

KING PHILIP REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 16, 2015
King Philip Regional High School Library

CALL TO ORDER: Mrs. Martin called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Members Present: Norfolk: Noelle Tonelli, Jeff Chalmers, Michael Gee
Plainville: Patrick Francomano, Ann-marie Martin, Charlene McEntee
Wrentham: Lynn Desrochers, Jim Killion, Danielle Schmitz

Members Absent:

Municipal Representative: Charles Kennedy was present.
HS Student Council Representative: Edward Cullinane

The meeting is being videotaped this evening 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, VISITORS, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, ETC.:

Dr. Gilson, Dr. Oliveira
Members of the Artificial Turf Field Committee
Attorney Waugh

CONSENT AGENDA

Communication:

- Finance Subcommittee Minutes dated 12/8/14 and 2/7/15.
- MA Association of School Superintendents: New MA Parental Leave Act, 2/17/15.

Approval of Minutes:

The Chair moved the February 24, 2015 minutes to regular agenda items for discussion.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to approve the Minutes of March 2, 2015. All in favor.**

Payments of Bills, Financial Report:

Warrants/Budget Report & Transfers

AGENDA ITEMS:

Approval of Minutes:

Mrs. Martin noted that the language in the Minutes of February 24, 2015 budget hearing should be changed from, "The proposed budget is for a level service budget requiring an increase of 4.7% or \$1,296,359" to "The Superintendent's proposed budget is an above level service budget requiring an increase of 5.8% or \$1,608,859."

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, approve the Minutes of February 24, 2015 with the noted change in the minutes to read: "The proposed budget is for a level service budget requiring an increase of 4.7% or \$1,296,359" to "The Superintendent's proposed budget is an above level service budget requiring an increase of 5.8% or \$1,608,859."**
Mrs. McEntee abstained. The Motion was then seconded by Mrs. Desrochers. All in favor with Mrs. McEntee abstaining.

✦ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to approve and retain the Executive Session Minutes of March 2, 2015. All in favor.**

Communication:

KP in the News: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Artificial Turf Field Update:

Dr. Oliveira presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Warrior Turf Complex that included highlights offered by the new complex, potential field usage, the benefits of a synthetic field, the costs of bringing the field to standards and potential income from field rentals.

Discussion ensued on the funding-raising process thus far and the rental of the field. Dr. Oliveira explained that the potential for additional fundraising and outside funding sources and grants seems to be exhausted. However, she is seeking to meet with Plainridge through the Plainville Chamber of Commerce for potential funding of the project. Other ongoing fundraising efforts include a gala, golf tournament, another road race, and there is time for the towns to kick in according to Dr. Oliveira. She also pointed out that rental of the new field will produce income.

Mr. Hathaway, Norfolk Town Administrator and resident, talked about funding at the town level and each of the towns could address it in a different way. Options included a one-time debt exclusion, borrow money from operating budget, or turn over cash through their town meeting process. The towns would decide how they want to fund the project. An article is needed at each of the town meetings. It is currently in process for the Norfolk warrant.

Mrs. McEntee asked if the committee formed a campaign? According to Dr. Oliveira, the Committee wanted to present to the school committee first and ask to move ahead with the attempt to raise approximately \$600,000 in the hopes of breaking ground by July 1. A check in the amount of \$3260, which was raised by Mrs. Desrochers and the organizers from the 5K road race held in November, was presented.

Mr. Kennedy described the options that Wrentham has to fund this project, which would depend on timing of when and how it will be handled with the town of Wrentham.

Discussion was held on the safety of the materials that are used in artificial turf and research that has been done on the vulcanized tires (rubber). There is research supporting that the materials used are safe according to Dr. Oliveira.

Mr. Chalmers would like to see a cost comparison of the 9 fields in the Hockomock League.

Mr. Dietrich discussed the bidding process and the purchase of the equipment. Private donations could be used for the still-needed bleachers, concession stand and could have additional set of bleachers.

Mrs. Martin stated that the message communicated to the towns has been that this project will be funded through donations.

If private donations are received that are earmarked for a specific cause, bleachers, etc. make sure that it goes to that purpose.

Mr. Francomano referred to a warrant article that was passed by all three towns that Mrs. Martin mentioned, just to fund the field. Unless there was an interpretation to include concessions, bleachers, etc, any monies that are raised to be used for purposes other than actual field itself would need to be processed through another account not the turf field account.

The Turf Committee wanted assurance that if the money was approved by the towns, the School Committee would accept it for the purposes of building the turf field. Assurance as given that if the 3 towns pass warrant articles for a turf field the Committee will gratefully accept the money for that purpose.

Mrs. Martin asked if you have thought about what would happen if you did not receive funding from all three towns. Dr. Oliveira said that the turf field committee will not give up.

The turf field committee stated that they are seeking approval from school committee to go out to get a formal bid. Mr. Francomano cautioned that the School Committee cannot authorize an outside group to go out to bid. Discussion ensued on the bidding process and the School Committee will seek an opinion from legal counsel on the bidding process to go out for a formal bid and compliance. The intent was not to look for the endorsement of the School Committee but to allow the bidding process to take place so that there is sufficient information.

✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to authorize Mr. Schaefer to go out to bid for the turf field, contingent upon funding to the extent to the three towns. All in favor.**

MS Program of Studies:

Dr. Gilson indicated that there is no further information for the 2nd reading to the 2015/2016 MS Program of Studies.

✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Gee, seconded by Mr. Francomano, to approve the 2015/2016 Program of Studies as presented. All in favor.**

HS Program of Studies:

Dr. Oliveira presented changes to the 2015/2016 HS program of studies (2nd Reading) based upon the School Committee's recommendations.

✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Gee, to approve the 2015/2016 HS Program of Studies as presented.**

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Norfolk School Committee Representative - Mr. Chalmers: None
- Plainville School Committee Representative - Mrs. McEntee: The Plainville School Committee reviewed policies and a presentation was given on the new report card system. When completed Mrs. McEntee will share this new system with the KP School Committee. The 2015/2016 school calendar was voted upon.
- Wrentham School Committee Representative - Ms. Schmitz: Wrentham is also in the process of changing their report card system and will share this system as well with the KP school committee. Wrentham has hired a new principal; extended Dr. Cameron's contract for one year; hired a new director of technology and curriculum and instruction.
- HS Student Council Representative: Mr. Cullinane
- KP Cares held a Volleyball Tournament on March 4th to fundraise for Relay for Life. They raised \$600 for the American Cancer Society.
- Student Council: Last week 20 members of the Student Council attended the MASC Annual Conference.
- Science National Honor Society: The Science National Honor Society will present a Cultural Lecture Series open to the public on March 18th, 19th, and 21st. The presentations are by Brent Nixon.
- Additionally SNHS will be hosting a Career night on March 17th.
- Sophomore Government: Sophomore Semi-Formal Dance was held on March 13th.
- National Honor Society: Members of NHS went to the local Elementary Schools on Dr. Seuss Day to read to the students.
- DECA: The DECA Fashion Show is being held on March 25th.
- Also, this past weekend the KP DECA Chapter participated at the State Career Development Conference and did very well.
- Used prom dresses are being collected and a fundraiser is being held for students who cannot afford to attend prom and buy their own dresses.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

FY16 Budget:

Mr. Schaefer provided the School Committee a memorandum dated March 7, 2015 outlining the impact of the Governor's FY16 budget and the net effect of how it will impact King Philip. Mr. Schaefer noted that there is no

need to do anything at this time other than to notify the member towns of the changes, but the whole budget approved in March 2, 2015 is subject to review and change as town meetings approach.

Mr. Francomano, Mrs. Martin and Mrs. McEntee attended an MASC forum that included the Lt. Governor. There was discussion of revisiting the 9c cuts through the supplemental budget.

Town Meeting Warrant Article: MS Revised Sanitary Project

Mr. Schaefer presented the School Committee with a memorandum dated March 7, 2015 that was given to the Budget & Finance Subcommittee on March 7, 2015 summarizing the final cost estimates from Gale Associates for the MS Sanitary Project.

Mr. Francomano noted that the Finance subcommittee recommended this.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Killion, to move the Budget & Finance Subcommittee's recommendation to submit the warrant article for an additional expenditure of \$50,000 to each of the three towns. All in favor.**

Superintendent Evaluation:

Dr. Zielinski explained to the School Committee that a link to the 2015 Superintendent's Evaluation will be provided to them within in the next few days.

School Committee Self- Evaluation:

Dr. Zielinski asked that the School Committee complete the School Committee Self- Evaluation by Friday, March 20, 2015. Please contact Mr. Bouzan if there are any questions.

New Business:

2015/2016 School Committee Calendar (1st Reading):

Dr. Zielinski distributed the 2015/2016 School Committee Calendar (1st reading). She explained that this calendar mirrors the current year's calendar with the addition of a meeting in February in anticipation of when the budget would be due to the towns. A second meeting will be added to September on September 21 and presented for a 2nd reading on April 6, 2015.

Unit C: 12-month and 10-month calendars (1st Reading):

The 2nd reading of the Unit C: 12-month and 10-month paid holiday calendars will be presented on April 6, 2015.

Recommendations or Questions from Individual Committee Members:

Late Communications:

Approval for payment of school bills and payrolls:

In response to the MASBO report, the Auditor's report and the Budget & Finance Subcommittee on warrants to be signed by the school committee members, the committee may authorize the chair to sign before the warrants are issued. Discussion was held on obtaining a legal opinion on the designation of a person or the position to sign on the Chair's behalf.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Francomano, seconded by Mr. Killion, that the King Philip Regional School Committee designates Mrs. Ann-marie Martin, or her designee, to sign and make an oath to all payroll warrants. The School Committee may designate the chair or in the chair's absence a designee to sign all warrants. Designation, person or the position, needs to be determined. Hold until next meeting.**

City of Somerville v. Commonwealth Employment Relations:

Mr. Schaefer distributed a copy of a decision on the *City of Somerville v. Commonwealth Employment Relations – Board, Docket: SJC -11620 Decided February 3, 2015.*

Public Comment:

Mr. Kennedy congratulated the students of Destination Imagination who formed an independent team held after school for middle school aged children in Wrentham. They won a Renaissance Award. Discussion ensued on the need to assign a teacher to support the program. Dr. Gilson noted that periodically there are some years where there is interest and faculty advisors are sought as they were last year. Each year it is revisited.

Adjournment:

- ✚ **At 8:30pm, a Motion was made by Mr. Gee, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to adjourn into Executive Session for the following purposes: to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, or an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual; and, 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, only to return to open session for purposes of adjournment. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (9); No (0).**

- ✚ **At 9:45pm, a Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee, seconded by Mr. Gee to adjourn. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (9); No (0).**

Respectfully submitted,

*Lisa Barrett Witkus
Executive Assistant &
Secretary to the School Committee*