

**Wentworth School Board
Wentworth, NH
October 22, 2007
Minutes**

Board Members Present (Wentworth): Lee Morrison, Kathleen Mack

Administration Present (Wentworth): Keith Charpentier, Ethel Gaides

Public Present: Palmer Koelb, Deborah Koelb, Erin DeCotis, Phoebe Sanborn, Ellie, Donna H.

The Wentworth School Board meeting began at 5:30 PM. Mr. Morrison motioned, seconded by Mrs. Mack to go into non-public for the purpose of School Board interviews and personnel. At 6:05 PM, it was moved by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Mrs. Mack, to re-enter public session. No action was taken as a result of the non-public session.

Agenda Review and Disposition – Addition of discussion regarding petition for Special School District Meeting correspondence.

Discussion - A response was given to the Selectmen regarding a petition for a special school district meeting. The school board states that it refused to call the meeting. The following reasons were given:

1. The school district meeting has no statutory authority to establish the date for the annual school district meeting. RSA 197:5 gives the school board the authority to decide when the annual meeting will be held, subject to the other statutory requirements for the date of the meeting.
2. A vote by the special meeting to require that the school district meeting be held on the same date as the town meeting would have no legal effect.
3. Undertaking the expense of calling a special school district meeting for a vote that will have no legal effect would not be a wise expenditure of school district funds.

Mr. Palmer Koelb asked that the refusal to call the meeting be put in writing by the school board chair. Mr. Morrison said that it would be available to Mr. Koelb on October 23rd.

Minutes of September 10, 2007 – Mrs. Mack motioned, seconded by Mr. Morrison to accept the minutes of September 10, 2007.

Principal's Report – Mr. Charpentier updated the school board and public on the student council, fall sports season, Billings Farm field trip, and fall testing of the NECAP. The seventh and eighth graders will be on their overnight (Appalachian Trail) field trip. The students and staff are involved in a school wide service learning project to collect 250 cans of non-perishable food items to be donated to the Warren/Wentworth food bank. To date, they have collected 197 items.

The Open House on October was well attended. The school is using some of their title grant money (\$5,500.00) to purchase a music instrument library. Also, the after school homework club began on October 9th and it is funded by a \$3,850.00 grant.

On a motion by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Mrs. Mack, the Board voted to approve the principal's report.

Correspondence – The tax rate analysis memo from Mr. Halloran was distributed to the school board. It was noted by Mrs. Gaides that the School tax rate in 2006 was \$10.84. In 2007 it was \$7.40. The school portion of the taxes decreased 31.7% in 2007. The school portion of the taxes had the greatest decrease within the town.

Discussion Items—The Career and Art Curriculum Guides were tabled until the November 19th meeting. There were no requests of the school board pertaining to Mr. Henderson's memo. The Warren-Wentworth Collaborative agreement was distributed by Mr. Charpentier. The student council will provide a monthly report to the school board.

Recognition and Awards – Mr. Charpentier recognized the following:

- To Helen Ray and Charlene Weeks for their extra help during NECAP testing by providing breakfast to the whole school.
- To both sports teams and their coaches as it was an outstanding fall season.
- To the Wentworth Police Department, local Boy Scouts Organization and to CADY for coming out to support the school and community during Open House.
- To Bruce Parsons and Mark Halloran for allowing WES to use some of their musical instruments for the band program.
- To the Friends of the Arts Program for the wonderful program "Fairy Houses" and for the funding.
- To Fat Bob's Ice Cream for giving the whole school a great treat.

Mrs. Sanborn thanked the school board for the phone system, doors and windows, and door locks to provide a safe environment for the students and staff at the school.

Privilege of the Floor – none

Consent Items-Claims and Payroll were reviewed and signed by the school board.

Nonpublic Session --

At 6:35 PM, it was moved by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Mrs. Mack to enter non public session to discuss personnel.

At 7:35 PM, it was moved by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Mrs. Mack, to re-enter public session. On behalf of the school board, Mrs. Gaides will write a letter to the Warren School Board regarding the mutual agreement. A letter will also be written regarding

parent request. Mrs. Gaides updated the school board on the 23.7% increase in medical insurance for the 2008-2009 school year.

At 7:40 PM, it was moved by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Mrs. Mack to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Morrison