

KING PHILIP REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
~~MINUTES – DRAFT~~
-June 15, 2015
King Philip Regional High School Library

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Members Present:	Norfolk:	Michael Gee, Noelle Tonelli,
	Plainville:	Charlene McEntee
	Wrentham:	Lynn Desrochers, Jim Killion
Members Absent:		Patrick Francomano, Ann-marie Martin, Danielle Schmitz, Jeff Chalmers (arrived at 8pm)
Municipal Representative:		Charles Kennedy not present
Student Council Representative:		Ms. Eliza Sheehan

The meeting is being videotaped this evening 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.

CONSENT AGENDA

PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT:

Warrants/Budget Report & Transfers

Communication:

Murphy, Hesse: Municipal Law Advisory

Agenda:

Approval of Minutes:

Executive Session Minutes of June 1, 2015:

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mrs. Desrochers, seconded by Mr. Killion to approve and retain the Executive Session minutes of June 1, 2015. All in favor.

DELEGATIONS, VISITORS, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, ETC.:

Dr. Gilson, Dr. Oliveira, Mr. Boucher

The School Committee recognized the retirement of the following King Philip staff members for their years of service and dedication to the District: Jo-Ann Barnes, Richard Boucher, Judith Miller, and Melinda Knight. Congratulations were extended to Mr. Boucher, HS Science Teacher, as he attended the meeting and was presented with a gift from the School Committee. The other retirees, who were unfortunately unable to attend, will be presented with their gifts at a later time.

Communication:

KP in the News:

An article in *Wicked Local-Wrentham* dated June 10, 2015 entitled, "In Education: KP DECA recognized by legislators."

Video on Relay for Life

Graduate Henry Carr moderated the video blog of the June 2015 *Relay for Life* held at the King Philip Regional High School. Mrs. Rowe thanked the School Committee for allowing this event to be held at the HS this year. Mr. Schaefer, in a very moving statement, stated his great pride in KP's student body and all the groups who together raised over \$12,000. They truly care about each other and he is so glad that he was able to participate in this year's event.

MASC Joint Conference Registration:

Mr. Gee asked that if members are going to commit to attending in November that they please register before July 15 to obtain the discounted rate that is offered by MASC.

Reports from School Committee Members:

Mrs. McEntee – Plainville: The Committee attended a band performance; reviewed policies, and received a presentation about PTO fundraisers.

HS Student Council Report – Ms. Sheehan: Schoolwide

The last day of classes at KPRHS is on June 17th. Final Exams will begin on June 18th and continue until the last day of school, which is on June 23rd. Also, Freshman Orientation is being held on Tuesday, August 11th.

Drama & GAPS

KP Drama and GAPS just announced that KP will be holding its first musical in over 12 years. A meeting will be held Wednesday, June 10th at 7 PM in the Richard K. Grady Theatre here at the high school for interested students. Tentative dates for next school years musical's performance are December 11th and 12th at 7pm both nights.

Student Council

On Friday, June 5th the King Philip Student Council worked in conjunction with a group of students to host the first ever "Fight Back Festival". The event included live entertainment from our very own Rachel Raposa, and Nick Blitchington, in addition to the KP Alumni band, Suncooked. At 8PM, the movie *Sandlot* was played over a large projector in the middle of the football field. The event raised a total of \$7,234 for 2 students in our school who are currently battling cancer.

KPMA

To celebrate a year of great music and hard work, the KPMA has scheduled a trip to Six Flags for Friday, June 19th. All students involved in the King Philip Music Program have been encouraged to attend.

KP Cares

KPHS hosted the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life of Franklin, Bellingham, and Wrentham on June 12-13, 2015.

Unfinished Business:

Artificial Turf Field:

Mr. Schaefer introduced Eric Roisey from Gale Associates who explained the scope of the project. Gale Associates will be working very closely on the project and intends to be there through closeout. Discussion ensued on supervision of the project and whether or what kind of additional oversight is needed when it is underway. Mr Roisey noted that there may be needed a couple of hours per week supervising and observing installation, particularly when a critical point in the construction occurs, such as draining for the stone. Discussion ensued on whether a Clerk of the Works should be hired, estimated at 8 to 10 hours a week. Dr. Zielinski noted that Steve Schairer knows exactly what needs to be done. Mr. Joe Zahner, Grounds Keeper, is familiar with the stone and draining piece. Mr. Schaefer will be at the site on a regular basis overseeing the project.

Dr. Zielinski said that the turf field passed in all three towns and tonight she is hoping that the School Committee will vote to award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder. Following a vote, we will need to receive the certified votes from the town clerks, and notification of our vote to bond counsel as outlined in Dr. Zielinski's memorandum dated June 12, 2015. Once the Department of Revenue approves the project [?], our financial advisor will seek out bids for the securing of the short-term bond. It is anticipated that breaking ground will occur during the second week in July and it is hoped that completion will be done by the beginning of September.

Mr. Roisey explained the process of completing the turf field. He also explained the maintenance process and the warranty of the carpet and that a rake comes with the field and it is recommended that this be used about 4 times per year. There is another machine that may be used to clean the field and he recommended that a vendor be hired to do this for about \$2,500 on an as needed basis about once a year. Discussion ensued on the lining of the field for various sports and that each sport has a determined standardized color to limit confusion.

Dr. Zielinski stated that there will be a groundbreaking ceremony.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mrs. Desrochers, seconded by Mr. Killion, That the King Philip Regional School Committee award the contract for the synthetic turf field installation at the King Philip Regional High School to Green Acres Landscape and Construction Co., Inc., Lakeville, MA, as the lowest and eligible bid in the amount of \$616,388 for the base bid and \$7,650 for Add Alternate number one, for a total bid of \$624,038, pending receipt of any and all funding for the construction project. All in favor.**

FY16 Budget: (Taken out of Order)

In a memorandum dated June 11, 2015, Mr. Schaefer outlined the FY2016 operating budget changes.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee, seconded by Mr. Killion, that the King Philip Regional School Committee amend the FY16 Operating Budget to \$28,901,727, making changes as represented in the function areas identified in Table B-1, resulting in an increase from the Fy2015 Operating Budget \$1,398,553 or 5.08%. All in favor.**

Unfinished Business: **2015/2016 HS Handbook (2nd reading)**

Dr. Oliveira was present to accept questions for the second reading. Discussion ensued on the wording of the proposed Breathalyzer Testing Procedure that sets forth that any student attending an event can be randomly tested at any time throughout an event. Among concerns raised by committee members was whether it was overreaching or set a negative tone to test any student randomly. Dr. Oliveira indicated that these concerns were weighed, and the intent is not to turn it negative but rather the thought was that the language of the policy would give the administration flexibility and discretion. She indicated that the firmer policy arose from the School Council and had the support of many in Student Government and other students who want to be able to participate in substance- and incident-free events. Dr. Oliveria referenced the venue of the senior prom, which was the New England Aquarium, where security tested

randomly and throughout the event. The first step in the testing process would be to call a parent because most students are under the age of 18.

Breathalyzer Testing Procedure:

Discussion ensued on the wording of the procedure with a consensus to eliminate the word “randomly” so that the policy would read: “Students may be tested at any time throughout an event.” The efficacy of the policy and this language will be reviewed for next year if changes need to be made.

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee, seconded by Mrs. Tonelli, to approve the 2015/2016 HS Student/Parent Handbook as presented. All in favor.**

(Jeff Chalmers arrived at 8PM.)

PSAT: Dr. Oliveira

Dr. Oliveira explained that the College Board has committed to administering the PSAT on two Wednesday dates rather than a weekday and a Saturday. The impact of this change in scheduling was outlined in Dr. Oliveira’s memorandum to the School Committee dated June 11, 2015. The participation rate is 450 students (sophomores and juniors).

Dr. Oliveira suggested Option 2 by utilizing October 14, 2015 as a professional development day in the district and offering the PSAT to both juniors and sophomores. This would eliminate October 9, 2015, as a half day as previously approved on the school calendar.

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mrs. Desrochers, seconded by Mrs. Tonelli, recommending that school be closed on the October 14, 2015 for the purpose of conducting the PSAT, and would be a day off. Professional Development would be the October 13, 2015, as full day for staff members. The last day of school would be June 15, 2016 and June 22 with 5 snow days.**

NEW BUSINESS:

2015/2016 MS Handbooks: Teacher, Coaches and Extra-curricular:

2015/2016 HS Handbooks: Teacher, Coaches and Extra-curricular:

In a memorandum dated June 11, 2015 from Dr. Gilson and Dr. Oliveira, there are no changes to the 2015/2016 handbooks for teachers, coaches and extra-curricular activities.

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee, seconded by Mr. Tonelli, to approve the 2015/2016 MS Handbooks: Teachers, Coaches and Extra-curricular activities. All in favor.**
- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mr. Killion, seconded by Mrs. Desrochers, to approve the 2015/2016 HS Handbooks: Teachers, Coaches and Extra-curricular activities. All in favor.**

School Crossing Guard Appointments:

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee, seconded by Mrs. Tonelli, to reappoint Coleen Bianculli and Wayne Burt as Crossing Guards for the 2015/2016 school year, commencing September 1, 2015. All in favor.**

Reappointment of School Resource Officers (MS and HS):

- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mrs. Tonelli, seconded by Mrs. Desrochers, to reappoint Officer Palladini, as the MS School Resource Officer for the 2015/2016 school year. All in favor.**
- ✦ **A Motion was made by Mrs. Tonelli, seconded by Mrs. Desrochers, to reappoint Officer Hearon as the HS School Resource Officers for the 2015/2016 school year. All in favor.**

Acceptance of Lease Proposal:

In a memorandum dated June 12, 2015, Mr. Schaefer explained the necessity of replacing the network authentication servers and provided a proposal for the School Committee's review.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee, seconded by Mr. Killion, that the King Philip Regional School District accepts the lease proposal from First American Education Finance, Fairport, NY, with a total equipment cost of \$174,476 in accordance with the terms of the proposal dated June 12, 2015, and authorizes the Director of Finance 7 Operations to sign said proposal on behalf of the District. All in favor.**

Graduation Discussion:

In a memorandum dated June 11, 2015, Dr. Oliveira outlined the events that occurred during graduation. In a statement she made to the School Committee, she said that she was not proud of graduation and apologized for the way it went and takes full responsibility. She said that at the time she thought they were making the best decisions based on available information and rapidly changing conditions.

The committee asked what contingency plans were in place, if any, and why the decision to move indoors was not made until the last minute—questions they were hearing from the community. Dr. Oliveira indicated that the severe weather contingency was to hold graduation in the field house, but that that call had to be made early in the morning to get things set up properly. The weather forecast they were following all day indicated that potentially heavy weather was not due to the area until 8:00 PM. So they decided to keep it outdoors, as the tented area seats many more people (only two guests per student can sit in the Field House) and the tent was intended to be a “rain or shine” venue. However, the weather deteriorated very quickly in the moments before graduation was to start, and a litany of challenges and problems ensued. Dr. Oliveira was not happy with the vendor for the sound system that was used - they put their soundboard in the pouring rain and said if they turned it on they would electrocute everyone.

Dr. Oliveira indicated she had received about 10 emails, some very critical and some supportive of how the event was handled.

Currently, the HS administration is looking for alternate locations for 2016 because the class is too big to hold graduation on campus. The graduation date on the calendar may need to be looked at again depending on the outcome of this search. The Dana Farber bubble is one alternative, but they cannot confirm the date until January. She will speak with Franklin High school or the DCU Center, noting that the ventilation is not bad, but would hold the capacity. A night graduation is also a possibility.

This agenda item will be revisited in July or August at a regular school committee meeting.

Adjournment into Executive Session:

- ✚ **At 8:37pm, a Motion was made by seconded by Mrs. Desrochers, seconded by Mrs. McEntee, to adjourn into Executive Session for the following purposes:**
 - **To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (6); No (0).**

At 9:40pm, the School Committee returned to open session.

New Business (continued)

Superintendent's Contract Negotiations:

A Motion was made by Mrs Desrochers, seconded by Mr. Chalmers, to grant Dr. Elizabeth Zielinski, Superintendent of Schools, a performance increase of 1.5% for FY2016. Yes (5); No (1) Mr. Killion opposed.

Adjournment:

At 9:42 pm, a Motion was made by Mrs. McEntee, seconded by Mr. Killion to adjourn. All in favor by roll call vote. Yes (6); No (0).

Respectfully submitted,

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