

KING PHILIP REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
May 15, 2017  
King Philip Regional High School – Library

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Gee, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

**ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Members Present:	Norfolk:	Mike Gee, Jeff Chalmers, Kenneth Dow
	Plainville:	Samad Khan, Patrick Francomano
	Wrentham:	Jim Killion, Trevor Knott

Members Absent:	Norfolk:	Present
	Wrentham:	Erin DeStefano
	Plainville:	Charlene McEntee

The meeting is being videotaped by Wrentham Cable Access. Mr. Gee explained that the public may visit the district's website at [www.kingphilip.org](http://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](http://www.wrenthamcableaccess.com) Mr. Gee also explained the procedure for public comment.

**DELEGATIONS AND VISITORS**

Dr. Gilson, Mrs. Dill, Mr. DaSilva and Mr. Schairer

**WELCOME TO NEW SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Mr. Gee introduced the new committee members:

Norfolk - Mr. Kenneth Dow, who disclosed that his son is a teacher at the high school. Mr. Dow is working to ensure that no conflict of interest laws are violated.

Wrentham – Mr. Trevor Knott has been a resident of Wrentham for over 15 years and had 2 children graduate from King Philip and a 5<sup>th</sup> grader.

Plainville – Mr. Samad Khan is a 2012 graduate of KP.

**RECOGNITION OF 2017 RETIREES:**

John DaSilva, HS Custodian – 17 Years of Service.  
Steve Schairer, Athletic Director – 10 Years of Service.  
Richard Klokman, MS Teacher – 21 Years of Service  
Susan Stoller, MS English Teacher – 22 Years of Service  
Shirley McLaughlin, HS Teacher Assistant – 10 Years of Service

**Recognition of Eliza Sheehan, HS Student Council Representative for the 2015/2016 and the 2016/2017 school years.** Dr. Zielinski thanked Eliza for all of her thorough reports and for keeping everyone informed. Mr. Gee commented on Eliza's stellar attendance record thanked her for her contributions to the Committee and service.

**HS Student Council Report (Taken out of Order):**

**Schoolwide**

There will be a meet and greet event with Gary Brown, KP's new athletic director, on Tuesday, May 23rd 6:30-8:30 in the KPHS Library.

The King Philip vs Patriots Basketball game was on Tuesday, May 2nd at 6PM in the wooden gym.

**Senior Class**

Senior Week / Prom Permission slips were due on Wednesday, May 10th.

Senior PowerPoint slides for graduation were due today to Mrs. Rowe.

**KPTV**

KP Emmy Night occurred on Thursday, May 11th at 7PM.

## **KP Cares**

KP Cares will be hosting the Annual "Fight Back Festival" on May 19th (Time TBD).

At their last general meeting on Friday, May 11th they discussed their upcoming Dog Wash, and the Fight Back Festival.

## **Student Council**

The annual Council Banquet will occur on Monday, May 22nd at 6:30 PM in the KPHS cafeteria.

On Thursday, May 11th KP Student Council discussed new events for next year, in addition to next year's calendar. Council members are in the process of deciding which events they would like to chair for the upcoming 2017-2018 school year.

## **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. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Killion, to approve the Minutes of May 1, 2017. All in favor, with Mr. Chalmers and Mr. Dow abstaining.**

### **REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

- Norfolk School Committee Representative: Mr. Chalmers reported that at the annual town meeting, Norfolk approved 4.25% for the town and 4.5% for King Philip. The next Norfolk School Committee meeting will be held on May 16, 2017.
- Plainville School Committee Representative: None
- Wrentham School Committee Representative: None

### **NEW BUSINESS (Taken out of Order):**

HS Overnight Field Trip: Trip to Quebec, Canada. Mrs. Dill attempted to give an overview of the trip to France in April 2017, but due to technical difficulties was unable to show her presentation. This will be tabled to a later meeting.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Killion, to approve the 2018 trip to Quebec, Canada through Prometour from February 1-4, 2018 with an estimated cost between \$750 to 950.00 per student, as presented by Mrs. Dill. All in favor.**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Taken out of Order):**

Dr. Zielinski presented a FY18 budget summation which included key points showing how education costs increase each year as state and federal funding does not keep pace with the district's budgetary needs. This year the District has two significant increases totaling \$1.92M: special education costs have increased by \$1.3M and health insurance costs have increased by \$620K.

In a memorandum dated May 12, 2017 from Dr. Gilson, MS Principal, summarized the MS budgetary impacts. Dr. Mobley, HS Principal, provided a memorandum in which she outlined the impact on the HS at a 3% budget increase which would include changes to the Program of Studies and Student Handbook, along with courses not running in which students will be placed in a study hall as all other elective options are full.

Discussion ensued on courses not running such as Math and Latin. Mr. Francomano explained that the elimination of Latin has not been approved yet by the Committee vs. what the superintendent has recommended due to a 3 year commitment to a foreign language. Dr. Mobley clarified that we are committed to a 2 year program for Latin. Mr. Francomano indicated that he did not think that was presented to the School Committee and he had no idea we would not be able to run a Latin 3 program; nobody said it and we were not informed.

Mr. Francomano explained that healthcare insurance will be discussed by the School Committee to secure additional funds through healthcare insurance savings to bring back some of the teachers that we are talking about tonight; we are not clear on the number yet, but wanted to make you aware of it. It will get better and that includes some creativity on the part of the administration team.

Discussion ensued on when layoff notices are given to staff members. Dr. Zielinski explained that contractually, notices are given no later than June 15. She explained that notices will not be handed out until we definitely know the budget outcome following town meetings.

Mr. Gee explained that if we reach 4%, we would be up to \$110,000. Retiree healthcare unbundling is already in the reductions.

**Public Participation:**

Mr. Gee asked if anyone had any questions under Public Participation. Several members of the audience had questions and comments pertaining to the budget impact and how this would affect class size, especially as it pertained to seniors and AP Placements. Dr. Zielinski explained that seniors would get their first options, then by choices in course selection and the computer places them in and then look at overrides.

Mr. Francomano to Dr. Zielinski to the AP question, the AP courses that I see referenced on the cut sheet, where Math which are now restored; and the other is Science courses, Physics. If we can restore 3 positions, one of those positions would be a Science position, is that your recommendation.

Dr. Zielinski responded that the District is looking at the displacement at both buildings. Mr. Francomano indicated that the cuts at the MS are not the cut of the programs. The cuts at the HS cut the programs.

Dr. Mobley addressed the Latin program in which a 2 year program started 3 years ago and has been the same information that is given on curriculum night. If a child is in AP Physics there are no other options, because the other classes are full right now. For rising juniors we would remove them and hit the lottery button again, if I can only run 4 sections. A reset doesn't matter because if you put 900 kids and only have enough teachers to teach 800 students, then 100 students won't have classes because he or she doesn't have a teacher in that classroom. This is a challenge that will be looked at thoroughly.

Discussion ensued on whether or not students can take course offerings at another school? Dr. Mobley does not believe that is an option. Since there is not an AP teacher available, there would not be an independent study offered. We will prioritize the Virtual High School enrollment, but only 3 students in each course are accepted due to contractual obligation and you cannot pay for KP credit in the state of Massachusetts. Discussion continued about Foxboro offering courses, Dr. Mobley indicated that she will reach out to Foxboro for information on that statement. She also suggested reaching out to BCC for dual enrollment where courses can be taken during study. Discussion continued as to the impact of AP seminar classes in relation to the Honors Academy Program. Dr. Mobley noted it is still being offered because English is a 4 year program.

Mr. Gee referred to the HS potential impact list as it pertains to 3% and as additional money is found, the list will be adjusted.

Mr. Linde asked when is King Philip due for the next accreditation with NEAS&C. Dr. Mobley explained that the high school is in mid-cycle with NEAS&C and we will need to file any substantive changes. The high school has been taken off warning status and we do have 5 years to prepare, but will need to file substantive changes due to these budgetary impacts.

Mr. Francomano noted that NEAS&C is a tremendous tool, but NEAS&C accreditation is not required and has no impact on anybody's ability to get into college and we do not want it to be a scare factor, but it is a valuable tool and for the district as a whole.

Ms. McCarty asked if classes could be offered in the auditorium like they do at the college level. Dr. Mobley explained that there is no contractual reason that this could not occur for instance a non-lab course, but this may not help us in that current situation; or, besides PE, maybe an honors physics, but we would have to change the level of the class. Dr. Mobley reiterated that teaching a particular subject would be based upon the teacher's area of certification.

Mr. Zappala asked how multiple classes affect time on learning. Dr. Mobley said that yes this does affect time on learning. The HS will also not be implementing SBIRT as we don't have the personnel to run this.

Mr. Zappala also asked about School Choice and how does that affect your budget.

Dr. Zielinski explained that King Philip does not participate in School Choice due to budget restraints and class size. Many students return to us after attending private schools and it definitely affects our budget.

Mr. Francomano indicated that our faculty has always stepped up and I don't think that KP will fail them to the extent to drive students away.

Ms. Redlitz referred to Slide 13 scenario modeling town assessment. She said that the administration is doing a very good job of being creative and I think we have about exhausted the cuts that can be made. These cuts are based upon the 3% level, going to 4% would keep additional classes and keeps HS classes if we could come up to 4%. At Plainville Town Meeting, have someone make a motion to amend the budget by \$91,000 to come up to a 4% budget to save positions. Then have parents work together to look at a possible override, grants, etc. and get through this year and then move forward.

Mr. Cates: I agree with Julie Redlitz; we want KP at the highest level possible.

What is the projection for next year's budget FY19? Have to have a baseline.

Mr. Francomano said that is a fair question and one that the Budget & Finance Subcommittee has talked about, because the budget process has had some challenges and there has been concern about how it is structured and doing a long-term analysis. Things like special education, in order to do those projections, we should have been told that 4 out of district students would be coming into King Philip. We did not have information. The administration should have been asking those questions and the elementary should have shared that information with us. Communication has to improve and clear articulation about what special education looks like and what we can plan for.

Mr. Cates: Do you have all 3 towns represented by each elementary districts? Did not any one at the elementary level tell you about 4 high level special education students would be coming in?

Dr. Zielinski: Yes, through the census and reviewed the census process.

Mr. Francomano: Last year we did not receive any information from either of the 3 districts that these 4 students were coming up.

Mr. Gee: that is the budget cycle and potentially something to look at is when we get the census. Having information helps us.

Mr. Francomano: We have students that did not become out of district until immediately before or after the census so we are not aware of them at all. It is a communication issue and is hopefully being working through with the Walkers study to ensure greater collaboration with the 4 districts to alleviate these problems. What I do resent is it is nice to have someone to blame but we need to be more about solutions and take a more positive approach.

Mr. Cates: Who is responsible for the lower level districts to communicate what is coming up to the KP district? And where did we drop the ball on that one?

Discussion ensued on the Excess & Deficiency fund and Dr. Zielinski explained how it affected this year's budget.

Mr. Francomano said that King Philip is everyone's school (Norfolk, Plainville and Wrentham) and we have had continued frustration between the elementary districts and King Philip, not for lack of trying and lack of collaboration. The King Philip Regional School Committee has no control over the elementary districts and vis-a-versa.

Could there be a collaboration or regionalization of superintendents overseeing the 4 districts. It has been discussed in the past.

Mr. Mastrogiamomo: Have furlough days been discussed at all?

Dr. Zielinski: We did request with the union to look at specific areas, the association was not inclined to open up the contract.

Mr. Mastrogiamomo: How often is the budget reviewed during the year? Did you know that E&D was going to be used?

Mr. Francomano: We review the budget at a minimum quarterly, there was a spending freeze put on in January.

Mr. Mastrogiamomo: Have you added in surplus or unexpected expenses; do you add in any extra money?

Dr. Zielinski: We apply circuit breaker withholding for \$350,000 for special ed costs. Any potential funding in special education we re-evaluate students.

Mr. Francomano: We asked the special education director to provide us with a clear analysis where we see the in/out process (no names) for wiggle room.

Mr. Gee: There is a long-range strategic plan, continuous push and pull, there are the fundamentals such as special education and healthcare; and intangibles of improvement.

Mr. Chalmers: Any insight from state or federal income.

Dr. Zielinski reviewed Chapter 70 funding and the rate from each town. Regional transportation is covered this year at 25%. The Governor's budget comes out in April; House 1 came in April; House Ways & Means conferencing to determine what our level of funding will be and that budget may not come out until the end of May.

Discussion ensued on the foundation budget and that it does not reflect what it is going to cost to educate your students.

Discussion ensued on community outreach by the district to the residents of the 3 towns explaining the budget summary and its impact on the education of our children.

Mr. Francomano: The silver lining is the passion and interest of the community and the engagement to make changes. We need to balance everything and keep things in perspective.

Mr. Cates: I do apologize. This is not Norfolk, Plainville and Wrentham vs King Philip. We all want to see everything succeed and we want the same thing.

## **PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT**

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers

### **COMMUNICATION:**

2016/2017 School Committee Subcommittee List (Reorganization) – tabled to June 6, 2017.

## **AGENDA**

### **COMMUNICATION: (Tabled to June 6, 2017)**

KP in the News  
Disclosure Statement for School Committee Members  
Budget & Finance Approved Minutes dated April 21, 2017  
OfficeScope Update  
MA Medical Society, Letter dated 4/7/17: Epi-Pens  
HS Traffic Study Update: Mr. Lewis  
MA Dept. of Labor Standards Letter – MS Corrective Action Response  
2016 MetroWest Survey Key Indicator Report

## **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### **FY18 Budget Update:**

**FY17 Quarterly Financial Report:** Mr. Caliento provided an update in a memorandum dated May 10, 2017.

#### **Auditor's Report Update on OPEB Plan:**

Mr. Caliento provided a memorandum dated May 10, 2017, in which he recommended establishing a restricted fund to offset the district's OPEB liability and to set up a pension reserve fund and transfer the funds from E&D. Mr. Francomano asked how can I transfer to the fund now out of operations budget into that account? The Department of Revenue has a negative balance. Dr. Zielinski will check with our auditors on the next step of the process and then the Committee would need to vote to create the account for OPEB at the June 6, 2017 meeting.

#### **Superintendent's Evaluation (Tabled to June 6, 2017)**

#### **Location of June 5, 2017 School Committee Meeting:**

- ✦ Based upon discussion, a Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Chalmers to change the June 5, 2017 King Philip Regional School Committee Meeting to Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 7pm. All in favor.

Mr. Gee suggested that the following agenda items be placed on the June 6, 2017 meeting:

- School Committee Reorganization
- Superintendent's Contract and Evaluation
- Outlook for the Budget
- Result of town meetings (Plainville and Wrentham)

**School Committee Retreat Date (Tabled to June 6, 2017)**

**NEW BUSINESS (continued):**

**Reappointment of Crossing Guards:**

- ✦ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Chalmers, to reappoint Colleen Bianculli and Wayne Burt, as Crossing Guards for the 2017/2018 school year, commencing September 1, 2017. All in favor.

**Fees:**

- ✦ Based upon the Budget & Finance Subcommittee's recommendation, A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Killion, to increase extracurricular fees by 15%. This would be reflective of the sports fees becoming \$230, \$345, \$460, %75 respectfully. In addition, parking fees would be increased from \$1.00 per day to \$1.25 per day. There would also be an increase in fees to facility renters in category 6 (for profit uses) by 30%, and to increase facility renters in category 4 (member town non-profit groups) by 15%. In addition, category 6 custodial labor rate will increase by \$5.00 per hour per custodian assigned to that event. The District is to make sure extracurricular fees are apportioned and in comparison with other area districts. All in favor.

**Director of Finance Interview Search Committee:**

Discussion ensued based upon Dr. Zielinski's memorandum dated May 12, 2017, about the selection of chair for the search committee and to discuss the makeup of the committee. Following discussion, Mr. Killion volunteered to be chair of the search committee.

- ✦ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Chalmers, that Mr. Killion would be designated as Chair for the Director of Finance Interview Search Committee and the makeup of the committee would be discussed on June 6, 2017. All in favor.

**Non-Discrimination and Harassment Policy (1<sup>st</sup> Reading) –** (Tabled to June 6, 2017).

**LATE COMMUNICATIONS**

**REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- ✦ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Killion, to adjourn into Executive Session at 10:05pm, and not to return to open 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. (Units A, B, C D and Cafeteria, Retiree - Health insurance). It was decided that the Superintendent's contract will be tabled until June 6, 2017. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (7); No (0). Mr. Dow will recuse himself from Executive Session discussions regarding healthcare.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Killion, to adjourn Executive Session at 10:50pm. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (6); No (0).**

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Lisa Barrett Witkus  
Secretary to the School Committee*