

**School Committee Meeting
Monday, June 1, 2020 - Approved
REMOTE MEETING- RECORDED**

OPENING OF MEETING:

Mr. Gee, Chair, opened the meeting at 6:05pm and read the following statement into the Minutes:

Good evening. This Open Meeting of the King Philip Regional School District is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker’s Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the “COVID-19 Virus.” “Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, Section 20.”

In order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor’s Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible *physical* location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

The Order, which you can find posted with agenda materials for this meeting allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting.

Ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law. This meeting will present public comment during that designated portion of the meeting. As directed in the posting, public comment should have been emailed to the superintendent of school prior to the start of the public comment section of the meeting and will be read by the superintendent on the commenter’s behalf.

For this meeting, the King Philip Regional School District is convening by *google hangout* as posted on the District’s Website identifying how the public may join. Please visit: www.kingphilip.org

Please note that this meeting is being recorded, and that some attendees are participating by video conference. All voted will be taken by roll call vote.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Members Present:

Norfolk:	Michael Gee, Kenneth Dow, Jeff Curry
Plainville:	Bruce Cates, Samad Khan, Amy Abrams
Wrentham:	Trevor Knott, Erin DeStefano

Members Absent:

Norfolk:	Present
Plainville:	Present
Wrentham:	Jim Killion (participated remotely at 6:50pm)

HS Student Council Representative: Marion Linde was present.

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

– May 18, 2020 Draft Minutes

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Knott, seconded by Mr. Khan, to approve the minutes of May 18, 2020, as presented. A roll call vote was taken: Yes (6): Mr. Gee, Mr. Dow, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Knott, No (0); Abstain: (2 – Mr. Curry, Mr. Cates). All in favor. Motion carried.**

PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT:

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers:

None

COMMUNICATION:

None

AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Executive Session Minutes dated May 18, 2020

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mrs. DeStefano, seconded by Mr. Khan, to approve and retain the Executive Session Minutes dated May 18, 2020, as presented. A roll call vote was taken: Yes (6): Mr. Gee, Mr. Dow, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Knott, No (0); Abstain: (2 – Mr. Curry, Mr. Cates). All in favor. Motion carried.**

DELEGATIONS AND VISITORS

Mr. Zinni, Superintendent, Dr. Gilson, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Mobley, HS Principal, Mr. Azer, Director of Finance, Mr. Brown, Athletic Director, Miss Linde, Mrs. Witkus, Mrs. Snead, Miss James

COMMUNICATION:

- Marion Linde gave an update from the HS Student Council on senior activities. As this was her final meeting as the HS representative, members of the School Committee and administration thanked her and expressed their accolades for her work, as she is passionate about causes and a pleasure to work with. They conveyed best wishes in her educational career at Barnard.
- Mrs. Snead, HS Student Council Advisor, noted that Marion has helped to guide her this past year in her new role as student council advisor and that she was a member of the Massachusetts Student Council (MASC) and assisted with Special Olympics. Miss Linde was very inclusive of all students at the high school.
- Mrs. Snead introduced Ahunna James as the next HS Student Council representative, who also attended the MASC Conference. She is a student athlete and will do a great job. Miss James is excited to work with everyone.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

District response to state health and safety concerns: Mr. Zinni

Mr. Zinni gave an update on the district’s responses to state health, safety concerns and budget updates.

- Discussion ensued on awaiting the Governor’s reopening of the State and Phase II being proposed and the impact this will have on schools.
- Mr. Zinni and Dr. Gilson participated in a meeting with the Commissioner and superintendents. As we do not know the state budget yet and the health and safety protocols that will need to be in place in the fall, the administration will be working on contingency plans to have in place.

Graduation Update:

- Dr. Mobley, while disappointed that the Xfinity Center will not be available for a drive-in graduation celebration, announced that there will be a senior parade on Saturday, June 6, 2020, with support of the three towns, the elementary districts and the police as escorts. Dr. Mobley reviewed the protocols for the parade to be taken.
- Dr. Mobley is currently working on an in-person ceremony where diplomas will be presented by parents and held on the turf field on July 24, with a rain date of July 31 and will be live streamed on YouTube.

New Business: (Taken out of order):

Mr. Zinni explained that the district handbook, summer rentals and the fundraising protocols will also be discussed at the June 15th meeting, but he wanted to go over some of the details of each item.

(Mr. Killion joined the meeting at 6:50pm)

District Handbook:

Mr. Zinni explained that the four assistant superintendents have formed a subcommittee to review the student handbook. They have created one unified, consistent handbook, that has now been vetted by the attorney, and will be presented at the June 15 meeting.

Fundraising Protocol:

Mr. Zinni has been working with the administration on managing fundraisers as there are 61 sports teams and other organizations which is a staggering number of fundraisers being held throughout the year. Dr. Mobley and Mr. Brown have been reviewing the process as well. The intent of this review is to explore options of no longer fundraising and to set parameters and standards for all organizations. Discussion ensued on the KP Boosters, the KPMA, Model UN, and DECA groups and the difference on how funds are handled with each of these groups. Dr. Mobley explained the process of the student activities account guidelines and the approval process by the building principal for this account. Mr. Zinni was asked to provide a clearly delineated list of club and non-club accounts for the June 15th meeting.

Discussion ensued on different fundraising activities being held by groups that are formed external to the school and how a new fundraising process, following the proper protocol, procedures and policies will streamline the process and allow more control by the athletic director while looking at the best interest of the students and families. This will also take away the liability from the coaches. The new documents have been vetted by the attorney. The hope is to have this new procedure implemented in the fall.

Summer Rentals:

Mr. Zinni explained that due to Covid-19, the cleaning requirements of the buildings (thorough sanitization and disinfecting), it would be inappropriate to open the buildings to the public for any indoor use. Depending on the Governor's Phase II and III opening of outdoor spaces, the outdoor facilities only may be used. However, there would be no use of the indoor bathrooms or locker rooms.

A rental agreement is in the process of being prepared by the attorney with safety concerns and parameters to be in compliance and at the same time work with the community. This document outlining the expectations will be presented to the committee on June 15th. The current schedule is as follows:

- o Wrentham – June 22, 2020
- o Plainville – June 23, 2020
- o Norfolk – June 24, 2020

Further discussion was held on receiving clearance and approval from the Board of Health.

Unfinished Business: (Taken out of Order):

Concussion Policy (1st reading):

Mr. Zinni noted that the Policy Subcommittee met on May 11, 2020. Mr. Gary Brown, Athletic Director, along with Adam Bennett, KP Athletic Trainer and Brian Belanger of Brigham & Women's, presented the newly revised concussion policy which has been reviewed with MASC and all the forms have been aligned with current protocols and has been completely vetted. This revised policy is being presented as a 1st reading to the School Committee.

District Response to Diversity:

Mrs. Abrams asked what the District's response is to George Floyd and the protests, and how this is affecting our students. Mr. Zinni explained that while not being in the building, he wants to make sure that students feel heard and supported. He has reached out to Ms. Dot Pearl, Wellness Director, who will take the lead districtwide and is in the process of providing resources for students and staff members. Mr. Zinni will be meeting with the administration to discuss a response.

Mr. Zinni also discussed a grant received this year to look at diversity, along with the elementary superintendents, where a book club was formed, and we will continue to work together and share resources. Mrs. DeStefano will share Dr. Cameron's response with the King Philip School Committee members in which it provides significant resources.

Review of Attorney Line Items:

Mr. Zinni shared a chart illustrating attorney costs and spending trends over the past five years. Due to the difficult budget situation, he explained how he would like to reduce this line items from what it is currently budgeted for due to cost savings this year on attorney fees. Following discussion, a reduction to \$50,000 from \$85,000 would be justifiable based upon upcoming teacher negotiations for next year and the Covid-19 situation.

Superintendent's Evaluation:

Mr. Zinni reminded the school committee members that the superintendent's evaluation will be presented in a summary format at the June 15 meeting. Two documents have been provided which include the evaluation instrument and the goals/accomplishments document. He noted that he did not include the Covid-19 on-going situation into evidence. He asked that the evaluations be submitted to Mrs. Witkus by June 4 so that she can compile a summary for the June 15 meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

FY21 Budget Update

- Mr. Zinni explained that the KP School Committee previously voted a level service budget of 3.49% increase. The three town administrators will be supportive of a 2.5% increase to King Philip, or a reduction of \$330,000 to that level service budget request. Mr. Zinni indicated that every department in the three towns are looking at cuts. The state revenue numbers are very concerning; if there is a 15-20% decrease in state aid which would equal an additional \$830,000 decrease to the KP budget. Discussion ensued on the three town meetings being held at the end of June with the new fiscal year beginning on July 1. Currently there is no date for releasing the budget and to start the year on a 1/12th budget as there is no timeline on the budget numbers from the state or a percentage cut. The KP School Committee will then need to revote the budget at the June 15 meeting. Mr. Zinni has met the KPTA president to discuss various scenarios.
- Discussion ensued on what the expectations are in the fall and whether the buildings are open or if there will be a 100% remote learning. The administration is looking at different scenarios, including furloughs if the buildings are not open. The state and DESE have provided no guidelines yet on how to proceed. Mr. Zinni explained that there are so many variables at this point, and it is unprecedented, and he pledges that we will do our very best with the school committee's indulgence.

Resolution from Boston School Committee Review: Mr. Khan

Mr. Khan, with the assistance of Mr. Zinni, prepared a King Philip Resolution based upon the recent resolution adopted by the Boston School Committee in support of increased federal support and stimulus funding for Public K-12 education.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Killion, seconded by Mrs. Abrams, to approve the resolution in support of increased federal support and stimulus funding for Public K-12 education, as presented; and, for the chair to send to district congressional leaders in Massachusetts. A roll call vote was taken: Yes (9): Mr. Gee, Mr. Dow, Mr. Curry, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott, No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS: (continued)

School Committee Meeting – July 2020

Mr. Gee explained that due to the current budget situation, town meeting schedules and elections, the reorganization will take place at a regular business meeting to be held on July 6, 2020, rather than have a retreat this year.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Knott, seconded by Mr. Cates, to add a business meeting on July 6, 2020. A roll call vote was taken: Yes (9): Mr. Gee, Mr. Dow, Mr. Curry, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott, No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.**

Policy Review:

Concussion Policy and Section F – Facilities Development:

As part of a two-year goal, Mr. Zinni is in the process of reviewing and updating the current KP Policy Manual along with the Policy Subcommittee. Current King Philip Policies in Section F – Facilities Development and the Concussion Policy were compared with MASC, revised as recommended and reviewed by the Policy Subcommittee and presented to the School Committee for their review and approval. Discussion ensued on the approval process of these policies and as a matter of process, multiple readings may be waived and they be approved as presented if the School Committee agrees or

the final approval may be made at the next meeting. Further discussion ensued that each policy is vetted by MASC attorneys and the Policy Subcommittee reviews each individual policy and they feel comfortable presenting them to the School Committee as they are both current with the law and fitting for the district.

 **A Motion was made by Mr. Killion, seconded by Mrs. Abrams, to waive the 2nd and 3rd readings, and any subsequent readings, and to approve the policies in Section F – Facilities Development and the Concussion Policy, as presented:**

Concussion Policy

FA Facilities Development Goals

FB Facilities Planning

FCB Retirement of Facilities

FF Naming New Facilities

FF-E Naming and Dedicating School Facilities

FFA Memorials

A roll call vote was taken: Yes (9): Mr. Gee, Mr. Dow, Mr. Curry, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott, No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Norfolk School Committee: Mr. Curry – Town discussion re budget gap with no teacher loss; notices were discussed to send out to paraprofessionals.
- Plainville School Committee Representative: Mrs. Abrams – Budget, staff reductions, June 29 override vote; 6th grade drive through graduation to be held on June 19; Plainville will be passing two budgets (one with and one without a budget override).
- Wrentham School Committee Representative: Mrs. DeStefano – Learning continues remotely; planning for Grade 6 promotion ceremony to be held on June 16 with a rain date of June 17; students picked up their belongings; a virtual pep rally has been schedule; DARE and summer programs have been cancelled; a parent-involved return to school committee has been formed.

Discussion ensued on KP having a parent-involved return to school committee formed. Mr. Zinni explained that the 4 superintendents have discussed this, however, all of the districts look different and the MS and the HS level are very different than an elementary district especially at the HS level. KP is not at that point yet. We have started to have conversations with the administration, teachers, and additional stakeholders as well as three towns to be inclusive.

RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

None

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Mrs. Abrams, seconded by Mrs. DeStefano, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm.

A roll call of members was taken: A roll call vote was taken: Yes (9): Mr. Gee, Mr. Dow, Mr. Curry, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott, No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Gee adjourned the meeting. Mr. Zinni will post this recorded meeting on the KP Website at its conclusion.

Thank you, Marion Linde.

Respectfully submitted,

Elisa B. Witkus

Secretary to the School Committee

Documents presented on June 1, 2020:

Approval of Minutes May 18, 2020

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers

Executive Session Draft Minutes dated May 18, 2020

Concussion Policy

Resolution from Boston School Committee Review

FA Facilities Development Goals

FB Facilities Planning

FCB Retirement of Facilities

FF Naming New Facilities

FF-E Naming and Dedicating School Facilities

FFA Memorials