



**QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Committee Minutes
Monday, April 27, 2015
Educational Support Center**

PRESENT

Chair	Mark Brophy	Member, Barre
Vice – Chair	Lee Wolanin	Member, Barre
	Debra Chamberlain	Member, Hubbardston
	David Deschamps	Member, Barre
	William Hansen	Member, Hubbardston
	Ned Kelly	Member, Hardwick
	Steven Labarre	Member, Oakham
	Ada Pease	Member, Oakham
	Marcelino Sarabia	Member, Hardwick
	Lori Siefert	Member, Hardwick
	Peggy Thompson	Member, New Braintree
	Mark Wigler	Member, Hubbardston

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Maureen Marshall	Superintendent of Schools
Cheryl Duval	Director of Administrative Services
Sheila Muir	Assistant Superintendent
District Administrators/Staff	

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. The Committee chose to move directly to unfinished business for the purpose of a budget vote for FY16.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
No minutes for approval
3. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**
 - a) Superintendent of Schools
 - No report was given
 - b) Assistant Superintendent
 - No report was given
 - c) Director of Administrative Services
 - No report was given
 - d) Teacher Advisory Council
 - No report was given
 - e) Student Advisory Council
 - No report was given
4. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - a) Administrative Review
 - No report was given.

- b) Audit
 - No report was given
- c) Barre Building
 - No report was given
- d) Budget
 - No report was given
- e) Central Office
 - No report was given
- f) Collective Bargaining
 - No report was given.
- g) Plant and facilities
 - No report was given.
- h) Policy & Review
 - No report was given.
- i) Special Education
 - No report was given.
- j) Technology
 - No report was given.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- FY16 Budget vote – Superintendent Marshall and Director Duval presented on the FY16 budget and a lengthy discussion ensued in regard to the preliminary budget, House Budget, and the cuts that have been made (see attached PowerPoint presentation). Budget figures and assessment figures for the district towns were discussed. Our preliminary budget showed an increase of 8.53% which represented an average increase of 27.16% in assessments to the towns. The District is aware that, as the figures stand now, these assessments will be very difficult for the district towns. Discussion ensued as to where cuts can be made without affecting the quality of education for our students. Cuts discussed included requested positions, technology cuts, with additional discussion of cutting the football program, middle school athletics, and an elementary school.

Motion made by Mr. Wigler and seconded by Mr. Labarre to adopt an FY16 budget in the amount of \$32,984,111 which includes \$16,330,943 in Chapter 70 Aid and \$331,623 in district revenues and reserves to offset member town assessments.

Due to conflicts of interests of some members of the School Committee, the Committee will vote on the following appropriation categories independently of the total budget appropriation:

Line 3510-3520 Athletics & Student Activities in the amount of \$539,782. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Deschamps – yes; Mr. Wolanin – yes; Mr. Kelly – yes; Mr. Sarabia – yes; Mrs. Siefert – yes; Mrs. Chamberlain – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Mr. Wigler – yes; Mrs. Thompson – abstain; Mr. Labarre – yes; Mrs. Pease – yes; Mr. Brophy – yes

The motion passed by a weighted vote of 11.31.

Line 1450-2250 Technology in the amount of \$629,315. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Deschamps – abstain; Mr. Wolanin – yes; Mr. Kelly – yes; Mr. Sarabia – yes; Mrs. Siefert – yes; Mrs. Chamberlain – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Mr. Wigler – yes; Mrs. Thompson – yes; Mr. Labarre – yes; Mrs. Pease – yes; Mr. Brophy – yes

The motion passed by a weighted vote of 11.35.

The subcategories of the budget were approved by the remaining School Committee members; therefore, the conflict of interest statute allows all members to take action on the budget total of \$32,984,111. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Deschamps – abstain; Mr. Wolanin – yes; Mr. Kelly – yes; Mr. Sarabia – yes; Mrs. Siefert – yes; Mrs. Chamberlain – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Mr. Wigler – yes; Mrs. Thompson – no; Mr. Labarre – yes; Mrs. Pease – yes; Mr. Brophy – yes

The motion passed by a weighted vote of 11.31

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Nekr Jenkins of the YMCA thanked the Committee and the District for allowing their program to take place at RLS. She is disappointed that the program has been cut at RLS. Jennifer McMenemy, RLS parent, stated that she is very disappointed that the after school Y program is being cut at RLS. Discussion ensued that there will still be a program, but it will not be run through the YMCA.

7. SCHOOL COMMITTEE CONCERNS

- Mr. Wolanin commented that the Washington D.C. trip was great and he will have pictures to share at the May meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion – Telegram and Gazette Article of April 11, 2015 in regard to Local Population Future with data compiled by the UMass Donahue Institute. Discussion was tabled until NESDEC returns with the Demographic Study Presentation scheduled for May 12, 2015. Selectboards, Budget & Finance committees will be invited to attend.
- FLLAC vote regarding Wachusett Regional School District – WRSD has requested withdrawal from the FLLAC Educational Collaborative. As such, all schools within the Collaborative have to vote to approve the withdrawal.
Motion made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Labarre to approve the withdrawal of the Wachusett Regional School District from the FLLAC Educational Collaborative.
The motion passed unanimously.

9. REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Sarabia and seconded by Mrs. Siefert to adjourn.
The motion passed unanimously.
The meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Bennett, Executive Secretary