

KING PHILIP REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
February 27, 2017  
King Philip Regional High School – Library

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mrs. Martin, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

**ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Members Present:	Norfolk:	Mike Gee, Jeff Chalmers, Noelle Tonelli
	Plainville:	Ann-marie Martin, Patrick Francomano, Charlene McEntee
	Wrentham:	Jim Killion, Erin DeStefano
Members Absent:	Norfolk:	Present
	Wrentham:	Lynn Desrochers
	Plainville:	Present

The meeting is being videotaped by Wrentham Cable Access. Mrs. Martin 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) Mrs. Martin also explained the procedure for public comment. Wrentham is having some technical difficulties this evening that will hopefully be resolved.

**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. Gee, to approve the Consent Agenda including the Minutes dated February 6, 2017, as presented. All in favor, with Mrs. Tonelli, Mr. Chalmers, Mrs. DeStefano and Mr. Killion abstaining.**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT**

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers

**COMMUNICATION:**

Appointments, Retirements, Resignations, etc., memorandum dated January 23, 2017 was presented by Dr. Zielinski.

**AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to approve and retain the Executive Session Minutes of February 6, 2017 emailed by Mrs. Martin to the School Committee. All in favor with Mr. Chalmers, Mrs. Tonelli, Mrs. DeStefano and Mr. Killion abstaining**

**DELEGATIONS AND VISITORS**

Dr. Gilson, Dr. Mobley. Mr. Dyer, Fisher House - Boston

**New Business: (Taken out of order):**

**KP Wrestling Team Donation to Fisher House.**

Mr. Dyer of Fisher House – Boston is running in the 2017 Boston Marathon and commended the KP Wrestling Team for their donation. Fisher House offers free lodging to military families when their loved ones need any of the Boston hospitals. Mr. Dyer presented medals to each member of the wrestling team and a letter of appreciation signed by Ms. DeLuca who was unable to attend tonight's presentation of the donation.

## **Communication:**

### **KP In the News:**

- DECA e-mail from James Dow, Advisor dated February 6, 2017;
- An article about DECA in The Sun Chronicle dated February 8, 2017.
- Minutes of the Finance Subcommittee dated November 15, 2016 and December 2, 2016.
- KPSEPAC – Overview on the Special Education Transition to the Middle School on March 1, 2017;
- 15/16 Annual Town Report for the King Philip Regional School District.

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

Dr. Zielinski presented the FY18 Superintendent's proposed operating budget and is attached as part of the record. Mrs. Martin mentioned that the FY18 budget public hearing will be held on Monday, March 6 at 7pm in the HS Library. In the event of inclement weather, the hearing will be held on Thursday, March 9 at 7pm in the HS Library.

Discussion ensued on the programs offered for special education services and whether those services are looked at to minimize costs to the district. Dr. Zielinski explained that the district does look to develop programs and bring out of district students back to King Philip when it is feasible and fiscally possible.

Discussion ensued on excess and deficiency funds and how the District has appealed a decision made by the MDOR. To-date a response to the appeal has not been received.

Mr. Francomano explained that there is a freeze districtwide on non-essential spending. Also discussed was that using E&D to support the operations budget is not an ideal situation because the balance is going to fluctuate and the account is designed to be used in an emergency or unforeseen situation.

Mr. Francomano explained that the district needs an increase to provide a level increase to the budget. He continued to explain the budget process with the first step being that the superintendent presents a recommended budget to the full committee; it is still a work in process working with the Finance Subcommittee. The next meeting is a public hearing where people have the opportunity to comment and then the school committee votes a budget to be sent to the 3 towns. That budget could be more or less depending on the discussion. Once the budget is voted on, the district will begin the process of speaking with the 3 towns. The Committee is not recommending cuts at this time. Cuts may have to occur if the 3 towns don't agree to provide the requested funding. A vote will be taken on the recommended budget on March 6 and that budget will be sent to the three towns. Between then and town meeting, there will be at least 1 meeting with the selectmen and finance committees of each town to go over the budget. The school committee will advocate for the budget. The towns respond with what they can offer. Ultimately we may reduce the budget to what their recommendation is, or ask town meeting to vote a budget that is contrary to their recommendation.

Mrs. McEntee noted that ultimately it is left up to the public voting in the member towns during town meeting.

Discussion ensued on budget funding at the state level and chapter 70 funding. Mr. Francomano encouraged members of the community to contact their state representatives and senators to implement the Foundation Budget Review Commission's recommendations.

Mrs. Snead advocated to have parent lobby to save jobs and keep an eye on the postings for meetings.

Dr. Zielinski will post the budget town meeting on the KP webpage and on the school committee site along with putting together frequently asked questions. She also will send out a ConnectEd message to the community.

Mr. Francomano suggested that if parents and community members have individual questions, to please reach out to Committee members.

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

- Norfolk School Committee Representative: Mr. Chalmers: At the last meeting, there was a review on Special Education Steering Committee by Supt. Allardi and HOD roof replacement discussion.
- Plainville School Committee Representative: Mrs. McEntee – Met on 2/14/17 with a report by Supt. Raiche on maintenance needs, mid-year update on data needs, administrative report on social/emotional and professional learning committee, revised some policies.

- Wrentham School Committee Representative: Mrs. DeStefano – Met on 2/16, the roof project underway, bids are due mid-March; the town will pay for this project without an override and will be completed over summer vacation; discussed FY17 budget planning, finalized school calendar, and there was a school safety meeting to discuss opioid addiction and marijuana edibles with SRO Officer Hearon.
- HS Student Council Representative: Miss Sheehan
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#### Schoolwide

Junior Questionnaire Packets were due to assigned Guidance Counselors before Monday, February 27th. Boys State & Girls State is June 17-23 at Stonehill College. Students from the Junior Class have been encouraged to apply.

#### KP Cares

KP Cares is currently hosting a Food Drive; Pantry bins are located outside the library for donations. This food drive is a part of KP Care's February Kindness month.

#### Student Council

Throughout the week of Monday, February 13th KP Student Council put on their annual Valentine's Day Gram Fundraiser. Valentine's Day Grams were on-sale during all four lunches for \$1.50. Students selected the gram of their choice, with attached Hershey Kisses. The Valentine's Day Grams were delivered to homerooms by Student Council representatives.

Starting today, Monday February 27th, KP Student Council kicked off their February Spirit Week with the following days:

Monday- Flannel Day

Tuesday- Patriots Day

Wednesday- Workout Wednesday

Thursday- Neon Day

Friday- Groufit Day

Student Council recently postponed their annual Talent Show Event to Wednesday, March 29th. This year's Talent Show will also consist of a "Lip Sync Battle" Segment. First, Second, and Third Place Talent Show winners will have the opportunity to compete in Oliver Ames "Talent For a Cause" event. (Last year, one of our own KP Students, Caroline Watson, won first place in the competition at Oliver Ames High School.)

#### GSA

KP's GSA Club met after school on February 15th in the library. Guest speaker, Hope Freeman from the Massachusetts Safe School Programs for LGBTQ students attended.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### **SBIRT Update: Dr. Mobley Screening Brief Intervention and Referral and Treatment**

An SBIRT implementation proposal and information was presented by Dr. Mobley. The HS is requesting an increase of a 0.5FTE HS nurse to assist with the screening process. Dr. Mobley explained that this is another mandate placed on schools. This is a clinically structured interview. Dr. Mobley expressed that she would like to see more training and that she would investigate further and could reach out to ADA Rowe.

Students in grades 9 and 11 will be screened in the health office and training room during the school day. A private room will be used for each screening. Student data as required by the MDPH will be logged in an excel sheet which is stored on a flash drive. Once the data is submitted to MDPH the flash drives will be erased by an administrator.

During the screening, if a student discloses substance use, the student will receive brief intervention which is a counseling technique that reinforces positive choices and provides information about negative choices. Parents will be contacted if a student reaches both the brief intervention or referral level. Should a student reach the referral level, the parent will be contacted and provided with information to assist them in referring their child for follow up treatment.

Discussion ensued on the process of identifying students. Dr. Mobley explained that all students in the grade levels must be screened. Any data relies on the truthfulness of the students. If students feel that what they disclose will not get them in trouble they will give you an honest answer. The High School has not always felt confident in Metro-west data.

Discussion ensued on treatment vs. punishment and if there is a violation of policy. Dr. Mobley said that this cannot be used against the student. The MIAA is looking at their rules.

Superintendent's Successor Contract:

Mrs. Martin stated that Dr. Zielinski is not prepared to discuss her successor contract tonight. The School Committee may still discuss this in in Executive Session.

### **Healthcare Plan Design:**

To be discussed in Executive Session.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. DeStefano, in order to authorize the District to make plan design changes to the District's existing health insurance offerings, the King Philip Regional School Committee elects to engage in the process to change health insurance benefits under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 32B, Sections 21-23. All in favor.**

### **NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED):**

#### **School Committee Self-Evaluation:**

Dr. Zielinski noted that a link will be sent to each school committee member and asks that the self-evaluation be completed by March 10, 2017 so that an analysis may be presented at the March 20, 2017 School Committee Meeting.

Unit C – Paid Holiday Calendars:

FY18 Secretaries Paid Holiday Calendar (10-month) 1<sup>st</sup> reading

FY18 Secretaries Paid Holiday Calendar (12-month) 1<sup>st</sup> reading

A 2<sup>nd</sup> reading will be presented at the March 20, 2017 School Committee Meeting.

#### **Increase in Substitute Pay (day-to-day) Rate:**

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to increase the day-to-day substitute teacher rate to \$85 per day, based upon the recommendation of the Finance Subcommittee. All in favor.**

### **LATE COMMUNICATIONS**

### **REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Mr. Gee asked for thoughts from the Committee on reorganization of the school committee and what is the protocol as the current chair (Mrs. Martin) is not seeking reelection. Does the vice chair step in in April by default as the election day in Plainville is also a school committee meeting date. There are several changes to be made to the school committee as Mrs. Desrochers, Wrentham member is not seeking re-election in April, and Mrs. Tonelli, Norfolk member is not seeking re-election in May. The elementary districts may also change their representatives based upon their reorganizations.

Discussion followed that Mrs. Martin would turn over her duties through April 3. Mr. Francomano assumed that Mr. Gee would step in as chair at least for the month, and there will then be a need for a vice-chair in case of his absence. Mr. Gee indicated that he is available to take on the responsibility as chair.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Joanne Grant – Norfolk thanked the Committee for the budget presentation. She indicated that she ran SBIRT in another community and would be willing offline to speak with and offer services. The Committee suggested having a conversation with Dr. Mobley and provide her with strategy.

Ms. Grant noted for the record that she did not like to hear the HS principal say publicly that you could not rely on the MetroWest data as she feels it is important data.

Mr. Francomano said that the School Committee takes this this information very seriously because of very serious concerns about social/emotional health. He said that he thought Dr. Mobley meant expressing that in any of these conversations you are concerned about the viability.

### **ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**A Motion was made at 9:15pm by Mr. Erin DeStefano, seconded by Mr. Francomano, to adjourn into Executive Session for the following purposes, and not to return to open session. All in favor by roll call vote Yes (8); No (0).**

1. To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel. (Zielinski contract negotiation).
2. 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 and Retirees - Health insurance).

**✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to adjourn at 10:30pm. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (8); No (0).**

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Lisa B. Witkus  
Secretary to the School Committee*