

**School Committee Meeting  
Monday, November 19, 2018 - Approved  
King Philip Regional High School – Library  
201 Franklin Street, Wrentham, MA 02093**

Mr. Gee, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:03pm.

Mr. Gee introduced Mr. Jeffrey Curry as the appointed representative from Norfolk Public Schools to the King Philip Regional School Committee, replacing Mr. Paul Cochran.

**Roll Call of Members:**

**Members Present:**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Norfolk:    | Michael Gee, Kenneth Dow, Jeffrey Curry |
| Plainville: | Amy Abrams, Bruce Cates, Samad Khan     |
| Wrentham:   | Jim Killion, Trevor Knott               |

**Members Absent:**

|             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| Norfolk:    | Present        |
| Plainville: | Present        |
| Wrentham:   | Erin DeStefano |

HS Student Council Representative: Miss Linde

The meeting is not being videotaped by Wrentham Cable Access. Mr. Gee 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)

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mr. Gee reviewed the procedure for public comment.

**Delegations and Visitors:**

Mr. Zinni, Superintendent, Mr. Azer, Director of Finance & Operations, Mr. Brown, Athletic Director

**Consent Agenda**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**November 5, 2018 Minutes:**

- ✚ A Motion was made by seconded by Mr. Dow, seconded by Mr. Khan, to approve the Consent Agenda including Minutes of November 5, 2018, as presented. All in favor: Yes (6); No (0); Abstain (2) -- Mrs. Abrams and Mr. Curry. Motion carried.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT**

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers

**COMMUNICATION:**

**Appointments, Resignations, Retirements, etc.**

In a memorandum dated November 19, 2018, Mr. Zinni presented a list of appointments, resignations and personnel changes along with corresponding stipend amounts, if any.

**AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:**

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Cates, seconded by Mr. Dow, to approve and retain the Executive Session Minutes of November 5, 2018. All in favor: Yes (6); No (0); Abstain (2) – Mr. Curry and Mrs. Abrams. Motion carried.

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

## **HS Overnight Field Trip: KP Wrestling - Mr. Brown, Athletic Director**

Mr. Brown is seeking approval of the KP Wrestling Team for overnight field trip(s) for those athletes that may qualify in competitions to be held in February 2019. He explained that he is being proactive in seeking initial approval at this time by planning ahead in the event of snow days or other unforeseeable events. Mr. Brown further explained that the competitions will be held at predetermined sights, however, he will not know this information until the week beforehand and it depends on qualifying in the tournament. Mr. Brown will provide further details as it becomes available.

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Knott, seconded by Mr. Cates, to approve the HS KP Wrestling Team student athletes to attend post-season competitions, according to Policy JJH and IJOA. The dates of the competitions are: February 15-16, 2019, February 22-23, 2019 and March 1-2, 2019. The location and times of these competitions have not yet been determined, however, Mr. Brown will provide this information to the School Committee when it becomes available. All in favor: Yes (8); No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried.**

Mr. Brown said that the Super Bowl Football Game will be held on Friday, November 30 at 7:30pm at Gillette Stadium. Go KP!

## **COMMUNICATION:**

### **HS Student Council Report:**

- Ms. Linde presented the Student Council report dated November 19, 2018 that included upcoming Student Council events to be held at the High School and the Middle School.
- Several student awards and good news stories were announced by Mr. Zinni
  - Congratulations to the KP Cheerleading Squad
  - National Science Honor Society inducted 41 students
  - Congratulations to the students inducted into the DECA Program.
  - An MCAS breakfast was held honoring students on receiving a perfect score
  - 7 students signed National Letters of Intent on signing day!
  - Congratulations to the 86 students qualified for John & Abigail Adams Scholarship. Mr. Zinni will research previous years on the number of qualifying students with information from the HS guidance department.

## **MARS (MA Association of Regional Schools) Information.**

Mr. Gee announced that any member interested in being on the MARS *Listserve* may contact them to be included.

## **Unit D (Teacher Assistants): Successor Collective Bargaining.**

In a letter dated November 2, 2018, Unit D members presented notice of the Association's intent to commence a successor agreement. Mr. Gee, Mrs. Abrams and Mrs. DeStefano are members of the Unit D Negotiations Subcommittee. Discussion ensued on next steps which would include setting up meetings with the administration and to set up meeting dates and notify Unit D that the School Committee is willing to negotiate.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **Music Fees: Mr. Azer**

- ✚ **A Motion was made by Mr. Knott, seconded by Mr. Dow, to approve HS Winter Percussion Fee of \$450.00 and the HS Jazz Ensemble Fee to \$125.00 for the 2018/2019 school year, as presented. All in favor: Yes (8); No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried.**

## **Adolescent Sleep – School Start Times: Mr. Zinni**

Mr. Zinni presented the school start time survey administered in the fall of 2018 and sent to the parents in the KP district in which 685 responses were received. Mr. Zinni indicated that this initiative was put forth in the spring, prior to his arrival, and was discussed at the school committee retreat in July 2018. He noted that there are several pages of comments, with a lot of information to absorb and suggested that the school committee members take the next week or two to review the material and discuss this topic further at the next meeting and decide on what the next steps will be for this process.

Mrs. Abrams suggested that the elementary districts be involved early on in the process and have them complete an initial survey. She further explained that due to shared services, such as transportation, this will have an impact on the elementary districts. Mr. Knott agreed.

Discussion ensued on busing, teacher contracts, budget, and other issues that might impact the issue, including before- and after-school activities and homework. The elementary path, unions and budget are the critical next paths that we need to go down per Mr. Knott, which could either propel it or stop it.

Mr. Zinni indicated that a recommendation from the research is compelling that an earlier start time is not logistically feasible and impacts families. To do it, and do it correctly, would take a lot of work, needs resources and would impact the budget and a number of undertaking elements. If you look at the family structure and child care and this would have an impact.

Mr. Zinni suggested that a committee be created to move forward and to decide on the next steps to be taken. Mr. Gee proposed that at the next School Committee meeting, the members would decide whether to ask Mr. Zinni to move forward with a study and recommend a means to do that, as a priority of the committee and the superintendent.

Mrs. Abrams said that she sees this as feasible and to consider it and if it is going to help the kids and benefit them and the social/emotional level. She suggested having a task force that includes elementary, teachers, administrators, community members, and parents.

Mr. Zinni suggested organizing it as a superintendent's committee, rather than as a school committee, so not to worry about quorum or open meeting laws. He said that he will be meeting on November 27, 2018 with the 3 superintendents of Norfolk, Plainville and Wrentham, with KP hosting, and propose to them that they talk with their committees and tell them that we want to move forward with this study. And, the elementary representatives can bring it back to the elementary districts as well.

Mr. Gee gave his view that, given the considerations, the process could take considerable time to research the data, make a decision, and then implement it.

Mr. Zinni said that he will reach out to Monomoy and Sharon and ask to see their data, if sharable, on the elementary, superintendents, and representatives to school committees.

Discussion ensued that Lexington and Ashland offers a lot of information on their websites as well as a forum held at KP in March that is on KPTV.

#### **Regionalization – Superintendency Union: Mr. Zinni**

As Mr. Zinni noted, the topics of regionalization and a superintendency union were discussed at the July retreat, and the school committee asked to have this topic discussed further. Mr. Zinni shared with the committee a memorandum that Dr. Cameron of Wrentham had recently shared with him on the topic of a superintendent's union. Dr. Cameron's memo dated September 10, 2018, was written in response to a request from Mr. McGovern, Chair of the Wrentham Board of Selectmen, to research the issue and summarize the findings. The questions posed were whether a superintendent's union would save the towns money, improve efficiency, and increase curricular consistency among the 4 districts. The purpose of the report was to explore the potential benefits and drawback of a superintendent union among the 4 districts of King Philip, Norfolk, Plainville and Wrentham.

Discussion ensued on the report and the issue of a superintendency union. Mr. Cates said that there is little gain but many obstacles in trying to go that route. Shared services may be a better route to take instead of major bureaucracy of the superintendency union.

Mr. Zinni said that the 4 superintendents and directors of special education/student support services met and shared curriculum amongst the 3 districts; there is a continuum of instruction from PK through HS and special education continuum of services and supports. There will be a meeting of the 4 superintendents on November 27 and this topic will be discussed further. A change will depend on the number of students and the programs.

Discussion ensued on other ways to support regional collaboration. Mr. Gee suggested that one opportunity would be to have a joint meeting with all the towns finance committees and board of selectmen as a starting point. Also to have a meeting of the school committee chairs.

Mr. Zinni asked for confirmation that for a superintendency union that there are no more expectations to pursue this matter at this time. That was affirmed.

Mr. Gee's specific takeaways from this discussion are to organize a meeting of the SC chairs, communication that is ongoing during the budget process, what we say and how we say it, and how we take that further into the finance committees of the 3 towns. Bring in topics of relationship building – one education.

### **NEW BUSINESS (continued):**

#### **MASC Joint Conference Update: Mr. Gee**

Mr. Gee was the official voting delegate at the 2018 MASC delegate assembly on November 9, 2018. He indicated that most of the resolutions passed.

#### **Discussion on December Meeting Schedule (12/3 and 12/17): Mr. Gee**

Following discussion on the December meeting schedule, the School Committee chose the option of holding one meeting on December 17, 2018. This recommendation was due to the upcoming budget presentations and there is a meeting with members of the three towns on December 6, 2018 in which Mr. Zinni and Mr. Gee will be attending. Mr. Cates noted that he cannot attend the meeting on December 17, 2018.

A Motion was made by Mr. Killion, seconded by Mrs. Abrams, to cancel the December 3, 2018 school committee meeting and to keep the December 17, 2018 meeting as scheduled. All in favor: Yes (8); No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried.

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

- Mr. Curry, Norfolk School Committee Representative: – No report.
- Mrs. Abrams, Plainville School Committee Representative: Topics discussed included the new town hall opening, an in-depth review of the MASC resolutions, and school committee goals.
- Mrs. DeStefano, Wrentham School Committee Representative: No report.

### **LATE COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

### **REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

None

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

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

✚ **At 9:05pm, a Motion was made by Mr. Khan, seconded by Mr. Abrams, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (7); No (0). Motion carried.**

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Lisa Barrett Witkus  
Secretary to the School Committee*

Documents presented at the November 19, 2018 Meeting:

Draft Minutes of November 5, 2018

Appointments, Resignations, Retirements, etc.

Draft Executive Session Minutes of November 5, 2018

HS and MS Student Council Report: Miss Linde

MARS (MA Association of Regional Schools) Information

Letter received from Unit D (Teacher Assistants): Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement Negotiations

Music Fees:

Winter Percussion Fee

Jazz Ensemble Fee

Adolescent Sleep – School Start Times

Regionalization – Superintendency Union

HS Overnight Field Trip: KP Wrestling Team

MASC Joint Conference Update