

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN □ PAXTON □ PRINCETON □ RUTLAND □ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1339

Monday, March 9, 2020

7:00 PM

Media Center

Wachusett Regional High School

1401 Main Street, Holden

Wachusett Regional School District Committee

Kenneth Mills, Chair	Laura Kirshenbaum
Christina Smith, Vice-chair	Matthew Lavoie
Melissa Ayala	Linda Long-Bellil
Scott Brown	Amy Michalowski
Michael Dennis (7:11 PM)	Asima Silva
Maleah Gustafson	Megan Weeks
Sherri Haber	Linda Woodland
Jeffrey Haynes	

Committee Members Absent:

Stephen Godbout	Benjamin Mitchel
Robert Imber	Adam Young
Sarah LaMountain	

Committee Members Participating Remotely:

Karl Ottmar

Administration Present:

Darryll McCall, Superintendent of Schools
Robert Berlo, Deputy Superintendent
Daniel Deedy, Director of Business and Finance
Jeff Carlson, Director of Human Resources
Brendan Keenan, Director of Social Emotional Learning
Christine Smith, Administrator of Special Education
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

Student Representatives Present:

Rianna Massoni-Nesman	Leah Michalowski
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Others present, who desired to be recorded as present (see attached Attendance Sheet – attachment 1).

Chair Mills called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM. He announced the meeting was being broadcast live on Channel 194 and is also streaming on Holden TV.

I. Public Hearing

No members of the public wished to address the School Committee

II. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Mills began the meeting acknowledging the efforts of WRSD staff with regard to COVID-19 and the fast changing information being received and plans being considered.

Chair Mills announced Anthony DiFonso had resigned from the School Committee, leaving the town of Rutland with a vacant seat.

7:11 PM Member Dennis joined the meeting.

Chair Mills reminded members that in order for the School Committee to approve the FY21 Proposed Appropriation, a 2/3rds vote of the full Committee membership (22 seats on the WRSDC) is required (15 votes in favor).

Chair Mills announced Member Ottmar is participating remotely, and that due to this remote participation, all votes will be by roll call.

III. Student Representatives' Reports

Student Representatives Massoni-Nesman and Michalowski reported on many activities taking place/that took place at the high school, and they also shared updates from the Middle School Student Councils (attachment 2). Student Representative Massoni-Nesman additionally reported that four students asked that she report on missing locks and partitions in some of the boys' rooms at the high school.

With no objection from members, Chair Mills reported the meeting agenda would be amended and Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee (vote on the FY21 Proposed Appropriation) would be the next matter addressed by the Committee.

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

Motion: To approve the *FY21 Appropriation* in the amount of \$102,215,384. and assessments to the Member Towns of:

Holden:	\$31,693,769.
Paxton:	\$ 6,853,126.
Princeton:	\$ 5,190,694.
Rutland:	\$13,221,118.
Sterling:	<u>\$12,103,845.</u>

\$69,062,552.

(M. Weeks)
(C. Smith)

Chair Mills turned the meeting over to Superintendent McCall, who reported on his meetings with Member Town officials about the proposed budget, explaining the meetings were cordial, and expressing his appreciation to the towns for the opportunity for District administration to meet with and review/discuss the proposed budget before action by the School Committee. The floor was opened to members to ask their questions, express their concerns, and offer their suggestions.

At Member Long-Belli's inquiry, Director Deedy approached the podium to speak about the savings as a result of the FY21 health insurance increase being decreased by a percentage point. Superintendent McCall spoke about the proposed use of the approximately \$96,000 in savings, an amount that could be shifted to the Instructional Support line. Member Lavoie inquired if Superintendent McCall had considered any other use of this savings, adding a teaching position for example. Superintendent McCall reported he and Central Office administrators had looked at an online learning system, in light of the COVID-19 situation and the possible option of remote learning. Superintendent McCall also reported the approximate \$96,000 could go towards that, though he stressed there is nothing definitive at this time, and there is no immediate timeline for implementation of any sort of online/remote learning option.

Member Lavoie reported he does not feel comfortable about not using the health insurance decrease savings to reduce assessments to the Member Towns, something voiced by the towns at Superintendent McCall's meetings with town officials.

Chair Mills took the opportunity to read aloud what Member Town assessments would be if the FY21 proposed budget was reduced by \$100,000, to \$102,115,384:

Holden:	\$31,646,147
Paxton:	\$ 6,843,901
Princeton:	\$ 5,184,582
Rutland:	\$13,198,428
Sterling:	<u>\$12,089,494</u>
	\$68,962,552

Member Weeks had additional questions about online learning, which Superintendent McCall explained the District had only started initial investigation/research into this option.

Member Michalowski asked if E&D (Excess & Deficiency) funds could be used for an emergency initiative (online learning due to COVID-19). Superintendent McCall

and Director Deedy, from the podium, spoke about use of E&D and how/when these funds can be used.

7:37 PM the Student Representatives left the meeting.

Additional discussion about use of E&D funds took place.

Deputy Superintendent Berlo approached the podium to speak about use of the approximate savings of \$96,000, stating these funds could be used for textbooks, curriculum, other curriculum-related materials.

At Member Michalowski's inquiry, Superintendent McCall explained the savings realized from the lower health insurance increase could be used towards a learning management system, but there would be flexibility to use these funds towards textbooks.

Chair Mills reminded members the motion/vote on the floor and on the meeting agenda is on the proposed FY21 Appropriation of \$102,215,384.

More discussion took place about the use of the \$96,000 savings.

Member Dennis, Chair of the Business/Finance Subcommittee, spoke about use of E&D, and stated, on behalf of the Business/Finance Subcommittee, that ending the fiscal year in deficit would not be advisable. He further stated that a \$100,000 reduction to the proposed budget would not have a significant impact on Member Town assessments. He also noted that there are budget priorities that are not included in the budget proposal, but this is the first time the School Committee has heard about District administration investigating online learning options.

Member Lavoie again mentioned Member Town requests for lowering town assessments, and he does not feel District administration has taken those requests into consideration.

Motion: To amend the motion on the floor, to approve the *FY21 Appropriation* in the amount of \$102,115,384. and assessments to the Member Towns of:

Holden:	\$31,646,147
Paxton:	\$ 6,843,901
Princeton:	\$ 5,184,582
Rutland:	\$13,198,428
Sterling:	<u>\$12,089,494</u>
	\$68,962,552

(J. Haynes)
(L. Long-Bellil)

Member Haynes spoke to the motion to amend and the reducing of assessments to the Member Towns.

Chair Mills re-read the motion to amend, and explained a simple majority is needed to pass the motion to amend. Chair Mills then opened the floor to discussion about the amendment to the motion, with most members participating in the discussion. Chair Mills explained that, process-wise, the savings from the percentage increase to health insurance being reduced by 1% would move the \$96,000 to an appropriation line, which can be moved if necessary, by vote of the School Committee.

Discussion about the proposal to amend the FY21 budget proposal continued. Member Michalowski asked if a \$100,000 reduction to the proposed budget would be sufficient to appease the Member Towns, to which Superintendent McCall responded a larger reduction might be more palatable to the towns, but even a slight reduction in assessments is beneficial to the towns. Per Superintendent McCall, a \$100,000 reduction to the FY21 appropriation shows good faith by the District and the School Committee.

Roll call vote on motion to amend:

In favor:

Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Michael Dennis
Sherrie Haber
Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long-Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva
Megan Weeks

Opposed:

Christina Smith
Maleah Gustafson
Linda Woodland

Abstained:

Kenneth Mills

The motion to amend passes 12-3-1.

Chair Mills read aloud the motion on the floor.

Motion: To approve the *FY21 Appropriation* in the amount of \$102,115,384. and assessments to the Member Towns of:

Holden:	\$31,646,147
Paxton:	\$ 6,843,901
Princeton:	\$ 5,184,582
Rutland:	\$13,198,428

Sterling: \$12,089,494
 \$68,962,552

(J. Haynes)
(L. Long-Bellil)

Chair Mills opened the floor to discussion about the amended FY21 proposed appropriation. No additional comments were made.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Michael Dennis
Maleah Gustafson
Sherrie Haber
Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long-Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva
Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:

None

The motion was unanimously approved.

By the Committee voting to approve the FY21 budget proposal, Chair Mills announced the School Committee meeting posted for March 10, 2020 will not be necessary and the meeting will be cancelled.

Motion: To affirm accuracy of Policy 6613.2 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Athletic Head Injury and Concussion Policy**

(M. Weeks)
(L. Long-Bellil)

Superintendent McCall explained the annual requirement of the Department of Public Health for the School Committee to vote to affirm that Policy 6613.2 is an accurate reflection of this district's concussion policy.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills

Christina Smith
Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Michael Dennis
Maleah Gustafson
Sherrie Haber
Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long-Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva
Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:
None

The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Discussion of Report

Superintendent McCall thanked the Committee for supporting the FY21 budget proposal. He reported the addition of seven new positions in the proposed budget is greater than any staff additions in recent years.

Superintendent McCall spoke briefly about the seven year Staffing Plan that was shared with members with his Report.

Superintendent McCall gave an update and an overview of the status of addressing the COVID-19 situation, including the webinars he had participated in, conference calls with superintendents across the state, meetings he has had with police and fire officials, principals, and executive staff. He reported he will be meeting with Member Town Administrators and representatives from the towns' Boards of Health on March 10, 2020. Superintendent McCall's opinion is that the state Department of Public Health and the CDC have been somewhat helpful, and any support and direction is appreciated. He spoke about contingency plans moving forward in the event schools are closed due to the Coronavirus. Superintendent McCall reported the March 18th Special Olympics event has been postponed and an overseas trip for high school students has been cancelled. He reported student and staff absenteeism trends are being tracked. Vice-chair Smith thanked Superintendent McCall for the materials and information about COVID-19 that he and District administrators have pulled together and are sharing with parents, students, staff, and the School Committee. Member Weeks mentioned the importance of administration and principals being on the same page when sharing information about COVID-19.

8:28 PM Member Kirshenbaum left the table.

Discussion about upcoming events and programs ensued, with members asking the Superintendent his plans and what criteria might be used when considering cancelling gatherings that are already scheduled. Superintendent McCall explained all of this is fluid and he and District administration are continuing to work on the details, stating decisions made may be hour by hour. Superintendent McCall assured the Committee he will keep members informed and apprised as decisions are made and details are finalized.

Member Silva asked about student absences, which Superintendent McCall replied recording absences during this time can be recorded as excused absences.

8:33 PM Member Kirshenbaum returned to the table.

Discussion of the possibility of an extended school closure continued, with Chair Mills commenting that the District must be mindful of students who receive Free & Reduced lunch during the school year, as well as support for Special Education students.

Member Michalowski asked about the school day that Mountview Middle School will be required to make up due to the November 1, 2019 no school day for Mountview because of weather and power outage. Superintendent McCall explained that using a planned day of Professional Development Day to make up this required school day for Mountview Middle School is not an option due to the need to have professional development offered to staff equally and equitably across the District.

Going back to COVID-19, Member Ottmar encouraged District administration to be proactive and to plan ahead for possible school closure, using the example of events planned to take place in the schools/District in April and planning how to address such if schools are not in session for an extended period of time.

V. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the Committee.

VI. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on February 10, 2020

Motion: To approve the minutes of the executive session of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on February 10, 2020, not to be released.

(S. Haber)
(J. Haynes)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Michael Dennis
Maleah Gustafson
Sherri Haber
Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva
Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:

None

The minutes were unanimously approved.

- B. Approval of the Annual Budget Hearing Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on February 10, 2020

Motion: To approve the minutes of the Annual Budget Hearing of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on February 10, 2020.

(S. Brown)

(L. Long-Bellil)

Roll call vote:

Approved:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Michael Dennis
Maleah Gustafson
Sherri Haber
Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva

Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:
None

The minutes were unanimously approved.

- C. Approval of #1338 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on February 10, 2020

Motion: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on February 10, 2020.

(S. Brown)
(L. Long-Bellil)

Roll call vote:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Michael Dennis
Maleah Gustafson
Sherri Haber
Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva
Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:
None

The minutes were unanimously approved.

- D. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on September 23, 2019, not to be released.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the executive session of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on September 23, 2019, not to be released.

(S. Brown)
(L. Long-Bellil)

Roll call vote:

Christina Smith
Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Michael Dennis
Maleah Gustafson
Sherri Haber
Laura Kirshenbaum
Matthew Lavoie
Linda Long Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva
Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Kenneth Mills
Jeffrey Haynes

The minutes were approved 14-0-2.

VII. Treasurer's Report/Financial Statements

Chair Mills reminded the Committee that if there were questions regarding the Director of Business and Finance's report that Members should contact the Superintendent; if there were questions regarding the Treasurer's Report, Members should contact the Business/Finance Subcommittee Chair.

VIII. Committee Reports

- A. Management Subcommittee (K. Mills, Chair, C. Smith, Vice-chair, S. Brown, M. Dennis, R. Imber, M. Lavoie, A. Young)

Chair Mills reported this subcommittee will meet on March 10, 2020, and stakeholder input and use of Student Opportunity Act funds are on the meeting agenda.

- B. Education Subcommittee (R. Imber, Chair, C. Smith, Vice-chair, M. Ayala, S. Haber, L. Kirshenbaum, L. Long-Bellil, A. Silva)

8:45 PM Member Dennis left the meeting.

Subcommittee Vice-chair Smith reported this subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting. With no objection from members, second readings on

draft policies and polices to be deleted were taken out of order from what was listed on the agenda.

8:47 PM Member Lavoie left the meeting.

Motion: To approve the second reading of Draft Policy 3625 *Policy Relating to Education Teaching about Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drugs*, waiving the reading.

(S. Brown)

(C. Smith)

Roll call vote:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Maleah Gustafson
Sherri Haber
Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Linda Long Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva
Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:

None

The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion: To approve the second reading of Draft Policy 5241.41 *Policy Relating to Personnel Management Drug-free Workplace Policy*, waiving the reading.

(C. Smith)

(L. Long-Bellil)

Roll call vote:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Maleah Gustafson
Sherri Haber
Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Linda Long Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar

Asima Silva
Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:
None

The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion: To approve the second reading of 6431.1 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Tobacco Products on School Premises Prohibited**, waiving the reading.
(C. Smith)
(S. Brown)

Roll call vote:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Maleah Gustafson
Sherri Haber
Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Linda Long Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva
Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:
None

The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion: To approve the second reading of 6433.1 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drug Use by Students Prohibited**, waiving the reading.

(C. Smith)
(L. Long-Bellil)

Roll call vote:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Maleah Gustafson
Sherri Haber

Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Linda Long Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva
Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:
None

The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion: To approve the second reading of Deleted Policy 5241.4 **Policy Relating to Personnel Management Substance Abuse**, waiving the reading.

(S. Brown)
(C. Smith)

Roll call vote:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Maleah Gustafson
Sherri Haber
Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Linda Long Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva
Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:
None

The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion: To approve the second reading of Deleted Policy 5241.5 **Policy Relating to Personnel Management Smoking in District Facilities**, waiving the reading.

(C. Smith)
(M. Weeks)

Roll call vote:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith

Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Maleah Gustafson
Sherri Haber
Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Linda Long Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva
Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:

None

The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion: To approve the second reading of Deleted Policy 6433 *Policy Relating to Pupil Services Substance Abuse*, waiving the reading.

(C. Smith)
(L. Kirshenbaum)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Maleah Gustafson
Sherri Haber
Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Linda Long Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva
Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:

None

The motion was unanimously approved.

- C. Business/Finance Subcommittee (M. Dennis, Chair, B. Mitchel, Vice-chair, M. Gustafson, L. Long-Bellil, K. Ottmar)

Business/Finance Subcommittee Member Gustafson reported on the March 2, 2020 meeting of the subcommittee.

8:52 PM Member Ayala left the table.

Director Deedy approached the podium to answer questions and to add to the report about the March 2, 2020 meeting. Director Deedy reported the proposed increases to school use fees was again discussed at the subcommittee level, with anticipated implementation effective July 1, 2020. Director Deedy also reported he plans to bring before the full School Committee for approval in June the creation of new accounts, as discussed at Business/Finance Subcommittee meetings.

- D. Legal Affairs Subcommittee (S. Brown, Chair, M. Lavoie, Vice-chair, R. Imber, A. Michalowski)

Subcommittee Chair Brown reported union negotiations are underway.

- E. Superintendent Goals and Evaluation Subcommittee (M. Lavoie, Chair, A. Michalowski, Vice-chair, K. Mills, M. Weeks)

Subcommittee Vice-chair Michalowski reported this subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

- F. Facilities and Security Subcommittee (A. Young, Chair, L. Woodland, Vice-chair, S. Godbout)

Subcommittee Vice-chair Woodland reported this subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting. Member Brown did ask about the condition of boys' restrooms at the high school, and Member Kirshenbaum expanded the question to include the condition of restrooms at other schools in the District. Superintendent McCall assured members he and school administration would be looking into the conditions of restrooms in the schools across the District.

8:56 PM Member Ayala returned to the table.

- G. Audit Advisory Board (B. Mitchel, Chair)

The AAB has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

- H. Ad Hoc Subcommittees

- 1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Negotiate the Superintendent's Contract (K. Mills, Chair, M. Weeks, Vice-chair, S. Brown, M. Dennis, M. Lavoie)

Ad Hoc Subcommittee Chair Mills reported this subcommittee will meet on March 10, 2020

- I. Building Committees

J. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School (S. Haber), Chocksett Middle School (L. Woodland), Davis Hill Elementary School (K. Mills), Dawson Elementary School (L. Kirshenbaum), Glenwood Elementary School, Houghton Elementary School (M. Ayala), Mayo Elementary School (A. Young), Mountview Middle School (S. Brown), Naquag Elementary School (M. Lavoie), Paxton Center School (K. Ottmar), Thomas Prince School (A. Silva), Wachusett Regional High School (L.

Member Gustafson –Special Education Parent Advisory Council

Member Woodland – Early Childhood Center SIMCO to meet on March 10, 2020

Member Woodland – Chocksett Middle School

Member Ayala – Houghton Elementary School

Member Long-Bellil – Wachusett Regional High School

Member Kirshenbaum – Dawson Elementary School

Member Haber – Central Tree Middle School

IX. Public Hearing

No members of the public wished to address the School Committee.

X. New Business

Member Gustafson asked the status of a presentation to the School Committee on the District's Early Literacy program, a presentation suggested at an earlier School Committee meeting. Superintendent McCall will include a presentation about Early Literacy at a future School Committee meeting.

XI. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(S. Brown)
(L. Long-Bellil)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Kenneth Mills
Christina Smith
Melissa Ayala
Scott Brown
Maleah Gustafson
Sherri Haber

Jeffrey Haynes
Laura Kirshenbaum
Linda Long Bellil
Amy Michalowski
Karl Ottmar
Asima Silva
Megan Weeks
Linda Woodland

Opposed:
None

The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DM:rlp

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 – Sign-in sheets
- Attachment 2 – Report by Student Representatives

3/9/20 Topics

- CHOCKSETT MIDDLE SCHOOL
 - The Chocksett Middle School Drama Club will be performing "The Wizard of Oz" at 7:00 PM on March 20 & 21 and 2:00 PM on March 22, in the Chocksett Theatre. There are four teachers and 78 students involved with the production, which includes members of the cast and stage crew. They expect all three of their shows will sell out again this year, so if you want tickets contact Mrs. Melanson in the main office.

- PAXTON CENTER SCHOOL (Upcoming events in the next few months:)
 - Talent Show 4/2020
 - 3rd Annual Pennies for Patients Fundraiser 3/2020
 - Friday Fundraisers (not every Friday) such as Hat Days to raise funds for different charities
 - District Attorney's Wellness Summit 5/2020
 - Need a BOOST Board. Full of positive quotes that students can take and put in lockers
 - Last year's graduating classes board of pictures
 - Wacky socks for Down Syndrome Day 4/21/2020
 - Positive quote boards throughout the school.....In the process

- MOUNTVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL
 - Mountview was selected as one of 15 middle schools in Massachusetts to participate in a series of student workshops sponsored by Project 351 and the Boston Celtics called "The Playbook Initiative." The aim of the program "inspires a dialogue on race, religion, gender, disability and sexual orientation and ultimately equips kids with the tools to intervene in challenging social situations."
 - A group of 27 Mountview students traveled to the Hanover Insurance Company on Wednesday, February 26th, to team up with a group of middle school students from Burncoat Middle School in Worcester. Students from both schools participated in a workshop on that date. A second workshop is scheduled at Mountview Middle School on March 20th and a culminating event is scheduled for Saturday, March 28th, in Boston with the specific location to be determined.
 - Boston Celtics players and coaching staff will be present to recognize students and participate in team-building activities with Mountview students and the other 14 schools chosen to participate in the initiative.

- **CENTRAL TREE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- January 29, 2020 - District Art Show at Central Office, and two CTMS students had artwork displayed
- January 30, 2020 Jeffrey Benson, author of Teaching the Whole Teen, was in to present to our staff during the professional development half-day. Staff enjoyed and have implemented some new strategies in their classrooms.
- January 31, 2020 - school wide Geo Bee
- February 12, 2020, four 8th grade students went to Naquag Elementary School and made a presentation about President's Day.
- February 12 & 13, 2020 the Crocodile River Music Group brought African music and art to CTMS. The 6th and 7th graders did dance workshops while the 8th grade participated in drumming workshops. Great time had by all.
- Friday 2/28/2020, Sheriff Lew Evangelidis was at Central Tree Middle School to present his Face2Face program to the 6th, 7th and 8th grade. Great messages regarding choices, consequences and the effects of drugs, alcohol and more.

- **WACHUSETT**

- The Varsity Math Team crushed the competition last week, coming in 1st place in their last meet of the year! High scorers for the meet included juniors Miles Mathieu and Gwyneth MacDonough, senior Gabe Baum, and sophomore Oliver Hoang. This win means that the Varsity Math Team has become Division B Champions and will be moving up to Division A next year!
- On February 28th, delegates from Wachusett attended the Northeastern Model United Nations conference. In total, Wachusett delegates passed five separate resolutions. Also notably, four pairs of delegates won awards in their committees. Benjamin Butler and Aiden Havens won the award for Best Position Paper. Joshua Judge and Olivia Kephart won Best Negotiators, Sean Kelleher and Benjamin Dziewit both won awards for Best Public Speaker. Finally -- Rianna Massoni and Mason Rainford won the award for Best Delegate.
- On March 1st, Wachusett's MocMUN advanced to the Mock Trial regional competition, marking only the second time in Wachusett's Mock Trial history! For the first time, out of over 120 teams, Wachusett's MocMUN made it to the Sweet Sixteen exhibition round and placed within the top 10% of schools in the state! In addition to the team's record-breaking achievement, Ava Jaslowich, Sofija Juodatis, Ben Dziewietin, Rianna Massoni, and Mason Rainford received practically-impossible PERFECT scores for their individual roles
- The Ice Hockey team won the District title for the second year in a row, but fell short of states, losing 3-2 in the state semifinals
- Upcoming volleyball tournament on March 12 (the half-day) and hypnotist show on March 13th
- We are hosting the SAT's this Saturday the 14th
- Many spring sports are starting up and have their tryouts this upcoming week starting on the 13th or 16th