

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 McMorro, 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