

KING PHILIP REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES
June 20, 2016
King Philip Regional High School Library

CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Martin called the meeting to order at 7PM.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Members Present:	Norfolk:	Noelle Tonelli, Jeff Chalmers, Michael Gee*
	Plainville:	Ann-marie Martin, Patrick Francomano
	Wrentham:	Lynn Desrochers

*Mr. Gee participated remotely as allowed by Policy BEDL

Members Absent:	Norfolk:	None
	Wrentham:	Jim Killion, Danielle Schmitz
	Plainville:	Charlene McEntee
HS Student Council Representative:		Eliza Sheehan

The meeting is being videotaped by Wrentham Cable Access. Mrs. Martin explained that the public may visit the district's website at www.kingphilip.org to review informational documents pertaining to each school committee meeting. Videotaped meetings may be viewed in their entirety at www.wrenthamcableaccess.com Mrs. Martin also explained the procedure for public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed with an asterisk () are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion if action is required. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the committee so request, in which event the item will be considered in its normal sequence:*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Tonelli, to approve the Minutes of June 6, 2016. All in favor by roll call vote, with Mr. Chalmers abstaining. Yes (5); No (0); Abstain (1).

PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers

COMMUNICATION:

Appointments, Retirements, Resignations, etc.
Murphy, Hesse: Municipal Law Alert, June 2016
MASC Legal Alert dated June 15, 2016

AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Tonelli, to approve and retain the Executive Session Minutes of June 6, 2016. All in favor by roll call vote, with Mr. Chalmers abstaining. Yes (5); No (0); Abstain (1).

DELEGATIONS AND VISITORS

Dr. Gilson, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Christie, Mr. Wolloff

Unfinished Business (taken out of order):

1. Independent Music Program:

Dr. Zielinski presented a memorandum dated June 17, 2016 to the School Committee recapping the previous discussions related to the purpose and value of private music lessons and that the District received a legal opinion from DESE indicating that any curriculum requirement that is associated with a student's ability to earn credit for a class should be at the expense of the school district. Dr. Zielinski is recommending using \$50,000 from the current budget for funding to provide music lessons to the students who are seeking honors credit. She also recommends the process for this allotment of \$50,000 would be to advise the committee to contract with KPMA who would become the District's vendor of private/semi private music lessons at a limited number of lessons offered to each student at 10 lessons per semester. Students and parents could then decide if they wanted to contract with KPMA for additional lessons. The KPMA would invoice the District up to the allotted amount in the budget.

Discussion ensued on the budget and the monetary assessment for the three towns.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Gee, seconded by Mr. Francomano, to amend the proposed language to the changes to the Program of Studies as a result of the DESE ruling: Students will be required to perform in a chamber program twice a year, prepare one term paper, attend at least one professional performance on the student's main instrument. Students will take a minimum of 10-14 music lessons per semester, as determined by the principal which are provided at the district's expense. Students may take additional lessons at their own expense. This course is intended for those students who are dedicated to becoming outstanding musicians. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (6); No (0).**

2016 Graduation Recap - Mr. Lewis and Mr. Christie:

Mr. Christie distributed copies of the revised graduation program. Mr. Lewis indicated that graduation was a success and there was a lot of positive feedback and a beautiful evening. There was an issue with the graduation program which the HS administration addressed during the ceremony; the revised programs were mailed to families. The lightbulbs that overheated were dealt with as quickly as possible while ensuring the safety of the graduates. The slides were beautiful and well received. There was a nice moment as the senior class recognized classmates lost during their years at King Philip.

Dr. Zielinski explained that the lightbulb issue was addressed by the President of Stonehill who called Dr. Mobley on Monday and apologized stating that in 17 years this has never happened. Next year, graduation will be held on a Sunday afternoon. Several logistic issues will be better handled next year. Dr. Zielinski gave kudos on the projections to Mrs. Greenleaf and her students. KP graduate Andrew McManus was instrumental in the success of the evening. Congratulations to the administrative team as well. It was noted that students have decided on green and gold robes for next year.

The school committee thanked the administration for a job well done.

New Business: (taken out of order):

2016/2017 HS Handbook – Mr. Lewis and Mr. Christie:

Addition: Statement addressing graduation and the robes to be worn by students at graduation.

Mr. Francomano asked if it could be required to purchase a cap and gown. Mr. Christie indicated that this was handled under FAPE (Free and Appropriate Education) through discussions of school council. Mr. Spencer referred to graduation being a ceremony not covered under FAPE, while classes would be. Discussion followed. Mr. Spencer will provide the 2012 DESE recommendation to move to a single color robe. Mr. Francomano would like to see a copy of this decision.

This discussion was tabled pending further information and Mrs. Tonelli asked that this be brought out to the community.

The review of the HS handbook continued including physical restraint of students, student activities and athletic code behavior.

Dr. Zielinski indicated that there is a new opiate law, which members have received an alert on in their information packet from MASC. The policy subcommittee will need to review this and a new policy will be in the student handbook so that when parents sign for it, it will be there.

Discussion ensued on the deletion of the current student activities and athletic code of behavior. Mr. Chalmers expressed concern that the changes could lead to guilt by association. The current KP policy has protections in place for due process. The Committee asked that the changes be presented side by side with the current wording to be sure the policy is fair to all students. This will be further discussed at the next reading.

MS Student/Parent Handbook:

Dr. Gilson presented minor wording changes to the attendance and tardy policy with the input of Detective Palladini, the school resource officer.

Mr. Francomano inquired about the evaluative process for the school resource officer position. Dr. Gilson indicated that Dr. Mobley has been collecting that data. Mr. Francomano indicated that this information would be helpful at budget time in trying to support certain aspects of the budget.

Mr. Schaefer expressed concerns of penalizing the student who is tardy due to circumstances beyond his/her control. Discussion ensued on tardiness with Dr. Gilson indicating that the administration examines habitual tardiness on a case by case basis.

✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Tonelli, to waive the 2nd reading of the 2016/2017 Middle School Handbook, and approve it as presented, with the addition of the new physical restraint policy. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (6): No (0).**

COMMUNICATION:

KP In the News

MASC: End of Year Joint Conference Savings Information was distributed and Mrs. Martin asked that members please let Mrs. Witkus know by 7/8 if they plan to attend so the District can take advantage of the savings

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent's Evaluation:

Mrs. Martin provided an overview of Dr. Zielinski's evaluation. She indicated that all comments are in the public documents posted on the KP website.

Each of the 32 questions were read by Mrs. Martin along with any comments by school committee members. All comments were discussed. Mr. Francomano noted that many of his comments under "needs improvement" are tied to what he felt was insufficient evidence.

Dr. Zielinski expressed her appreciation for the feedback and her continued desire to keep moving KP forward as a district. She acknowledged the caring students and families that make up the KP community.

Unfinished Business:

Director of Finance:

Mrs. Desrochers gave an update to the Committee on the candidates. Two of the four finalists chosen by the search committee have withdrawn from consideration. The administrative team met with three candidates (one candidate withdrew after this meeting).. The remaining finalists, Glenn Fratto and Thomas Caliento, will be interviewed at an open school committee meeting on June 27.

Mr. Francomano asked how about the interview process was going to be handled so that there is no violation in open meeting laws. Dr. Zielinski and Mrs. Desrochers will coordinate draft interview questions.

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Norfolk School Committee Representative: Mr. Chalmers:

– Reorganization of the Committee.

Plainville School Committee Representative: Mrs. McEntee - None

Wrentham School Committee Representative: Ms. Schmitz – None

HS Student Council Representative: Ms. Sheehan:

Schoolwide

Final Exams began on Tuesday, June 14th and concluded on KP's last day of school, Friday June 17th.

The Seniors last day of classes occurred on Tuesday, May 24th. Graduation occurred on June 9th at Stonehill College in Easton, MA. Graduation went very smoothly. The King Philip Concert & Symphony Bands performed at graduation and accompanied the seniors by playing "Pomp and Circumstance" as they filed into the auditorium.

The Relay for life occurred at KP on Friday June 3rd, 2016.

Student Council

Student council elections (in addition to student government elections) occurred on Monday, June 6th. Four representatives per grade were elected onto Student Council in addition to the newly elected executive board. 4 Class officers per class were elected into KP's Student Government as well.

Student Council is looking to bring forth new changes to specific systems. Next year, the student council hopes to put forth new methods that will increase auxiliary board member attendance. The council looks forward to debuting a notification system using the Remind Application. In addition, auxiliary board attendance will be kept using a point system. The new system changes were suggestions from other councils at the annual MASC Conference in Hyannis, Cape Cod.

DECA

Qualifying DECA Partnerships attended a field trip to the Massachusetts State House on Monday, June 13th. DECA students were greeted by Richard Ross where they discussed their projects, and the importance of small business owners / leaders.

KPMA

Results from KP's Symphony Band auditions were posted on Tuesday, June 14th in the band room. Congratulations to all of KP's new Symphony Band members!

KPMA hosted a "Senior Recital" on Wednesday, June 1st. Students from KP involved in the music program were all encouraged to attend this special event to honor KPMA Seniors.

Unfinished Business:

FY17 Budget Update:

In a memorandum dated June 1, 2016, Mr. Schaefer provided an update on FY 2016 operating budget estimates and FY 2017 Operating budget update. It is anticipated that the vote will be in August.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lunch Price Increase:

Mr. Schaefer provided a memo from the US Department of Agriculture which indicated a requirement to increase lunch prices in FY2017 if the current lunch prices are below \$2.78 per meal. The District's current lunch price is \$2.75. The rest of the packet contained further information and proposed budget for next year's lunch program budget.

Discussion ensued on the participation rates. Mr. Francomano asked if there are any districts that have conformed with nutritional guidelines but maintained their participation rate. Many districts are having trouble breaking even. KP is right on the cusp but hoping to see increased participation as students become more accustomed to the new, healthier guidelines. according to Mr. Schaefer.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Gee, seconded by Mr. Francomano, to approve a \$0.50 price increase for adult lunch meals, making the new meal price \$4.00 per meal. Additionally, the price for the a la carte salad bar will increase to \$4.00 per pound. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (6); No (0).**

- ✦ A Motion was made by Mr. Gee, seconded by Mr. Francomano, to approve school lunch budget program operating budget for FY2017 in the amount of \$689,001, an increase of \$32,313 or 4.9%. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (6); No (0).
- ✦ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Chalmers, to approve a \$0.25 increase for the school lunch program, making the new meal price \$3.00 per meal. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (6); No (0).

Discussion ensued on the Corrective action DESE Audit, a copy of which was provided by Mr. Schaefer. Mrs. Reynolds, District Cafeteria Manager, is responsible ensuring that the corrective action items have been corrected. It has been stated that DECA is no longer selling cookies.

Dr. Zielinski – Carryover of Vacation Days:

Discussion ensued on Dr. Zielinski's request to carry over 10 vacation days into the 2016/2017 school year. No action was taken and Mrs. Martin indicated that this may be addressed in the future if the need arises.

Computer lease:

- ✦ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Desrochers, that the King Philip Regional School Committee accept the revised FMV lease proposal from First American Education Finance, 255 Woodcliff Drive, Fairport, NY 14450 for HP computer cards and notebooks at a total cost of \$47,496.96 for a term of 36 months with a lease rate factor of 0.0271 and further directs that the Director of Finance is authorized to sign and accept the proposal and any associated lease documents on behalf of the School Committee. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (6); No (0).

ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- ✦ A Motion was made at 9:30pm by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Desrochers, to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of conducting strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (6); No (0).
- ✦ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Desrochers, to adjourn Executive Session at 9:55pm and to return to open session. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (6); No (0).

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION:

- ✦ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Desrochers, to grant Dr. Zielinski a 1.5% increase over and above the 2% guaranteed increase for fy17 for a total increase of 3.5%. Dr. Zielinski's new salary will be \$163,297.54. This increase is in recognition of her dedication and hard work for the district. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (6); No (0).

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

School Committee Retreat:

Mrs. Martin noted that the Retreat will be held on July 19, 2016. She will secure a location and notify members of the time when available.

ADJOURNMENT:

- ✦ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Tonelli, to adjourn at 10:02pm. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (6); No (0).

Respectfully submitted,

*Lisa Barrett Witkus
Secretary to the School Committee*