committee, vote to exclude the student, John Doe #2, from the Wachusett Regional High School, its advantages and privileges.

(R. Imber)

(J. Sova)

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Margaret Watson  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Thomas Ackerman  
Robert Carter  
Colleen Cipro  
Shirley Conrad  
Melinda Coyle  
Steven Hammond  
Robert Imber  
Mark James  
Norman Plourde

Michael Sherman

Joseph Sova

Kathleen Sweeney

Marcie Zaharee

*Opposed:*

None

(Motion passed unanimously.)

Motion: To adjourn.

(T. Ackerman)

(S. Conrad)

Roll call vote:

*In favor:*

Margaret Watson

Cynthia Bazinet

Thoams Ackerman

Robert Carter

Colleen Cipro

Shirley Conrad

Melinda Coyle

Steven Hammond

Robert Imber

Mark James

Norman Plourde

Michael Sherman

Joseph Sova

Kathleen Sweeney

Marcie Zaharee

*Opposed:*

None

(Motion passed unanimously.)

The meeting adjourned at 10:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

TGP:rlp