

KING PHILIP REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES
June 6, 2016
Wood School, Plainville, MA - Music Room

CALL TO ORDER:

Dr. Zielinski called the meeting to order at 5:35PM.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Members Present:	Norfolk:	Michael Gee, Noelle Tonelli
	Plainville:	Ann-marie Martin, Patrick Francomano, Charlene McEntee
	Wrentham:	Lynn Desrochers, Danielle Schmitz
Members Absent:	Norfolk:	Jeff Chalmers
	Wrentham:	Jim Killion,
	Plainville:	Present (Mrs. McEntee left the meeting at 6:15pm to attend the Plainville Elementary School Meeting prior to Plainville Town Meeting)

HS Student Council Representative: Eliza Sheehan – absent.

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. Mobley, Mr. Wolloff

REORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Dr. Zielinski accepted nominations for chair:

- ✦ **Mrs. Tonelli nominated Mrs. Martin which was seconded by Mr. Francomano. Hearing no other nominations, Mrs. Martin was unanimously voted as chair.**

Mrs. Martin accepted nominations for vice chair:

- ✦ **Mr. Francomano nominated Mr. Gee, seconded by Mrs. Tonelli. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Gee was unanimously voted as vice chair.**

Reorganization of School Committee:

Dr. Zielinski asked for nominations for chair.

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mrs. Tonelli to nominate Mrs. Martin as chair. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Francomano. Hearing no other nominations, the motion carried. All in favor. Yes (7); No (0).**

Mrs. Martin asked for nominations for vice chair.

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano to nominate Mr. Gee as vice chair. The Motion was seconded by Mrs. McEntee. Hearing no other nominations, the motion carried. All in favor. Yes (7); No (0).**

2016/2017 Subcommittee List:

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee, seconded by Mr. Francomano, to approve the Subcommittee List as presented for the 2016/2017 school year. All in favor.**

New Business (taken out of order):

Unit D 2016-2019 Memorandum of Agreement Ratification:

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Gee, to approve the Unit D (Teacher Assistants) 2016-2019 Contract as written. All in favor.

Bi-County Board of Directors Appointment:

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to reappoint Dr. Elizabeth Zielinski, Superintendent of the King Philip Regional School District to the Bi-County Educational Collaborative Board of Directors as the District's voting member for the 2016/2017 school year. All in favor.

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 Mrs. Tonelli, to approve the Minutes of May 16, 2016 as presented. All in favor, with Mr. Gee, Mrs. Desrochers and Mrs. McEntee abstaining.

PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers

COMMUNICATION:

Appointments, Retirements, Resignations, etc.
Board & Administrator, April 2016, Vol. 29, No. 12

AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Tonelli, to approve the retain the Executive Session minutes of May 16, 2016 as presented. All in favor, with Mr. Gee, Mrs. Desrochers and Mrs. McEntee abstaining.

COMMUNICATION:

KP in the News:

- The following articles were in *The Sun Chronicle*:
- "KPMS to boost awareness of rare genetic disorder," dated May 18, 2016;
- "KPMS lip synced to songs," dated May 22, 2016;
- "KPRHS DECA successful," dated May 28, 2016;
- "KPRHS – Relay for life," dated June 1, 2016.
- KP DECA Celebrates Accomplishments at annual banquet, written by Blair Cloutier, VP of Marketing.
- BICO FY17 certification of annual budget
- DESE Coordinated Program Review – Mid-Cycle Report

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent's 2015/2016 Evaluation was tabled until June 20, 2016.

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Norfolk School Committee Representative: Mr. Chalmers – None

Plainville School Committee Representative: Mrs. McEntee – Plainville revised their FY17 budget and reduced it per the Finance Committee's request; approved the revised music curriculum K-6 according to the standards, approved the professional development 2016/2017 calendar; discussion about cursive writing.

Wrentham School Committee Representative: Ms. Schmitz – The *Swish* basketball game was held to assist families in need and raised over \$14K; there was a change to Move-Up Day where students will now meet the entire grade; Wrentham Town meeting is June 13; the Delaney roof is in need of replacement and will cost the town for \$1M. This will be presented at town meeting and may be on the ballot in April 2017.

HS Student Council Representative: Ms. Sheehan Schoolwide

Final Exams will begin on Tuesday, June 15th and conclude on KP's last day of school, Friday June 17th.

The Seniors' last day of classes occurred on Tuesday, May 24th.

The Relay for life will occurred at KP on Friday June 3rd, 2016.

Student Council

The council held another successful fundraising event, titled "Kiss a Senior Goodbye". Students from all 4 classes were given the opportunity to send "goodbye grams" to the graduating seniors for 50 cents each. The grams were delivered in homeroom on the seniors last day of classes!

The Student council is currently beginning to plan some new events that will potentially debut next year. The council's advisor recently attended a Calendar meeting to ensure that there is a time and place for each of the events that the council will hold next year!

The Council held their end of year banquet at KPHS on Wednesday, June 1st 6-8PM.

KPMA

KPMA hosted a "Senior Recital" on Wednesday, June 1st. Students from KP involved in the music program were all encouraged to attend this special event to honor KPMA Seniors.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Director of Finance Search Update:

Mrs. Desrochers updated the Committee on the interview process to-date. On May 31, the search committee interviewed 2 of the 6 candidates. One of the candidates could not attend, so the committee decided that if a time slot opens up on June 7, they we would offer that time slot. 3 candidates will be interviewed on June 7, 2016.

June 27 has been confirmed and quorum has been met for the Director of Finance interviews to be conducted with the school committee. Finalists' names will be released once the search committee selects them.

FY17 Budget:

In a memorandum dated June 1, 2016, Mr. Schaefer presented an update on FY16 operating budget estimates and an FY2017 Operating Budget Update in preparation for town meetings.

NEW BUSINESS:

Independent Music Options:

In a memorandum dated June 3, 2016, Dr. Zielinski indicated that the District has received a legal ruling from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education regarding students who take various music classes for credit. Specifically, the District cannot compel students to take private music lessons at their own expense in order to receive honors credit. With that there was dialog regarding the budget process and Dr. Zielinski noted that lessons would cost \$105K for music and choral that has been taken out of the budget. Also, for DECA, the District cannot have students pay for the regional and the state competitions as part of the student's grade. \$68K has been kept in the budget for DECA at this time. The district is not looking to pit music vs. DECA, but needs to look at it as another way to accommodate these students, according to Dr. Zielinski.

Regarding the reductions in the budget, Mr. Francomano noted that the administration removed the \$105K from the budget, not the School Committee.

Dr. Zielinski reviewed 5 options along with the consequences of each action as outlined in her memorandum.

Mr. Wolloff stated that a change in the requirement will change the tenor of the program as it exists right now. The individual attention that students receive has been pretty substantial over the years. Many years ago students did not receive honors credit, it would take away the level. Mr. Wolloff indicated that he is certified to teach a variety of instruments but to break down the amount of attention he can give a student during band class would amount to less than a minute.

Mr. Gee asked how the program would be affected if lessons were not mandatory. Mr. Wolloff stated that he would find a way, but it will have an impact. 15-20% of the students at the MS, where lessons are not required, take lessons.

Dr. Mobley stated that DECA's fundraising capabilities have been severely impacted since they can no longer sell cookies at lunch. Students personally fundraise for the ICDC trip.

Mr. Francomano questioned the fundraising argument, and was concerned about pitting one program over the other. Both of these programs have required students to pay for that which they shouldn't have had to. Further clarification was requested as to what are the essential elements of both programs. Is it the administration's opinion that music lessons are not an integral part of the program and state competitions are not an integral part of the DECA curriculum?

Discussion ensued about how integral music lessons are to the program and whether there can be a change to small group lessons to lower the cost to the district while still providing instruction. There was concern about the scheduling of such lessons – the administration will research further for the next School Committee meeting.

There was consensus that DECA's district competition is integral to the program and is not a financial burden on the District.

Mrs. Desrochers expressed concern about the possibility of cutting a teaching position to fund these programs.

Mr. Francomano questioned the request to add a staff for STEM at the cost of funding the DECA program or more than half the cost of funding the music.

Dr. Mobley stated that cutting the funding for the states does not affect what the student can participate in and that students in symphony band can participate at 2 different levels. There is a demand for science and robotics at CP and honors level. She acknowledged that music lessons do improve the quality of play but that she is carefully looking at options that will benefit a wide range of students.

(Mrs. McEntee left the meeting at 6:15pm.)

Discussion continued on the differences between CP and honors, that they both teach to the same standards but that the depth of an honors class is increased. Music lessons help achieve this depth. It was also noted that Ms. Sheehan, at a previous School Committee meeting, had eloquently stated how her music lesson instructor had helped her grow as a musician.

Discussion ensued on stipend positions.

Tabled to June 20.

Dr. Mobley expressed her concern about not having a resolution this evening. I have been interviewing candidates and we need to make decisions because people have been offered positions elsewhere.

RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ✚ At 6:40pm, a Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. Schmitz to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing non-union personnel independent employment contracts. All in favor by roll call vote: yes (6); no (0).

ADJOURNMENT:

- ✚ At 6:49pm, A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Gee to adjourn. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (6); No (0).

Respectfully submitted,

*Lisa B. Witkus
Secretary to the School Committee*