

King Philip Regional School Committee Meeting
King Philip Regional School Committee
HS Auditorium
October 5, 2020 – 7PM
Minutes - Approved

Mr. Gee opened the meeting at 7:03 pm.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Members Present:

Norfolk:	Michael Gee, Jim Lehan, Sarah Ward
Plainville:	Samad Khan
Wrentham:	Erin DeStefano, Trevor Knott

Members Absent:

Norfolk:	Present
Plainville:	Michele Sharpe, Bruce Cates
Wrentham:	Jim Killion (arrived at 7:10pm)

HS Student Council Representative: Miss Ahunna James

Mr. Gee announced that this meeting is being recorded by *Wrentham Cable 8* and *NorthTV*. It is also being live-streamed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Gee read into the Minutes the Public Comment Procedure, as follows:

As the School Committee is transitioning to in-person meetings, Public Comment will be accepted by the current process as outlined below:

Public Comments can be addressed to the School Committee via an email to Superintendent Paul Zinni at zinnip@kingphilip.org. Please designate "Public Comment" in the subject line. Additionally, people wishing to have a comment read must include their full name and address in the body of the email. Ten minutes at the beginning of each public meeting will be set aside for public comment. Emails will be read aloud by the Superintendent in the order in which they have been received, until the ten-minute period has concluded. The period for real-time email submission will be closed once the meeting officially begins.

For those attending the meeting in person and wish to speak during the Public Comment period, please sign in at the start of the meeting and hand it to Mrs. Witkus, School Committee Secretary.

Mr. Zinni received 4 emails for public comment and read each one into the Minutes:

1. Barbara Tobichuk Wrentham: Promote Live Streaming
2. Nicole and Jonathan Cleasby – Norfolk: Live Streaming
3. Eric S. Harmon – Norfolk – Phase 3 Learning Model
4. Myles and Elizabeth Keough – Norfolk: Phase 3 Learning Model
- 5.


Communication: Taken out of Order:

HS Student Council Report: Miss James read the HS Student Report dated October 5, 2020.

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 requests, in which event the item will be considered in its normal sequence:*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

 A Motion was made by Mr. Khan, seconded by Mr. Killion, to approve the Minutes dated September 14, 2020 as presented. All in favor. Yes (7); No (0), Abstain (0). Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers were distributed and signed at the meeting.

COMMUNICATION:

None

AGENDA

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

None

DELEGATIONS AND VISITORS

Mr. Zinni, Dr. Gilson, Mr. Azer, Mr. Bois

COMMUNICATION:

None

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

District Reopening Plan Update:

Mr. Zinni informed the audience that tonight's meeting is being Live Streamed and thanked Mr. Bois, Technology Director, for spending an enormous amount of time over the last couple of days to set this up based upon a request to do so.

Mr. Zinni gave an overview of the following topics as part of the reopening plan in which the District will go from Phase I to Phase 3 beginning on Thursday, October 15, 2020, as approved by the School Committee at their meeting of September 30, 2020.

Health and Safety:

The District has secured 6 electrostatic cleaners to be used to disinfect classrooms and areas where students are in both buildings nightly. On the remote day, the custodial staff will disinfect areas such as the locker rooms and other areas where students normally are.

Discussion ensued on the cleaning of buildings. Mr. Zinni indicated that teachers and students will need to be out of building by 3:30pm to allow custodians to clean per a schedule that has been designed for this purpose every night.

Other safety measures include:

- A Covid-19 Health Office has been designated in each building in which there is a separate outdoor exit so that any student or staff member who may display symptoms can be evaluated by the school nurse and if needed exit the building through an outdoor exit.
- Students will be given seat assignments for contact tracing if needed.
- Traffic flow patterns have been marked accordingly throughout the buildings.
- The mask policy is in place and face shields have been purchased for each staff member should they choose to wear them.
- Plexiglass has been installed in designated areas throughout each building.

Medical Information:

- Medical records for students in grades 7 and 10 are required and flu shots are mandated by the state for all students.
- A flu shot clinic was held for staff in September.
- Covid testing was offered to all staff members on a volunteer basis in September and another volunteer testing will be take place on October 13th, prior to the start of the hybrid learning model.
- Thank you to Mrs. Dot Pearl who organized both the flu shot clinic and the COVID-19 testing for the District.

Food Services:

Mrs. Reynolds, Food Service Director reported that 992 total meals were served curbside on Thursday. Reimbursement for meals has been provided by the state. The District is supporting our families during this difficult time through the meal programs.

The school cafeterias have been set up to distance students 6 feet apart and meal distribution will occur using a comprehensive program for students to receive lunches.

Mr. Azer noted that the Food Services Department is very short-handed, and the District is looking for additional cafeteria workers to employ. If anyone is interested to please apply to the Human Resource Department.

Transportation:

- Mr. Zinni indicated that all bus protocols and guidelines are being enforced. Mr. Azer has been working with Holmes and Van Pool Transportation to adjust the transportation contracts on behalf of all of the districts in the area to recoup some savings in re-negotiating the bus contracts. This is an attempt to save the districts money as the buses are not being utilized as originally intended with changes in bus routes and a smaller number of students who are taking bus transportation to school during this pandemic.
- Drop Off and pick up locations at each school have been designated.
- A pro-rated parking fee has been charged at the high school through January 2021.

Technology:

- Mr. Zinni thanked Mr. Bois and the Technology Department for accommodating all staff and students during this year. Chromebooks have been distributed and an additional 1200 are on order with the intent that each student will receive a Chromebook. Additional technology funds were allocated which allowed the District to provide devices to each student. Chromebooks are on back order and it is expected that they will be delivered in mid to late October at which time they will be distributed to each student. (There will be no sharing of devices.) New devices have been purchased for teachers as well so that all staff are using one new model.

- Mr. Zinni informed the School Committee that *Zoom bombing* is being monitored closely. We are doing the best we can, but unfortunately this is occurring and is being addressed by the Technology Department.
- Mr. Zinni strongly encouraged families to update their student emergency contact information. This information is imperative for various reasons such as contact tracing.
- Wi-fi limitations have occurred in the district towns and the district is aware of this and is trying to address it.

Communication:

Mr. Zinni provided a schedule in which the building principals will be holding town halls, that will include a segment on frequently asked questions. Mr. Zinni will send out links to school committee on town halls that will offer to students.

HS – Tuesday, October 6 at 8pm

MS – Wednesday, October 7 at 6pm

Social Emotional Resources:

Mr. Zinni indicated that the social emotional component is being addressed by the District by offering additional resources and positive reinforcement for students and staff. The District employs and has newly hired social workers, school adjustment counselors, psychologists, guidance counselors, to provide services to students who need additional support. Health and physical education teachers are providing mindfulness programs. Dr. Gilson and Mrs. Dot Pearl, Wellness Director, have been assisting in the area of mental health issues for students. Healthy KP is a good resource for families.

Student Instruction:

Mr. Zinni gave an overview of the learning model. He indicated that the MS has the ability to create a new 7th grade remote team that will take over the instruction for students who will need to be remote. The bad news is that for those students who are remote, they may have to transition to a different MS teacher. Mr. Zinni explained that some teachers have received accommodations to work remotely; Ms. Kreuzer, MS Principal, will be sending out notices finalizing staff changes.

At the HS, because of the specialty of the courses, there is no way to create that same type of scenario. There will be a few teachers who will teach remotely into their classes. For students who have to stay remote, the administration will try to keep their schedule wherever possible, though they will may need to change it. The admins will do their best to keep the schedule for the students and this will be looked at closely.

Discussion ensued on live streaming and this will be discussed further by Dr. Mobley in the town hall on Tuesday night. Benefits to live streaming were discussed, but all of the technology needed to move this forward does not exist in our buildings. The admin team will continue to look into this process. They continue to do analysis and will make appropriate adjustments as needed.

Mr. Zinni said that we will strive to provide the best education and do our best for our students during this pandemic academically, socially, provide after-school activities and safety and will continue to address this at every meeting.

Discussion ensued on live streaming in the private school setting and the costs involved in implementing this type of technology.

Mr. Gee appreciated the update and thoughtful consideration given to all that is being done.

Unfinished Business:

FY22 Budget Calendar: Mr. Azer

The FY22 Budget Calendar was presented. Budget Subcommittee Meeting dates have been tentatively scheduled.

New Business:

MASC Annual Delegate Assembly:

The MASC Annual Delegate Assembly will be held virtually on November 7, 2020 at 1pm.

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Lehan, seconded by Mrs. DeStefano, that Mr. Khan would represent the King Philip Regional School Committee as the Official Delegate during the 2020 MASC Annual Delegate Assembly; and Mr. Killion would be the Alternate. All in favor: Yes (7); No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried.**

Mr. Gee asked if the school committee members receive the MASC Bulletin publication which provides information on upcoming workshops such as Charting the Course for those members who have not yet attended this session, as well as other offerings.

The following resolutions were moved forward by the MASC Resolutions Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. Mr. Khan and Mr. Killion, when voting on these Resolutions on behalf of the King Philip Regional School Committee, may vote using their own discretion, in the best interest of the District.

Resolution 1: MCAS and high stakes testing

Resolution 2: COVID-19 State Funding

Resolution 3: School Committee Anti-racism resolution

Resolution 4: Lowering the voting age for municipal elections

Resolution 5: Supporting increased federal support and stimulus funding for public K-12 Education

Resolution 6: Retention of Medicaid Revenue

Resolution 7: Attempts by US DOE to direct funding to private schools

Resolution 8: Membership of a school committee member on the board of elementary and secondary education

Resolution 9: Providing equity for sexual orientation – LGBTQ+ students, teachers, and staff

Resolution 10: Relative to the monitoring of attendance of students during the pandemic

New Business:

School Medication Administration

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mrs. DeStefano, seconded by Mr. Lehan, to adopt the policies and procedures governing the administration of prescription medications as defined by statute and regulation (M.G.L. 94C and 105 CMR 210.000). All in favor: Yes (7); No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried.**

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Ms. Ward - Norfolk: Topics included: Covid-19 addendum to handbook, open house procedures, technology, yearbooks, code of conduct.

- Mrs. DeStefano – Wrentham: Topics included: Opening of school reports on the hybrid model; staff moves to cover individual staff needs; virtual open houses; annual Welcome Wagon; survey to families; Wrentham Writes promotion to send handmade cards to residents in assisted living facilities.

REMOTE MEETINGS:

Mr. Gee recommended that the October 19 regular School Committee Meeting be held remotely and that future meetings, until further notice, will be held remotely. Mr. Zinni explained that areas throughout the high school have been repurposed during this time. This will also allow for better streaming of the meetings to the community.

ADJOURNMENT:

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Killion, seconded by Mrs. DeStefano, to adjourn at 8:35PM. All in favor: Yes (7); No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried.**

Mr. Gee adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

*Elisa B. Witkus
Secretary to the School Committee*

Documents presented on October 5, 2020:

Draft Minutes of September 14, 2020
HS Student Council Report
Budget Calendar
MASC Resolutions
School Medication Administration