

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1050, Monday December 16, 2002
7:00 p.m.

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School

Committee Members Present:

John Rokicki, Chairman	Alice Livdahl
Duncan Leith, Vice-Chairman	Natalie Mello
Donald Benson	John Nunnari
David Fedeli	Julie Scott
Kimberly Ferguson	Margaret Watson
Jeffrey Gibbs (7:47 PM)	Patricia Young

Committee Members Absent:

Carol Esperti	Kelly Maxwell
Jane James	Tammy Tod
Peter MacDonald	

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*
Marc Sanguinetti, *Worcester Telegram & Gazette*
Maureen Floryan, Holden
Larry Floryan, Holden
David Gibbs, Sterling
Mark James, Holden

Chairman Rokicki called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

I. Public Hearing

Maureen Floryan, Holden, read a prepared statement (attachment 1).

II. Secretary's Report

- A. Approval of the 1049th Regular Meeting Minutes of the WRSD Committee held on November 25, 2002 – approved by consensus
- B. Approval of the Executive Session Minutes of the WRSD Committee held on November 25, 2002 – approved by consensus, to be released upon the completion of the matter of the executive session

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

- A. Presentation of Warrants and Payroll

The warrants were circulated for signature.

IV. Communications

V. Committee Reports at the Discretion of the Chair

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

No report.

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

1. Treasurer's Evaluation

Subcommittee Chair Natalie Mello reported that the Business/Finance Subcommittee met to evaluate the treasurer.

Motion: To accept the treasurer's evaluation, as presented (attachment 2)

(N. Mello)
(D. Leith)

Vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki
Duncan Leith
Donald Benson
David Fedeli
Kimberly Ferguson
Alice Livdahl
Natalie Mello
John Nunnari
Julie Scott
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Patricia Young

(Motion passed 10-0-1)

2. Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing an Individual Personnel Matter

Motion: To enter executive session, at the end of the meeting, not to return to public session, for the purpose of discussing an individual personnel matter

(N. Mello)

(D. Leith)

A friendly amendment was offered by Member Donald Benson and accepted by the maker of the motion, to add “and discussion of strategies related negotiations”

Roll call vote on the motion: To enter executive session, at the end of the meeting, not to return to public session, for the purpose of discussing an individual personnel matter and discussion of strategies related negotiations

In favor:

John Rokicki
Duncan Leith
Donald Benson

David Fedeli
Kimberly Ferguson
Alice Livdahl
Natalie Mello
John Nunnari
Julie Scott
Margaret Watson
Patricia Young

Opposed:
None

(Motion passed unanimously)

- C. Education Subcommittee (J. Scott, Chair, K. Ferguson, P. MacDonald, J. Nunnari, T. Tod, M. Watson, P. Young)

Subcommittee Chair Julie Scott reported that the Education Subcommittee met and brought forward the following recommendations:

1. Motion: To adopt the Revised Science Engineering/Technology Curriculum
(J. Scott)
(J. Nunnari)

Vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki
Duncan Leith
Donald Benson
David Fedeli
Kimberly Ferguson
Alice Livdahl
Natalie Mello
John Nunnari
Julie Scott
Margaret Watson
Patricia Young

Opposed:
None

(Motion passed unanimously)

2. Motion: To adopt AP6617 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services *Administration of Medication*** for the first reading, waiving the reading

(J. Scott)

(J. Nunnari)

Vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki
Duncan Leith
Donald Benson
David Fedeli
Kimberly Ferguson
Alice Livdahl
Natalie Mello
John Nunnari
Julie Scott
Margaret Watson
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

3. Motion: To adopt AP6910 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services *Student Records*** for the first reading, waiving the reading

(J. Scott)

(J. Nunnari)

Vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki
Duncan Leith
Donald Benson
David Fedeli
Kimberly Ferguson
Alice Livdahl
Natalie Mello
John Nunnari

Julie Scott
Margaret Watson
Patricia Young

Opposed:
None

(Motion passed unanimously)

4. Motion: To delete AP6911 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Access** for the first reading
(J. Scott)
(J. Nunnari)

Vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki
Duncan Leith
Donald Benson
David Fedeli
Kimberly Ferguson
Alice Livdahl
Natalie Mello
John Nunnari
Julie Scott
Margaret Watson
Patricia Young

Opposed:
None

(Motion passed unanimously)

D. School Building Committees

1. Holden – (J. Scott)

The Superintendent advised the Committee that he had corresponded with Holden Town Moderator George Balko to provide an itemized list of outstanding issues remaining on the project.

2. Paxton – No report.

3. Rutland

1. Central Tree/Naquag – (J. Rokicki)

No report.

2. New Elementary – (J. Rokicki)

The Superintendent advised the Committee that he has requested information regarding construction of a bridge from one site to another. He also commented, as previously reported, that the amount of the warrant article was incorrect by \$1 million. A change will be needed but the cost for the bridge should be included.

He also reported that attorneys are working on the possibility of Rutland only voting on the elementary school, utilizing an Intergovernmental Agreement. The selection of the architect has been delayed, due to the uncertainty of the use of an intergovernmental agreement.

4. Sterling – No report.

5. High School Architect Selection Committee

- a. Motion: To select from the three finalist the first choice of the High School Architect Selection Committee, Strekalovsky & Hoit, Inc., as the architectural and engineering design firm for the planning and schematic design, design development, construction documentation, bidding/negotiation, and construction administration of the high school renovation/addition project, subject to the approval by member towns of the incurring of debt for the high school long-term facility solution.

(D. Leith)

(N. Mello)

Member Duncan Leith reviewed the process of the High School Architect Selection Committee. Fifteen proposals were submitted, reviewed and narrowed to six. Tappe & Associates, one of the six semi-finalists, withdrew late on December 9, 2002. Interviews were conducted on December 10, 2002.

A member reported that a visit took place to Oxford High School, a project recently completed by Strekalovsky & Hoit. It was reported that it was a beautiful building.

The Superintendent reported that he had spoken with three other superintendents who have dealt with Strekalovsky & Hoit, Inc. all of whom were favorably impressed with the firm's work.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki
Duncan Leith
Donald Benson
Jeffrey Gibbs
David Fedeli
Kimberly Ferguson
Alice Livdahl
Natalie Mello
John Nunnari
Julie Scott
Margaret Watson
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

VI. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

In response to a question regarding the interest earned by the District and the use of the interest to offset the cost of the project, the Superintendent advised the Committee that a committee cannot vote for a committee in the future, but could advise.

Motion: That the Committee advise Wachusett Regional School District Committees of the future of this Committee's desire to have the interest earned on the project be used to offset the peak years of the project rather than other uses for the District.

(A. Livdahl)

(K. Ferguson)

Vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki
Duncan Leith
Donald Benson
Jeffrey Gibbs
David Fedeli
Kimberly Ferguson
Alice Livdahl
Natalie Mello
John Nunnari
Julie Scott
Margaret Watson
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

- B. Motion to reconsider the Motion: That contingent upon approval of bond counsel, without substantive changes, that the sum of \$18,600,000 is appropriated for the construction of a new K-5 school facility for the Town of Rutland to accommodate approximately 563 students on the existing Central Tree School facility site and for architectural, engineering and other costs related to the project, and that this appropriation be raised by incurring debt by the issuance of bonds and notes under Chapter 462 of the Acts of 1977, Section 16 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws, and Section 15 of the Amended Wachusett Regional School District Agreement, and to that end, the District

Treasurer, with the approval of the Regional District School Committee, be authorized to issue bonds or notes therefore; that pursuant to Section 15.3 of the Amended Wachusett Regional School District Agreement it is hereby determined that the approval of said debt by member towns shall be by vote taken at special town meetings with vote counts by printed yes/no ballots and to authorize the Superintendent to enter into and execute all contracts necessary or material to such work and to act or do anything relative thereto, and to adopt the following warrant article:

To see if the voters of the member towns of the Wachusett Regional School District will approve the borrowing of \$18,600,000 for the construction of a new K-5 school facility for the Town of Rutland to accommodate approximately 563 students on the existing Central Tree School facility site and for architectural, engineering and other costs related to the project, and that this appropriation be raised by incurring debt by the issuance of bonds and notes under Chapter 462 of the Acts of 1977, Section 16 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws, and Section 15 of the Amended Wachusett Regional School District Agreement, and to that end, the District Treasurer, with the approval of the Regional District School Committee, be authorized to issue bonds or notes therefore; that pursuant to Section 15.3 of the Amended Wachusett Regional School District Agreement it is hereby determined that the approval of said debt by member towns shall be by vote taken at special town meetings with vote counts by printed yes/no ballots and to authorize the Superintendent to enter into and execute all contracts necessary or material to such work and to act or do anything relative thereto

The Superintendent temporarily withdrew the request for reconsideration.

- C. Motion: To amend the FY03 Appropriation, to Transfer \$350,000 from *Salaries* to *Benefits & Insurance* (attachment 3)
(N. Mello)
(J. Scott)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki

Duncan Leith
Donald Benson
Jeffrey Gibbs
David Fedeli
Kimberly Ferguson
Alice Livdahl
Natalie Mello
John Nunnari
Julie Scott
Margaret Watson
Patricia Young

Opposed:

(Motion passed unanimously)

- D. Motion: To appropriate SBA funds in the amount of \$1,699,227 to the Town of Holden for reimbursement for the elementary school projects

(J. Scott)
(D. Leith)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki
Duncan Leith
Donald Benson
Jeffrey Gibbs
David Fedeli
Kimberly Ferguson
Alice Livdahl
Natalie Mello
John Nunnari
Julie Scott
Margaret Watson
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

- E. Motion: To adopt AP5241.12 **Policy Relating to Personnel Management *Criminal Record Check*** , for the first reading, waiving the reading

(A. Livdahl)
(D. Benson)

Vote:

In favor:

John Rokicki
Duncan Leith
Donald Benson
Jeffrey Gibbs
David Fedeli
Kimberly Ferguson
Alice Livdahl
Natalie Mello
John Nunnari
Julie Scott
Margaret Watson
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

- F. Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Strategies for Negotiations -- see above motion

VII. Public Hearing

No member of the public wished to speak.

VIII. Unfinished Business

IX. New Business

No new business

X. Adjournment

The Chairman declared a five minute recess before the executive session. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

ADT:ss/School Committee/Minutes