

KING PHILIP REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES - APPROVED  
August 15, 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:	Michael Gee
	Plainville:	Ann-marie Martin, Patrick Francomano, Charlene McEntee
	Wrentham:	Danielle Schmitz, Jim Killion

Members Absent:	Norfolk:	Jeff Chalmers, Noelle Tonelli (arrived at 7:05pm)
	Wrentham:	Lynn Desrochers
	Plainville:	Present

The meeting is not being videotaped by Wrentham Cable Access. Mrs. Martin explained that the public may visit the district's website at [www.kingphilip.org](http://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](http://www.wrenthamcableaccess.com) Mrs. Martin also explained the procedure for public comment.

**DELEGATIONS AND VISITORS**

Dr. Gilson, Assistant Superintendent/MS Principal, Dr. Mobley, HS Principal  
Mr. Plympton and Mr. Kelleher, Crush Baseball

**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 Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee to approve the Minutes of July 15, 2016. All in favor, with Mr. Killion and Mrs. Schmitz abstaining.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT**

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers

(Mrs. Tonelli arrived at 7:05pm)

**COMMUNICATION:**

- Appointments, Retirements, Resignations, etc.
- *Board & Administrator*, August 2016, Vol. 30, No. 4
- Murphy, Hesse: *Labor & Employment Alert*, August 2016
- Bi-County Collaborative, Activities & Information, June 2016
- New Teacher Orientation Luncheon: August 24, 2016

## AGENDA

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

### NEW BUSINESS (Taken out of Order):

Mr. Plympton and Mr. Kelleher, owners of *Crush Baseball* introduced themselves as users of the King Philip fields since 2010. Mr. Plympton indicated that a rate and line of finances was set with Mr. Schaefer and gave history of how the program has grown to 3 teams from 2010 to 2016. Crush historically paid \$850 for one team from 2010-2014; 2015 there were 2 teams at a cost of \$1700; and in 2016 there are 3 teams and Crush planned to pay the same rate, but in talking to Mr. Schaefer was notified that it would be an hourly rate due to a change.

In a meeting with Dr. Zielinski and Mr. Schaefer, going into 2016 season, finances and an hourly rate were discussed. Mr. Plympton thought the cost would be between \$25-\$35 per hour, but it now has been determined that in 2016 Crush will be categorized as a for profit at \$70 per hour.

Mr. Plympton is asking consideration of the School Committee for the following:

1. To consider relief for 2016 season based upon an invoice received in the amount of \$5320 for 76 hours of use at \$70 per hour. He will plan to pay the invoice, but is hoping for a more reasonable rate.
2. \$70 per hour – Mr. Plympton feels this amount may be a little too steep for his type of program that anticipates using between 75 – 100 hours per season, at this hourly charge.

Mr. Kelleher indicated that the program was notified of the increase midway through the year, and as a result were not budgeted for.

Mr. Plympton indicated that the going rate for Rice field is \$50 per hour. Mr. Plympton stated that he did an evaluation of league members and the average rate of different facilities such as RBI, Legends, Eagles, Fury, is anywhere from \$25 to \$50, others may be higher, but typically they don't use those fields.

Mr. Francomano recommended that this matter be referred back to the Finance Subcommittee for further discussion and clarification. The subcommittee will then bring a recommendation back to the full committee.

Mr. Plympton noted that the program respects, takes cares of, and loves being on the KP fields. The program makes donations to HS programs such as KP basketball, baseball, field hockey and try to be a good partner. He hopes to get relief for this year and going forward.

The consensus of the Committee is to move this matter back to the Finance Subcommittee for further discussion and consideration. The subcommittee will report back to the full committee.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Taken out of Order)

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> reading HS Handbook:

Dr. Mobley in a memorandum dated August 9, 2016, presented the proposed changes to the Student/Parent Handbook for 2016/2017. For the Student activities & athletic code of behavior prohibited activities and penalties, the changes are:

#### Old wording:

## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES & ATHLETIC CODE OF BEHAVIOR PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES AND PENALTIES**

King Philip subscribes to a zero tolerance policy regarding the use of alcohol, drugs, or any controlled substances by its students. If a student participates during any sport season throughout the academic year, that student is considered to be a student athlete. Therefore, penalties assessed for violation of any Level #1, Level #2, or Level #3 offenses will apply throughout the academic year including days when a sport is not in season. The following actions by a student, either in or out of school, are prohibited.

The identified penalties will be observed following an infraction of the corresponding regulation after a conference between the coach, the athletic director, and an administrator. Any alleged violation of this rule shall be supported by reliable, independent observation as may be determined at the principal's discretion. In the event the allegation is reported by a federal, state, or local agency/department (including but not limited to the local police), then a written report shall be required which at the principal's discretion provides sufficient detail to substantiate a violation.

### **Level #1**

1. Possessing, using, selling, dispensing, or exchanging of controlled substances, including alcohol and all tobacco-related products (electronic cigarettes, vapor devices), and also including drug-related paraphernalia (including cigarette rolling papers), or being under the influence of controlled substances.
2. Any student who voluntarily remains at a place where he/she knows or should know that alcoholic beverage(s), marijuana, steroids, or any controlled substance is being illegally consumed, possessed, bought, sold, or given away, shall be considered to be in violation of this policy.

### **Proposed new wording:**

Delete:

1. Any student who voluntarily remains at a place where he/she knows or should know that alcoholic beverage(s), marijuana, steroids, or any controlled substance is being illegally consumed, possessed, bought, sold, or given away, shall be considered to be in violation of this policy.

**RATIONAL:** The school council voted to rework the code of behavior to align the MIAA policy as a result of a presentation made by a parent and a student who was disciplined under this policy. The student did not leave the party because she was afraid for the safety of the others who were consuming.

Dr. Mobley introduced, HS senior Erin Daly and her mother Lisa Daly as they felt it was important to share and explain to the School Committee a situation that occurred while Erin attended a party in Plainville where alcohol was present. Erin explained that she tried to remove herself from the party, but was "stuck there" and could not get a ride to leave the party even though she called friends for a ride. She attempted to leave on her own. The police arrived at the house party and it became a very dangerous situation. Erin forgot her bag at the house and went back to get it. A police officer at the house party did a sobriety test on Erin. While she was not intoxicated, not arrested, and no charges were brought against her, she was taken back to the police station for her own safety. Mr. Chaplin, the then HS assistant principal gave Erin a 3-day, in-house suspension. Erin reiterated that she did not drink at this house party on a weekend, yet she faced a 3-day, in-school suspension which caused her to miss classroom instruction. Her 3<sup>rd</sup> term grades suffered because of this, she had to sit with administration at prom, and missed the DECA trip which was of utmost importance to her as she plans to major in business.

Dr. Mobley wants to remove the part of the policy for being in the presence of alcohol and the MIAA policy no longer punishes kids for being in the presence of, and we want to keep our policy in line with the MIAA.

Discussion ensued about interpretation of the policy and whether this was actually a violation. The discussion turned conversation to the actual policy as that is within its purview.

Mr. Francomano discussed the intent of the existing policy. That it was not intended to punish unilaterally but to encourage students to make the right decision.

Dr. Mobley indicated that the School Council felt there were circumstances where it may be better for students to stay, either for their own safety or the safety of others.

Mrs. Tonelli questioned the wording “where he or she knows, or should know” as taken from the wording in the policy.

Mrs. Tonelli asked to see the MIAA policy, which Mrs. Daly provided.

Discussion ensued on guilt by association.

Discussion continued on interpretation and that perhaps it is time to look at the severity of the penalty.

Dr. Gilson praised Erin for coming to tell her story to both the School Council and the School Committee.

Mrs. Daly said that while she supports school sponsored activities, as a parent she feels like the weekend is a parents’ problem, and Erin did not break any law.

Discussion ensued on seeking a legal opinion on this policy and what is the definition of who voluntarily remains and insight on the MIAA policy.

Mrs. Dailey indicated that she researched area school district’s policies on whether or not they have a policy that includes out of school activities, outside of school event, Policy J.

It was decided that because this is a major policy and a highly emotional issue, there should be further discussion before removing the requested section.

Dr. Mobley will put together a complete package for the School Committee’s further review on this matter in its entirety going forward.

The School Committee commended Erin on telling her story and for prompting them to look at this matter thoroughly.

Dr. Mobley recommended that this section be held in abeyance and to approve the other sections.

Discussion ensued on social hosting.

**A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Gee to delete the words “or should know” from the proposed new wording as presented:**

**“Any student who voluntarily remains at a place where he/she knows ~~or should know~~ that alcoholic beverage(s), marijuana, steroids, or any controlled substance is being illegally consumed, possessed, bought, sold, or given away, shall be considered to be in violation of this policy.”**

**All in favor.**

Discussion ensued on not removing the word “voluntarily” as this would remove a safeguard for due process.

**Attire Policy:**

Dr. Mobley explained that this new language is based upon the legal opinion received.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to approve the proposed new language of the attire policy of the 2016/2017 Student/Parent Handbook as presented. All in favor.**

### **New Proposed Senior Handbook:**

Dr. Mobley presented the new Senior Handbook which has been designed to support seniors as they transition from seniors to alumni, and provides a lot of information for parents. The HS is also trying to create a sophomore and junior guidebook. Mr. Gee suggested that the format should be changed on the senior calendar to make it all on one page along with the headings.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to approve the new proposed Senior Handbook as presented, with the format change. All in favor.**

### **COMMUNICATION:**

- KP In the News

Dr. Gilson noted that the projected enrollment has risen by approximately 70 students (30 at the MS/40 at the HS) and this is valuable information for the District. Mr. Francomano asked that this information be analyzed. Dr. Gilson will research the data and see how the numbers settle for the October 1 report.

- Letter from Stonehill College included an apology and a 15% discount toward the 2016 graduation invoice.
- 2016/2017 Superintendent's Goals: Mr. Gee noted that this is very good and Dr. Zielinski seemed to have brought it all together.
- 2016/2017 HS Traffic Study – Draft. It is anticipated that the final report will be reviewed and discussed at a future School Committee Meeting.

### **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

None

### **REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Norfolk School Committee Representative: Mr. Chalmers - None

Plainville School Committee Representative: Mrs. McEntee – None

Wrentham School Committee Representative: Ms. Schmitz – The next meeting will be held next Tuesday, August 23, 2016. The playground is in the process of being overhauled and a ribbon cutting ceremony is tentatively scheduled in September. BICO will be leasing more space in Wrentham.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### **FY17 Budget Update: Mr. Caliento**

In a memorandum dated August 12, 2016, Mr. Caliento presented information on proposed changes to the FY17 budget and the town assessments. On August 9, 2016, Mrs. Martin, Dr. Zielinski and Mr. Caliento met with the town administrators of Norfolk and Plainville and they do not believe the assessment changes will have a major effect on their town's budget.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Killion, that the King Philip Regional School Committee votes to increase the school's general fund grand total budget from the current amount of \$30,224,594 to \$30,410,955. This represents a \$186,361 increase which will be funded by increased revenue from the State's final approved budget. All in favor.**

Mr. Francomano indicated that a notice should go out to the 3 towns with line item updates now that the budget is final. Further discussion will be held at the Finance Subcommittee meeting and then an update will be provided to the full committee.

**School Committee Goals: Key Actions and Benchmark Items:**

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Gee, seconded by Mr. Francomano, to approve the 2016/2017 school committee goals, key actions and benchmarks that were created by the School Committee on July 19, 2016. All in favor.

**2016/2017 Home School Plans:**

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Gee, seconded by Mrs. Tonelli, to approve the following home education plans:

1. I.G. Grade 7
2. A.H. Grade 8
3. C.H. Grade 7
4. I.I. Grade 10
5. B.M. Grade 7
6. E.S. Grade 9
7. J. P. Grade 10
8. T.P. Grade 7
9. T.P. Grade 9

All in favor.

**MASC Official Voting Delegate:**

Mrs. Martin noted that as of today, she along with Mr. Francomano, Mr. Gee and Mrs. McEntee will be attending the MASC Joint Conference in November and if any other member would like to attend they may still register.

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Gee, seconded by Mr. Francomano, to have Mrs. Martin as the Official voting delegate at the MASC Joint Conference on Wednesday, November 2, 2016. All in favor.

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee, seconded by Mr. Killion, to have Mr. Gee as the Official alternate voting delegate at the MASC Joint Conference on Wednesday, November 2, 2016. All in favor.

**Community Engagement Subcommittee:**

As part of the 2016/2017 School Committee Goals, the Committee has established a Community Engagement Subcommittee. Mr. Killion and Mrs. McEntee have expressed interest in serving on this subcommittee. Since all members were not present for tonight's meeting, Mrs. Martin will send out a general email to committee members asking if anyone else would like to be part of the subcommittee.

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, that the School Committee gives the chair the authority to appoint a member and alternate member of the community engagement committee.

**Late Communications:**

Mrs. Martin reminded members that the new staff orientation luncheon will be held on Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:45am in the MS Cafeteria.

Also, HS and MS building walkthroughs will be held on Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6PM in the MS lobby and proceeding to the HS at 7PM. Both Mr. Belanger and Mr. Lawler take great pride in their buildings.

**LATE COMMUNICATIONS**

**REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

✚ At 9pm, A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Tonelli to adjourn. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (7); No (0).

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Lisa Barrett Witkus  
Secretary to the School Committee*