

KING PHILIP REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 19, 2015
King Philip Regional High School - Library

CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Martin, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05PM.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Members Present:	Norfolk:	Noelle Tonelli, Jeff Chalmers, Michael Gee
	Plainville:	Ann-marie Martin, Charlene McEntee
	Wrentham:	Lynn Desrochers
HS Student Council Representative:		Eliza Sheehan
Members Absent:	Norfolk:	Present
	Plainville:	Patrick Francomano (arrived at 7:10pm)
	Wrentham:	Danielle Schmitz, Jim Killion

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 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.

DELEGATIONS AND VISITORS

Dr. Oliveira, Mr. Schaefer, Mr. Dow, Mr. Jenkins

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee, seconded by Mrs. Tonelli, to approve the Minutes of October 5, 2015 as presented. All in favor, with Mr. Gee abstaining.

PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers

COMMUNICATION:

Appointments, Retirements, Resignations, dated 10/5/15 was presented to the Committee.

AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

(Mr. Francomano arrived at 7:10pm.)

New Business:

DECA Overnight Field Trips: Mr. Dow

Mr. Francomano asked Mr. Dow about the cost per student for each trip that would include the 2 nights' stay at a hotel. Mr. Dow indicated that he does not have that information available this evening and it has not been asked for in the past. Mr. Francomano would like a breakdown of costs as well as the detail from last year's trip. Dr. Oliveira will assist Mr. Dow in preparing this information and submit it for further review by the School Committee. This item was tabled until all of the information from Mr. Dow has been received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Solar Net Metering by Synergy Energy: Mr. Charles Jenkins

Mr. Schaefer noted that Attorney LeBlanc still has some reservations about the contract. Mr. Schaefer indicated that at our attorney's recommendation, the date of commercial start-up will be within 180 days and Synergy agreed. Discussion was held on the impact of Section 3.2, where the blank space would be filled in as commencement date as long as all compliance and regulatory aspects are resolved. According to Mr. Jenkins, Synergy will come up with some language on compliance and pricing in the case of a delay beyond the 180 days. Discussion ensued on selling shares in several landfills, Mr. Jenkins indicated that there was still discussion of what would be provided under Schedule Z. Language continues to be reviewed. He does not believe there are any additional schedules and both attorneys have worked well and in a timely manner on this document.

Mr. Jenkins indicated that all parties want to make sure there is a comfort level and that needs to come from the attorneys.

The Finance Subcommittee has reviewed the amended contract and the changes and they were very responsive according to Mr. Francomano. Mr. Jenkins feels that the attorneys are well versed in these areas on both sides and has seen good results.

Tabled for further discussion and pending legal review of a revised contract to November 2, 2015.

AP, SAT and ACT REPORTS: Dr. Oliveira

In a memorandum dated October 7, 2015, Dr. Oliveira explained that the students of King Philip are continuing the trend to surpass student scores at both the national and state level. The AP statistics exam was reviewed based upon a report that was provided after the documentation for this meeting was given for the school committee to review. In comparison, KP students are surpassing students at all levels. Discussion continued on how students may score better on the test by having further supports. A question was raised about whether the students' grades in the AP classes were consistent with the scores on the AP exams. Dr. Oliveira will look into this question.

Discussion turned to the PSAT's offered on the previous Wednesday. Of the 445 tests sold, 440 students were in attendance. Dr. Oliveira feels that the District made the right decision in closing the school for the day.

Graduation Profile:

Class of 2015 – Size 286
4-year colleges 79%
2-year colleges 8%
Continuing education 4%
Work or Military 4%

Dr. Oliveira provided a copy of the KPRHS Profile and the Class of 2015 Matriculation.

Graduation:

Dr. Oliveira in a memorandum dated October 7, 2015, announced that the Class of 2016 graduation will be held on June 9 at 7pm at Stonehill College in Easton, MA. The Graduation move has been discussed at several meetings in the past as a result of the large size of the class of 2016. It was specifically discussed in depth at the School Committee Meetings of June 15 and July 21, 2015. Over the course of several months, some of the other sites that KP was considering became nonviable. Dana Farber would not commit to a date and time until after the Revolution schedule was known in early January. The Xfinity Center did not respond after several attempts to contact them. Stonehill College was a viable option. According to Jason Fitch, President of the Class of 2016, the Stonehill campus is beautiful for photos, the venue itself is newly constructed, and climate controlled. The person in charge was very helpful. Dr. Oliveira indicated that the students are excited about having their graduation there.

Other amenities offered by Stonehill include excellent viewing with the seats angled to the stage and the stage, itself is higher to also improve the view. There are several parking lots available, with handicapped accessibility and a drop off area right in front of the entrance. 6 tickets per family will be distributed and there may be extra tickets available. Large video screens will be available as well as a state of the art sound system and other technology.

Discussion ensued on graduation rehearsals that will be held on June 2 and June 8, 2016. Students will still be able to attend the all-night grad party. Dr. Oliveira continues to work with the Parents Network to make this a success.

Discussion ensued on what information has been communicated to the community as questions have been asked. The school committee asked that Dr. Oliveira provide information to the community that includes directions and a map for families.

Mrs. Wolfe, KPMA Treasurer asked if it is the expectation that the bands will perform at graduation and transportation will need to be provided. Steel bands will need truck rental. An assessment of costs will need to be done according to Dr. Oliveira, but she believes she will be able to pay for the bands to play.

Snow days for seniors: Dr. Oliveira

In a memorandum dated October 7, 2015, Dr. Oliveira explained that MA DESE allows for seniors to be released 12 days earlier than the remainder of the student body for purposes of preparing for graduation. In light of last year's bad weather conditions and the number of snow days that we had, for planning purposes we want them to know up front about the expectations.

Discussion ensued on formulating a policy or a procedure for this purpose. Dr. Oliveira will conduct a survey amongst the Hockomock League to see what the consensus on policy or procedures re 12 days and will review this with the school committee at their meeting to be held on November 16.

2015/2016 School year Calendar Update:

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to change 2015/2016 school calendar to reflect the change in graduation date to June 9, with rehearsals to be held on June 2 and June 8, 2016. All in favor.**

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Dr. Zielinski discussed the rumored threat to the homecoming dance. In conference with the school committee chair, Dr. Zielinski discussed what the district may and may not communicate to the public. Dr. Oliveira sent ConnectEd messages to parents but explained to the Committee that some parents wanted to know more specific details but the school could not provide that information. A police investigation was in effect. There were issues getting the message to school committee which need to be addressed by the technology department in the selection of groups on informational emails. Dr. Zielinski and Dr. Oliveira stated that this is still an ongoing investigation; and that while there is no active threat, there is still a level of accountability. The School Committee would like the District to send out a message at the conclusion of this investigation and explain the issues faced and what information may and may not be shared.

Dr. Oliveira indicated that 400 students attended the Homecoming Dance; there were 2 refunds; no incidents and students were extremely well behaved.

COMMUNICATION:

KP in the News

An article entitled, "Enrollment mostly down," in *The Sun Chronicle*, dated October 9, 2015.

An article entitled, "Teacher's derogatory blog is not protected speech," in *Education Week*, dated 9/28/15.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT (continued)

Turf Field/Track Update:

According to Dr. Zielinski, the turf field is completed except for minor tweaks. The Track resurfacing project, which was discussed and approved at a previous meeting, was delayed due to several weather issues (rain and unseasonably cold weather). The contractor worked the entire Columbus Day weekend in an attempt to complete the project prior to the homecoming game but, unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate causing the Homecoming Football game to be moved to Attleboro. We are looking forward to the next home football game to be held on Thanksgiving.

Dr. Zielinski indicated that the tennis court is done. Discussion ensued on the possibility of having one tennis court painted for Pickle ball.

Disk Golf has been looked into at the Middle School and the District has received the required EPA approval. Dr. Zielinski will provide the school committee more information at a future meeting.

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Norfolk School Committee Representative: Mr. Chalmers

None

Plainville School Committee Representative: Mrs. McEntee

- The Plainville School Committee had a presentation by the grade level liaison;
- Adjusted budget re due to an increase in circuit breaker;
- There were 2 car crashes last year that destroyed signs for both schools. The town will be installing guardrails to protect the sidewalks in front of both buildings..
- Public documents on website were also discussed

Wrentham School Committee Representative: Ms. Schmitz

None

HS Student Council Report: Ms. Sheehan

Schoolwide

On October 14th, 2015 King Philip Students took the newly designed PSAT/NMSQT Exam. Students will receive their scores in January, 2016.

Spirit Week occurred last week, finishing off this round of festivities with Class Color Day, and KP Color Day.

Due to our new track being unfinished in time for Pep Rally, the Pep Rally was moved to November 25th: (the half day before Thanksgiving). Homecoming King and Queen were announced at the Homecoming Dance on Saturday, October 17th (7-10PM) due to our Homecoming Game being moved to @Attleboro.

KP Cares

KP Cares did a fantastic job at promoting our "Paint the School Pink" Spirit Day, to raise awareness for Breast Cancer. KP Cares and Student Council received positive feedback on the great participation of the spirit day, and the school hopes to make "Paint the School Pink" an annual event.

Student Council

King Philip's Annual Spooktacular Event will occur on October 28th, 7-9PM. The council is anticipating a large turnout from the Tri-Town communities. KP Student Council will continue to publicize the event to ensure that there will be an overwhelming turnout again this year!

Many Executive Board Officers attended "OfficerShop" on Friday at Holy Cross in Worcester, MA. The OfficerShop conference was specifically for elected executive board members to converse with other officers from various High Schools around MA to learn about new leadership strategies and mechanisms within the council.

MASC 2015 Resolutions:

Mrs. Martin has been voted as the Official Voting Delegate, with Mr. Gee as the alternate, at this year's MASC Joint Conference.

A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to ask Mrs. Martin as Voting Delegate of the King Philip Regional School Committee, to support the proposed resolutions and to use her discretion subject to any motions or amendments on the floor.

Mrs. Desrochers had some questions on some of the resolutions and asked for discussion and that a blanket vote not be taken before discussion occurred.

Resolution #1: High School Starting Times, Proposed by Newton School Committee.

Mrs. Desrochers stated that there is so much more than could be effected than not enough sleep. Mr. Gee feels this should be studied. May lead to an unfunded mandate.

Mr. Francomano stated that the issue has been raised, but there are people who want to discuss it, and this was a call for the legislature to form a commission to report back, and decide if this is an issue and what would you have to do to effectuate change. Discussion ensued on whether or not there would be any cost to this study. Mr. Francomano serves on Chapter 70 Commission, no one is getting paid, and they are all volunteers, hire a consultant for the last 3 months to do research that needed to be done. Don't know what the dollar amount is and that is the extent.

Mrs. Desrochers asked if they will make changes.

Mr. Francomano explained that they will get official report in order to bring it to the state level if it is an issue and implement any changes it would come from the legislature. This is somewhat broad because the concepts are broad and you work with the spirit vs some of the specifics.

Mrs. McEntee explained that the American Academy of Pediatrics dovetails into this and globally looks at everything. Discussion ensued on wrap around services, such as the DPH, students are faced with a variety of issues that the districts are not always able to support. If there are any concerns, Mrs. Martin may address them on the floor.

Resolution #2: Poverty and Children – no further discussion.

Resolution #3: Test scores be tied to Chapter 70 Funding – no further discussion.

Resolution #4: An equitable and sustainable placement program for students covered under McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act – no further discussion.

Resolution #5: Tax Reform Ballot Question – no further discussion.

Resolution #6: Membership of a school committee member on the board of Elementary & Secondary Education – no further discussion.

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to ask Mrs. Martin as Voting Delegate of the King Philip Regional School Committee, to support the proposed resolutions or to use her discretion subject to any amendments or motions on the floor. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS (continued):

Computer Lease Agreements:

Mr. Schaefer in a memorandum dated October 16, 2015, explained the reasoning behind the Committee voting upon 4 separate listed motions for the two lease agreements. On June 15, 2015, the School Committee accepted the lease proposal from First American Education Finance and authorized the Director of Finance to execute the agreement. (Please see attached memo). Subsequent to that motion, First American sent their final leased documents for signature. Part of the process includes obtaining an "Opinion of Counsel". The School Attorneys have requested that since there are two lease agreements (one for three years and one for five years) the motion should have been separated instead of one lump sum.

Accordingly:

1. A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, that the King Philip Regional School Committee rescinds its vote of acceptance taken on June 15, 2015 and the authorization for the Director of Finance to sign said proposal on behalf of the District. All in favor.
2. A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, that the King Philip Regional School Committee agrees to enter into a lease agreement Equipment Schedule 04 issued pursuant to Master Lease No. 2012195 dated July 17, 2012 to be paid in twelve (12) quarterly installments of \$7,218.51 for a total of \$86,622.12. Further, the School Committee authorizes the Director of Finance to execute any and all documents related to this lease agreement on behalf of the School Committee. All in favor.
3. A Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee, seconded by Mrs. Tonelli, that the King Philip Regional School Committee agrees to enter into a lease agreement Equipment Schedule 05 issued pursuant to Master Lease No. 2012195 dated July 17, 2012 to be paid in twenty (20) quarterly installments of \$3,954.03 for a total of \$79,080.03. Further, the School Committee authorizes the Director of Finance to execute any and all documents related to this lease agreement on behalf of the School Committee. All in favor.

Finally, while in the process of preparing for the new fiscal year, the District obtained a lease proposal for computer equipment for the TV Production Classes to support the increased sections for this program of education. This is for thirty one (31) work stations.

For three years, to provide all of the workstations, associated hardware and warranty agreements. Total cost of \$49,250.32. The monthly lease factor is 0.02736 for a monthly payment of \$1,347.48.

4. **A Motion was made by Mrs. Gee, seconded by Mr. Francomano that the King Philip Regional School Committee agrees to enter into a lease agreement Equipment Schedule 06 issued pursuant to Master Lease No. 2012195 dated July 17, 2012 to be paid in twelve (12) quarterly installments of \$4,011.44 for a total of \$49,250.32. Further, the School Committee authorizes the Director of Finance to execute any and all documents related to this lease agreement on behalf of the School Committee. All in favor.**

LATE COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Martin has requested that the bus transportation issue be placed on a future agenda. She also asked Mr. Schaefer to conduct a poll of students on whether they plan to take the bus to make sure there are enough seats on the bus.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT:

- ✚ At 9:05pm, a Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to adjourn into Executive Session for the following purpose: 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, only to return for purposes of adjournment. All in favor by roll call vote, Yes (7); No (0).
- ✚ At 9:20pm, A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to adjourn. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (7); No (0).

Respectfully submitted,

*Lisa Barrett Witkus
Secretary to the School Committee*