

King Philip Regional School Committee Meeting

Remote Meeting

Tuesday, September 1, 2020 – 7PM

Minutes - Approved

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Members Present:

Norfolk:	Michael Gee, Jim Lehan
Plainville:	Bruce Cates, Samad Khan
Wrentham:	Jim Killion, Trevor Knott

Members Absent:

Norfolk:	Sarah Ward
Plainville:	Michele Sharpe
Wrentham:	Erin DeStefano

Visitors:

Mr. Zinni, Mr. Bois, Mr. Brown

OPENING OF MEETING:

Mr. Gee, Chair opened the meeting at 7:00pm 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 Zoom Meeting 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Zinni reported that there were two public comments received:

1. Dan Campbell of Plainville re face mask policy comments.
2. Carolyn Mendes of Wrentham re school sports/guidelines.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Gee noted that the approval of Minutes would be tabled to the next meeting on 9/14/20.

Approval of Warrants:

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Killion, seconded by Mr. Lehan, to approve the following warrants (15a, 15b, 16 and SAC) as presented. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (5) Mr. Lehan, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott; No (0); Abstain (1) Mr. Gee. Motion carried.

Approval of Executive Session Minutes:

Mr. Gee noted that the approval of Executive Session Minutes would be tabled to the next meeting on 9/14/20.

Reports and Recommendations of the Superintendent:

Mr. Zinni gave an update on the District Reopening Plan:

- **Student Schedules:**

The Administration in both the HS and the MS have been working diligently on students schedules, noting that at the HS level, there are 1300 students all with unique schedules, divided into two cohorts in Phase II of the reopening plan. Schedules will be accessible in Infinite Campus and if there is anyone struggling with accessing their accounts to please contact the Administration.

- **Handbook Addendum:**

A Handbook Addendum has been created that is specific to COVID-19 issues during the reopening phase.

- **First Day for Staff Members:**

Today was the official first day for staff members which was held virtually. Mr. Gee represented the School Committee and gave a welcome speech. Mr. Gentili, KPTA President provided some opening welcome remarks for staff. This was followed by staff members then meeting with their building administrators and departments to discuss compacting and scaffolding curriculum.

- **Athletic Programs Update:**

Mr. Brown gave an overview of the sports programs based upon MIAA Sports Committees modifications under the restrictive DESE and EEA guidelines, published on August 28, 2020. The School Committee this evening will be asked to vote on the Fall Sports Schedule to give permission for Fall Sports to occur. Mr. Brown reviewed the safety protocols that will be taken for the Fall's sports programs that will be in a controlled outdoor environment. These programs will be: Golf, Field Hockey, Boys & Girls Cross Country, Boys and Girls Soccer starting on September 18, 2020. (Volleyball will move to the Fall 2 Season starting on February 22, 2021.)

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Knott, seconded by Mr. Lehan, that King Philip will participate in the Fall I Season. These programs will be: Golf, Field Hockey, Boys & Girls Cross Country, Boys and Girls Soccer starting on September 18, 2020. (Volleyball will move to the Fall 2 Season starting on February 22, 2021.) A roll call of members was taken: Yes (6): Mr. Lehan, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott, Mr. Gee; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Policy Review (2nd Reading):

Due to the Covid-19 emergency, two policies were created and recommended for approval by all districts by the MASC. A third policy – ACG - Title IX, has language changes. The Policy Subcommittee reviewed these policies and presented them to the full committee on August 24, 2020 as a first reading. Subsequently, Mr. Cates provided proposed changes to Policy EBAFC – Face Coverings. These proposed changes were vetted by school counsel. The Policy Subcommittee met this evening prior to the School Committee meeting to review these proposed changes and provided feedback and a revised draft of the policy to the full committee for their review. Following discussion, the 3 individual policies were voted upon, as follows, and will be included in the Handbook Addendum.

Policy File EBC-Supplemental:

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Khan, seconded by Mr. Lehan, to approve Policy EBC-Supplemental that covers a group of policies already approved and has been created as a general (interim) policy on COVID-

related matters. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (6): Mr. Lehan, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott, Mr. Gee; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

Policy ACG - Title IX – Civil Rights Grievance Procedure:

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Lehan, seconded by Mr. Killion, to approve Policy ACG – Title IX – Civil Rights Grievance Procedure, as presented. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (6): Mr. Lehan, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott, Mr. Gee; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

Policy EBAFC – Face Coverings:

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Lehan, seconded by Mr. Khan, to approve Policy EBAFC – Face Coverings, as amended, with changes in green, but not yellow comments. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (6): Mr. Lehan, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott, Mr. Gee; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Co-Curricular Music Fees – Marching Band 2020:

The fee is down from last year due to the fact that the season is shorter; fewer staff are needed for the abbreviated program planned, and that there are no travel expenses or registration costs. Mr. Zinni indicated that marching band is held outside and is an excellent activity for students. Competitions will be held by video submission.

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Lehan, seconded by Mr. Killion, to approve the Co-curricular Music Fees – Marching Band 2020, as recommended by Mr. Keough, Music Director in a memorandum dated August 26, 2020. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (6): Mr. Lehan, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott, Mr. Gee; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

District Handbook – Covid-19 Addendum:

Mr. Zinni presented the District Handbook – Covid-19 Addendum. He noted that the School Committee previously approved the District Handbook and this addendum encompasses unique situations relative to Covid-19 and remote learning. Once approved, this document will be created in a Google Document that will require a signature and sent out to all families for their review and understanding of the expectations prior to students starting school. This document has been vetted by school counsel.

Discussion ensued on video assignments and safeguarding the use of data. Mr. Zinni noted that a form has been created by the District for this purpose and is being presented this evening entitled, “Computer Distribution Agreement.”

Discussion ensued that the School Committee received this document on the day preceding the meeting which did not allow ample time to review and absorb the document prior to the meeting. Mr. Zinni explained that the Administration is working 24/7 and created this document from scratch, which was then vetted by school counsel in order to present this document for school committee approval.

Several topics in the handbook were then discussed, such as: remote behavior; charging of Chromebooks is required at home; walkers to school. Mr. Zinni indicated that walkers will be treated in the same manner as those students who are dropped off either at the HS or the MS and will have this added.

Members of the Committee indicated that they were comfortable with the handbook addendum and if needed modifications can be made at a later date and agreed to vote on the handbook addendum.

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Khan, seconded by Mr. Cates, to approve the District Handbook – Covid-19 Addendum, with the inclusion of the procedure for walkers to school. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (6): Mr. Lehan, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott, Mr. Gee; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

Computer Distribution Agreement:

The Computer Distribution Agreement was reviewed and there were no comments.

School Committee Meeting on September 14, 2020:

Mr. Gee asked for thoughts/comments/expectations on the September 14th meeting as an in-person meeting for those members who are available and to allow for an audience. To allow for social distancing, an in-person meeting would be held in the HS Library or the Auditorium, and everyone attending would be required to wear a mask. Following discussion, it was decided that the meeting would be an in-person meeting, with some members participating remotely. Mr. Bois will set this up in the most feasible location to accommodate both remote and in-person participants and the audience members. The cable companies and building custodians will be notified.

Meeting Date for Building Walk-Throughs:

Following discussion, it was decided that a building walk-through of the HS will occur prior to an in-person school committee meeting in October prior to students returning to school.

REPORTS OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Ms. Ward – Norfolk School Committee – No Report.
- Mrs. DeStefano – Wrentham School Committee – No Report.
- Ms. Sharpe – Plainville School Committee – No Report.

Adjournment into Executive Session:

- ✚ **At 8:45pm, a Motion was made by Mr. Lehan, seconded by Mr. Killion to adjourn into Executive Session, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body, and the chair so declares; not to return to open session. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (6): Mr. Lehan, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott, Mr. Gee; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.**

Mr. Zinni ended the recording session and live stream.

ADJOURNMENT:

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Cates, seconded by Mr. Lehan, to adjourn at 9pm. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (6): Mr. Lehan, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott, Mr. Gee; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Elisa B. Witkus

Secretary to the School Committee

Documents Presented 9/1/20:

- Policy Review (2nd Reading):
- File EBC-S
- File EBCFA
- File ACG - Title IX
- Co-Curricular Music Fees – Marching Band 2020
- District Handbook – Covid-19 Addendum
- Computer Distribution Agreement