

**KING PHILIP REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES
September 5, 2017
King Philip Regional High School
Library**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Francomano, Chair called the meeting to order at 7PM.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Members Present:	Norfolk:	Kenneth Dow, Michael Gee,
	Plainville:	Patrick Francomano, Samad Khan, Charlene McEntee
	Wrentham:	Trevor Knott, Erin DeStefano

Members Absent:	Norfolk:	Jeff Chalmers
	Wrentham:	Jim Killion
	Plainville:	Present

HS Student Council Representative: Miss Linde

The meeting is being videotaped. Mr. Francomano 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 Mr. Gee also explained the procedure for public comment.

DELEGATIONS AND VISITORS

AGENDA

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 Mr. Gee, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to approve the Minutes of August 21, 2017. All in favor, with Mrs. DeStefano abstaining.**

Mr. Gee noted a correction to the Minutes of August 21, 2017 on page 3 re OPEB with the Motion to be amended and read as follows:

A Motion was made by Mr. Killion, seconded by Mr. Trevor Knott to adopt the provisions of MGL Chapter 32B, sec. 20 to create the OPEB Fund. All in favor.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Gee, seconded by Mr. Khan, to approve the Minutes of August 21, 2017, with the noted correction. All in favor, with Mrs. McEntee abstaining.**

PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers

COMMUNICATION:

Appointments, Retirements, Resignations, etc.

In a memorandum dated August 31, 2017, Dr. Zielinski presented appointments, retirements, resignations, to date for the 2017/2018 school year.

AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mr. Knott, seconded by Mr. Khan, to retain and approve the Executive Session Minutes of June 1, 2017. All in favor, with Mr. Dow abstaining.**
- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee, seconded by Mr. Knott, to retain and approve the Executive Session Minutes of July 11, 2017. All in favor, with Mr. Dow abstaining.**
- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mr. Knott, seconded by Mr. Gee, to retain and approve the Executive Session Minutes of August 21, 2017. All in favor, with Mr. Dow abstaining.**

COMMUNICATION:

KP In the News:

The following articles were published in *The Sun Chronicle*:

"Area schools ranked in Boston Magazine Survey," dated 8/31/17.

"New parent groups forming for KP schools," dated 8/31/17.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Opening Day Update:

Dr. Zielinski gave a brief report on opening day. She visited all of the classrooms at the MS today and plans to visit the HS classrooms tomorrow. She indicated that everything is running smoothly at both schools and opening day was a success. Mr. Azer, Director of Finance is working on any transportation issues that may arise. Opening day was a success.

Report of Community Advisory Working Groups – Update:

In a memorandum dated August 30, 2017, Dr. Zielinski gave an update on the Community Working Groups noting that the official kickoff will be held in the KP Middle School Cafeteria on September 14 and all are invited to attend and to participate in any of the working groups: budget, public relations and strategic planning.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Budget Update:

In a memorandum dated August 31, 2017, Mr. Azer provided copies of the revised member town assessments, as voted by the School Committee on August 21, 2017 that have been sent to the member towns. Mr. Azer explained that the District is continuing to work with DOR to certify Excess & Deficiency (E&D) and upon receipt will present to the full committee once it has been completed. Mr. Francomano explained that the School Committee will then revote the budget once certified. Mr. Francomano also noted that there is a Budget Subcommittee meeting on Friday, September 8 at 7:30am in Dr. Zielinski's office.

Superintendent Search Update:

Mr. Francomano mentioned that at the Retreat on July 11, there was no consensus by the School Committee as to whether or not to approach the boards of selectmen and the elementary districts of the three towns of Norfolk, Plainville and Wrentham on a shared service approach. He continued that one of the things is how much of that deals with strategic planning that is long-range, and is that a discussion with the working group that deals with strategic planning and is it a consideration for the committee.

Mr. Francomano suggested several choices on how to proceed with this position: advertise for an interim for a year; advertise for a permanent superintendent; or do something different on a shared services position. On a timing issue, we may not have someone in place at the end of this school year. Another option is to host at least 2 search groups to come in and present to the School Committee and then decide who will do the search. He noted that there are two major search groups in Massachusetts, without going to a national group, they are MASC and NESDEC. As a first step, Mr. Francomano will contact both search firms to try to line up a presentation by one or both of these search firms to present to the School Committee on either September 18 or the October 2 meeting. The presentation will include cost, timeframe and urgency.

Mr. Knott also mentioned that this subject has been discussed in the strategic planning working group and the interim position as an alternative.

Discussion ensued on the K-12 regionalization that Mr. Francomano noted would be a 2-3 year timeframe. He indicated that there is a state specialist on the topic of regionalization who deals with this and putting new regions together and some local committees could potentially come in and talk to the community, that is part of the path, but personally, Mr. Francomano thinks this is for the working groups to consider as a collaboration of the community, the school committee and the administration.

Mrs. McEntee asked if a vote would be required. Mr. Francomano suggested that the Committee seek a legal opinion.

MASC 2017 Annual Joint Meeting – Official Delegate Nomination:

Mr. Francomano reviewed the annual conference sessions and the delegate process. He explained that any new member who has not done charting the course, you can also do it at the conference. This delegate represents our school committee at this meeting for the resolutions voting process. The conference is 3-4 days in length, but any time spent is valuable. If any member would like to attend, please contact Mrs. Witkus to register you.

- ✦ **Mr. Gee nominated and made a motion that Mr. Francomano be the 2017 MASC Official Delegate for the King Philip Regional School Committee, at the MASC annual business meeting on November 1, 2017, seconded by Mrs. McEntee. All in favor.**

- ✦ **Mr. Gee nominated and made a motion that Mrs. McEntee be the 2017 Alternate MASC Official Delegate for the King Philip Regional School Committee, at the MASC annual business meeting on November 1, 2017, seconded by Mr. Knott. All in favor.**

District Goal Setting and Review

The 2016/2017 School Committee goals were presented for review in which Mrs. Pat Correira, MASC Facilitator, assisted with these goals. Mr. Francomano prefers to call the goals district goals vs. school committee goals.

Mr. Francomano said that that based upon the budget experience of March through June of 2017, that should drive what our goals are and in collaboration of the working groups. There needs to be clear issues of establishing community trust in the budget, trust in the management of the district and administration. These should be 2 goals, and to establish and make sure that people have faith in the budget numbers that we are presenting.

Mrs. McEntee said that a lot of these goals listed have been obtained and they are a continuum of what we should have been doing. The showcases that were presented over the last year and collaboration with the elementary districts, i.e., the Walker Report, and professional development.

Dow see if we are meeting these goals and include community trust in the budget and the management.

Mr. Gee suggested that perhaps the Committee include these 2 goals and maintain the current goals.

Mr. Knott stated that the Committee's job is budget and leadership. This would mean putting good leaders in place to do the job to do a lot of these goals. Simplify and make it measurable.

Mr. Francomano asked for ideas on how to word the budget goal and the confidence goal.

Mr. Khan noted that this past season people were hostile and wanted to jump at whatever we did. Coming up with more concrete budget numbers earlier in the process and get community feedback and not just criticism referring to the *Sun Chronicle* article in which we try to get as much money as possible and community doesn't believe it.

Discussion ensued and Mr. Dow and Mrs. McEntee agreed with Mr. Khan. Discussion continued on what kind of budget do you think we should present: level service, the three towns instruction as to what they can afford; a budget based on our vision for the district and providing the greatest reasonable budget that you can obtain based on current need of the district and what the towns can afford. Mrs. McEntee noted there is a way to present that and be more collaborative.

Mrs. DeStefano suggested have not a presentation but more of an engagement with the leaders in three towns. Have over-communication by going to all meetings, inviting towns to our meetings.

Perhaps sit down with the town officials and define a strategy and define what the communication looks like, how you want to participate or not participate. We can define that ahead of time and get our playbook together as a team. Does that take place with the full committee? Discussion ensued on inviting officials to budget subcommittee first.

Mr. Gee suggested that the Committee determine a level of communication that the towns want so that they have trust in the budget and management through effective communication. Apart from the urgency issue, it feels like a good goal is to find out from the towns what the best form of communication is. Discussion ensued on hosting a meeting with the three towns including the town administrators, board of selectmen and finance committees.

Mr. Francomano asked that the members give some thought to the budget and management goals for the September 18 meeting so that we can come to a consensus on how to proceed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval of High School Crossing Guard:

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mr. Gee, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to approve the appointment of Lynn Levinson as a HS Crossing Guard for the 2017/2018 school year. All in favor.**

Approval of Home School Plans:

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mrs. DeStefano, seconded by Mr. Gee to approve the following 2017/2018 home school plans as presented:**
 - 1. G.D. – Grade 10**
 - 2. I.D. – Grade 8**
 - 3. M.D. – Grade 11****All in favor.**

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- ❖ Norfolk School Committee Representative: Mr. Chalmers - None

- ❖ Plainville School Committee Representative: Mrs. McEntee – Plainville School Committee will be meeting next week.
- ❖ Wrentham School Committee Representative: Mrs. DeStefano - The Wrentham School Committee met on August 22, 2017 and discussed the following:
FY18 budget update, approved home school plans, strategic objectives for 17/18, school council presentation, update on Delaney roof project which has been completed, new drop off traffic pattern the Delaney School which was put into place for the safety of the students, introduction of new teachers. School started last Wednesday for students.
- ❖ HS Student Council Report: Miss Linde reported on the HS Student Council events.

LATE COMMUNICATIONS

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. **Purpose of Executive Session - #3:** 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. (Unit A – Negotiations)

ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

(Mr. Dow recused himself from Executive Session.)

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee seconded by Mrs. DeStefano, to adjourn at 8:10pm and enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing 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. (Unit A – Negotiations); and to return to open session solely for the purpose of adjournment. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (7); No (0).**

ADJOURNMENT

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee, seconded by Mrs. DeStefano, to adjourn at 8:30pm. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (6); No (0).**

Respectfully submitted,

*Lisa Barrett Witkus
Secretary to the School Committee*