

KING PHILIP REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Minutes - Approved
June 18, 2018
King Philip Regional High School - Library
201 Franklin Street, Wrentham, MA 02093

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Members Present:	Norfolk:	Michael Gee, Paul Cochran
	Plainville:	Amy Abrams, Samad Khan, Bruce Cates
	Wrentham:	Jim Killion, Erin DeStefano

Members Absent:	Norfolk:	Kenneth Dow
	Wrentham:	Trevor Knott
	Plainville:	Present

HS Student Council Representative: Miss Linde

Mr. Gee welcomed Mr. Paul Cochran as the Norfolk Public Schools appointed representative to the King Philip Regional School District.

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 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

Dr. Zielinski, Superintendent, Mr. Azer, Director of Finance, Dr. Mobley, Dr. Gilson, Mr. Brown, Athletic Director, Mr. Bois, Technology Director, Mr. Zinni, Superintendent-Elect, Ms. Moy, Director of Student Support Services Candidate

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:*

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. Killion, seconded by Mr. Khan, to approve the Minutes of February 13, 2018, May 21, 2018 and May 29, 2018, as presented. All in favor. May 7, 2018, as presented. All in favor. Yes (7); No (0); Abstain (0) Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers

COMMUNICATION:

Appointments, Resignations, Retirements, etc. were presented by Dr. Zielinski.

AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

✚ **A Motion was made by Mrs. DeStefano, seconded by Mr. Killion, to approve and retain the Executive Session Minutes of May 21, 2018, as presented. All in favor. Yes (7); No (0); Abstain (0) Motion carried.**

✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Khan, seconded by Mr. Cates, to approve and retain the Executive Session Minutes of May 29, 2018, as presented. All in favor. Yes (7); No (0); Abstain (0) Motion carried.**

COMMUNICATION:

- KP in the News
- Dr. Zielinski referenced an article in *The Sun Chronicle* on the KP graduation, entitled "KP's top students to be in spotlight." Graduation was held at Stonehill College in a record breaking 1 hour and 40 minutes. Thanks to Mrs. Meyer for her speech and to Rep. Dooley for handing out diplomas.
- An article in *The Sun Chronicle*, dated June 10, entitled "KPHS grads encouraged to use skills to better the world."
- An article in *The Sun Chronicle*, dated June 12, entitled "Suspect identified in KPHS threat."
- HS Student Council Report: Miss Linde presented her report dated June 18, 2018.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Director of Student Support Services (DSSS) Search – Selection of Candidate

In a memorandum dated June 15, 2018 to the School Committee from Superintendent-Elect Zinni, he explained the outcome of an extensive screening process in which Ms. Lisa Moy is being recommended to the School Committee for the position of Director of Student Support Services. Mr. Gee articulated the content of the memo into the minutes

Mr. Gee provided the opportunity for public comment.

Elena Varney, Transition Coordinator and Chair of the Search Committee, explained that the composition of the first search committee and the charge that was given to her as Chair. Ms. Varney read a letter of resounding support of Mrs. Eckart, who was an internal candidate and member of the KP Special Education Department holding many roles including HS and MS Team Chair and Department Head. Ms. Eckart received glowing letters of recommendation from all levels of the administration and does not present a "business as usual" attitude and she balances the fiscal responsibilities of the department. Ms. Varney expressed sincere respect for the school committee members and would appreciate their consideration of the process and Ms. Eckart.

Stephanie Sweeton, District Speech and Language Pathologist Grade 7 through transition program also spoke on behalf of Ms. Eckart. She presented a letter from MS and HS special education department members dated June 8 showing their collective support of Mrs. Eckart as to why she would be an excellent Director of Student Support Services. Ms. Eckart has solid working relationships with each elementary district and understands the budget requirements necessary for a successful transition. Complex learning disabilities, careful and thoughtful interactions are factors that Ms. Eckart possesses. She expressed to the school committee members that the MS and HS thank them for their service and support of Connie Eckart.

Stephanie Sweeton also read a letter on behalf of Ms. Eckart from Karen Riley, a KP Parent, who was not in attendance.

Kathy Curtin, MS Special Education Teacher has worked with Ms. Eckart in her role as special education department head and TEAM chair and offered her support on behalf of Connie Eckart as a liaison for families who are transitioning to KP making them flawless.

Members of the community and parents offered their support in favor of Ms. Eckart in the role of Director of Student Support Services.

Mr. Gee explained that this position requires school committee approval. The School Committee established the process by forming a subcommittee at the May 21, 2018 meeting in which it was agreed to adjust the process to form a second round of interviews.

Mr. Gee asked for comments from the school committee. Mr. Killion indicated that the support from the staff and the community is testimony on behalf of Connie Eckart is amazing and also the support for the special education department.

Mr. Paul Cochran, indicated that while he did not participate in the interview process he has had personal interaction with Connie Eckart and has been outstanding in making the transition from Norfolk to the MS and HS for his children as easy and seamless as possible. He said that Connie and her team's heart were in the same place.

Mrs. Abrams asked Ms. Varney the question: when was the public involved in the process? Ms. Varney indicated that when she was asked to be the chair of the committee she was handed a piece of paper with the process and the expected members of the committee. It included teachers, union, parental representation, school committee members, 1 parent from each town and there was other special education staff and the superintendent elect. Ms. indicated she received scripted district hiring protocol. Mrs. Abrams asked when did the community at large get involved. Ms. Varney said she did not know as that is not what she was charged with.

Mr. Cates: Given that special education has been in the spotlight in the budget process as well and how to improve on our programs to continue the cost containment and fiscal responsibility, were all those considered?

Mrs. Abrams said that for the second committee, the subcommittee interviewed 3 very qualified candidates and Lisa Moy rose to the top of the candidate pool as the one who could handle the more global responsibility, budget, circuit breaker and fiscal responsibility.

Mr. Cates: KP is in a state of change with a new superintendent, school committee members, director of student support services, and managing the changes will be important to all of us.

Mr. Gee, hearing no further comments, asked for a Motion on the Director of Student Support Services appointment.

✦ **A Motion to approve was made by Mrs. Abrams, seconded by Mr. Gee. There was no further discussion. Yes: (2) Mr. Gee and Mrs. Abrams. Opposed: (4) Mr. Khan, Mr. Cochrane, Mr. Cates, Mrs. DeStefano. Abstain: (1) Mr. Killion. Motion failed.**

Discussion ensued on next steps in relation to the candidate put forward by the appointed subcommittee. Mrs. DeStefano said that she has not heard enough of Lisa Moy and wants to have more information in support of Lisa Moy. Mrs. Abrams indicated that Lisa Moy has a breadth of experience and the job description has changed. Ms. Eckart does not have that experience based upon the new job description. For this particular role, the subcommittee recommended Lisa Moy.

Mr. Zinni asked to address a couple of issues and to speak to the audience. He indicated that there is no one process and every district has their own process and procedures. This committee approved a recommendation to modify the process with a hiring subcommittee, the purpose being to recommend one candidate rather than bring candidates before the School Committee to interview. He indicated they were very impressed by Connie Eckart and would agree with the comments made. At the end of that interview process, it was the decision of that committee that Ms. Moy had all the qualifications. We followed the process that the School Committee set up. Mr Zinni also pointed out that by July 1 we need a special education director, even if it is an interim, according to state mandates.

Discussion ensued on having another meeting next week to provide more extensive information and asked for members' availability. Mr. Zinni asked if this matter could be addressed in Executive Session, however, Mr. Gee indicated that per open meeting law, it was not listed on the agenda.

RECOGNITION OF RETIREES (Taken out of Order):

Recognition was given to the retirees of the District during 2018. Mr. Myette, MS Physical Education Teacher with 36 years of services and Mrs. Meyer, HS Science Teacher with 14 years of service, were present and were thanked for their dedication and service to the students during their tenure. Other retirees not present were Ms. Lacher, Director of Special Education, Mrs. Strekouras, HS Math Teacher, Mr. Kummer, HS Math Teacher, and Mrs. Benson, MS Teacher Assistant.

Recognition was given to Dr. Zielinski, Superintendent for her service over the past 8 years.

Unfinished Business (Taken out of Order): **Safety and Security Protocol: Dr. Mobley**

Dr. Mobley presented a report on safety and security dated June 18, 2018 which addressed the following topics:

- ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate)
- Non-violence crisis intervention
- The Safety and Security Team

Dr. Mobley also addressed an event at the HS in which there was a graffiti incident found indicating the date of June 12, 2018. Dr. Mobley explained that this incident was found to not be credible by the police department. Discussion ensued on the conflicting messages that occurred and the decisions and consequences for students not attending that day. Dr. Mobley was not aware of the situation that the Wrentham PD reported that there was a suspect and neither was Dr. Zielinski and they had to do whatever due diligence they had to do. The suspect has withdrawn from KP and we sent out a picture to all staff letting them know the student is no longer in this school. As a public school we are responsible for all students education.

Dr. Mobley referred to social media and how it has been researched to increase anxiety and depression. She suggested that critical information should come directly from the source (i.e., police, KP) rather than social media.

Mr. Gee indicated that he attended the Wrentham PD forum on 6/12. There were parent concerns raised about communication and information sharing and that the MS and the elementary schools were not notified. Dr. Mobley indicated that there was a ConnectEd problem and protocols were followed.

Public comment from Julie Redlitz, Norfolk: She wasn't able to attend the meeting by Wrentham police, but was concerned there was no follow-up on that and that it was not received well. She asked to hear a report about the incident and the status of the police investigation. Wrentham police should not just post to Wrentham FB pages because it leaves other community members in the dark. Julie felt like there was not information leading up to the day of school and it was a parent's and child's decision on whether they wanted to go to school and feel unsafe.

NEW BUSINESS: (Taken out of Order):

Report on Cultural Proficiency Working Group Update: Dr. Mobley

An update on the Cultural Proficiency Working Group was given by Dr. Mobley in a memorandum dated June 18, 2018.

NEASC: Dr. Mobley

In a memorandum dated June 18, 2018, Dr. Mobley provided the Committee with an update on the NEASC process and accreditation. In March 2018 KPRHS submitted their five year report commenting on 42 corrective action steps. On April 23, 2018, a letter was received from NEASC commending the work of the KPRHS and asked for continued work on 3 remaining actions by March 1, 2019.

Concession Stand Renovations: Mr. Azer and Mr. Brown (Taken out of order):

Mr. Brown and Mr. Azer met with representatives of the Athletic Boosters and Random Smile projects regarding the renovation to the high school concession stand. A plan has been devised, at no cost to the district, using donated labor and/or materials as well as financial contributions to offset other costs. Also the School district will need to maintain it along with a flagpole. The flagpole project will be conducted by Eagle Scouts Jack Norbert and Jack Collentro. The Committee thanked these groups for their continued support and dedication to King Philip.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Killion, seconded by Mrs. DeStefano, to approve the concession stand enhancement and the flagpole project. All in favor. Yes (7); No (0). Motion carried.**

2018/2019 MS Handbook: Susan Gilson (Taken out of order):

Dr. Gilson presented the MS 2018/2019 Handbook. She indicated that the MS dress code has been revised and is currently under legal review. A 2nd reading will be presented at the August 6, 2018 meeting. Discussion ensued on the language in the policy of the new dress code: The school administration reserves the right to determine what is and is not appropriate for the school environment. Dr. Gilson will take this under consideration and obtain a legal opinion.

Mr. Bois, Technology Report (1st reading)

Mr. Bois presented the 2018-2020 KP Technology Improvement Plan. A 2nd reading will be presented at an upcoming meeting.

- **Strategic Objective #1:** Deploy and implement Google Apps for Education. No budgetary implications. Switching to google docs. There are Goals that we try to reach.
- **Strategic Objective #2:** Begin implementation of SIS system. Ipass services all services related to students. Ipass is no longer giving us what we need and don't feel confident in the system. Formulated a committee and compared SIS systems and let the committee choose what they want is Infinite Campus. Dr. Zielinski explained the financial implications.
- Mrs. Abrams asked if parents were involved and will there be a product demo? Mr. Bois indicated that parents were involved and will be considered. The primary focus was on the faculty. He does want a parent view on the different vendors and will plan to bring in demos from at least 2 vendors (infinite campus and Aspen).
- **Strategic Goal #3:** HS will fully support a bring your own device (BYOD) initiative with support through community engagement and teacher awareness training. Mr. Bois explained the maintenance of the technology and aging of technology and BYOD is a huge resource. The HS has been supporting BYOD for about a year and a half; teachers have not used it yet in their classrooms.
- **Strategic Goal #4:** Update and expand on the end user devices in the district. Mr. Bois does not want to buy anymore desktops as they are unused in the classroom and a waste of money. He would prefer to purchase laptops

which will allow them to be mobile and increase ability to communicate and elaborate. Default warranty included. The increased number of devices should not be a burden on the technology team according to Mr. Bois.

- **Strategic Goal #5:** Replace and update the server and network/WIFI equipment. These will be purchased for a special education student, with an update at both buildings and replace core servers at the HS which are 7 years old but running out of space.

Unfinished Business (Taken out of order):

Job Descriptions: Dr. Zielinski:

Dr. Zielinski presented the 2nd reading of the following Unit A Job Descriptions and explained that these are part of the Unit A contract negotiations as part of the collective bargaining agreement if approved for 2018 to 2021:

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mrs. Abrams, seconded by Mr. Killion, to approve the following job descriptions as presented, with the understanding that they will need to be ratified by the KPTA and the School Committee as part of the contract negotiations. Approval of these job descriptions does not indicate that the position(s) will be filled. The positions are:**

- **Student Activity Advisor (2nd Reading)**
- **Director of Music – District Wide (2nd Reading)**
- **Marching Band Director (2nd Reading)**
- **Recycling Coordinator (2nd Reading)**
- **ESL Lead Coordinator (2nd Reading)**
- **ESL Coordinator (2nd Reading)**

All in favor. Yes (7); No (0). Motion carried.

School Committee Retreat Discussion:

The School Committee Retreat will be held at the KP Middle School on Wednesday, July 18 from 9am-3pm.

Building Walkthroughs – Discussion on Change of Date:

The Building Walkthroughs will be rescheduled from Wednesday, August 22 to Monday, August 20, 2018 starting at the MS at 6pm and proceed to the HS at 7pm.

NEW BUSINESS (continued):

Budget Update: Mr. Azer

Mr. Azer explained that the total budget of 34,657,740 was approved by all three towns. Operating budget after removing debt service and capital is 32,538,740 which is a 2.65% increase from FY 2018, the smallest annual increase in 8 years.

The only reduction in services for FY 2019 is the elimination of late buses; however, the Senate's adopted budget increase the regional transportation reimbursement by an amount that would allow us to fully fund the late buses if that amount survives the remainder of the budget process.

If the final regional transportation reimbursement number ends up being higher than our final adopted budget, we recommend not recalculating the assessments so those additional funds stay in the district.

Bid Award: Telephone System Upgrade – Mr. Azer

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Killion, seconded by Mr. Khan, to award a contract not to exceed \$75,000 to Metropolitan Telephone for the update/replacement of the telephone systems at the MS and the HS. All in favor: Yes (7); No (0). Motion carried.**

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS: None

LATE COMMUNICATIONS

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Gee and the Committee thanked Lisa Moy for coming out tonight and to consider coming back to talk to the committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Cates seconded by Mr. Khan, to adjourn at 9:35pm. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (7); No (0). Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Lisa Barrett Witkus
Secretary to the School Committee*

List of documents presented at the June 18, 2018 meeting:

Draft minutes February 13, 2018
Draft minutes May 21, 2018
Draft Minutes May 29, 2018
Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers
Appointments, Resignations, Retirements, etc.
Draft Executive Session Minutes of May 21, 2018
Draft Executive Session Minutes of May 29, 2018
KP in the News
HS Student Council Report: Miss Linde
Director of Student Support Services Search – Selection of Candidate
Job Descriptions: Dr. Zielinski

- Student Activity Advisor (2nd Reading)
- Director of Music – District Wide (2nd Reading)
- Marching Band Director (2nd Reading)
- Recycling Coordinator (2nd Reading)
- ESL Lead Coordinator (2nd Reading)
- ESL Coordinator (2nd Reading)

Safety Update: Dr. Zielinski, Dr. Mobley
School Committee Retreat Discussion
Building Walkthroughs – Discussion on Change of Date
Cultural Proficiency Group Update: Dr. Mobley
NEASC Update: Dr. Mobley
MS Student Handbooks (1st reading): Dr. Gilson
Technology Report (1st Reading): Mr. Bois
Budget Update: Mr. Azer
Concession Stand Renovations: Mr. Azer
Bid Award: Telephone System: Mr. Azer