

King Philip Regional School Committee
January 24, 2022 - Draft
King Philip Regional High School – Library
201 Franklin Street, Wrentham, MA 02093

Opening of Meeting:

Mr. Knott, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

Recording of Meeting:

This meeting was recorded by Wrentham Cable 8 and NorthTV.

Roll Call of Members:

Members Present:

Norfolk:	Mr. Jim Lehan, Mr. Eric Harmon
Plainville:	Mr. Christopher Brenneis, Mr. Samad Khan
Wrentham:	Mr. Trevor Knott, Ms. Grey Almeida, Mr. Marc Waxman

Members Absent:

Norfolk:	Ms. Sarah Ward
Plainville:	Present
Wrentham:	Present

Public Comment:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

(All items listed in the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion if action is required.)

Mr. Knott noted that the draft Minutes of January 10, 2022, were not presented at this meeting.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Cates, seconded by Mr. Brenneis, to approve the Consent Agenda. All in favor: Yes (7); No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried 7-0-0**

Communication:

- HS Student Council Report – Ms. James, HS Student Council Representative, presented her report dated January 24, 2022
- Mr. Knott read into the Minutes a congratulatory letter from NAFEPA that Mr. Zinni has been chosen to receive the State Leadership Award.

Delegations and Visitors:

Mr. Zinni, Superintendent, Dr. Susan Gilson, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Azer, Director of Finance, Dr. Mobley, HS Principal

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Lehan, seconded by Mr. Brenneis, to approve the Executive Session Minutes dated January 10, 2022, as presented. All in favor: Yes (6); No (0); Abstain (1-Almeida). Motion carried 6-0-1**

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

District Update:

Mr. Zinni shared information on the following topics:

- Acknowledgement of the Student Council and KP Cares student groups and their advisors who have brought back a sense of normalcy by providing so many amazing initiatives. They help to make KP a warm and welcoming environment.
- Mr. Zinni presented data on the HS AP courses that are offered. KP offers 24 AP courses with the next highest of 21 at Milton and Sharon. The number of opportunities that KP offers our students is amongst the highest in the State. Mr. Zinni talked about early college and transitioning some of the AP courses to college credit.
- Mr. Zinni provided a review of the ALE (Authentication Learning Experiences) and provided a review of the creative learning opportunities to our students, including the TEDTalk.
- Dr. Mobley noted that the district will be seeking parent feedback on qualities that should lead towards our Vision for the KP graduate as well. We have been working on the Vision of a Graduate all year and are involving stakeholders.

New Covid-19 Testing Program Option for K-12 Schools.

- During a Zoom Meeting with the DESE Commissioner on January 18 it was announced that tests would be made available to students and staff next week. Mrs. Pearl, Wellness Director has initiated a survey to families and staff if they want to opt in to obtain free test kits, regardless of vaccination status. Testing would be done at home.
- Test & Stay monitoring is still available within the District.
- Contact tracing will no longer be done at the District and KP is no longer obligated.

Discussion ensued on the wearing of masks. Mr. Zinni explained that it is strongly recommended but not required re the wearing of masks when the mask waiver is re-implemented. Mr. Zinni will check in with Board of Health nurses and based upon attendance trend, the mask waiver may be reimplemented at the HS and look into current data at the MS as we get closer to the 80%.

Discussion ensued on testing and the timing of reimplementing the mask waiver at the HS. It will be easier for us to transition back and forth to wearing masks rather than enforcement of wearing masks. DESE Mandate to wear masks expires on February 28 and could be extended based upon the positivity rate.

Digital Literacy Now Grant Award:

Dr. Gilson has been working diligently on the Early College Initiative that was impressive and we appreciate her work on that. The award has yet to be granted but we are awaiting a decision.

Dr. Gilson also has been working on the Digital Literacy Now Grant and we are excited to announce that the District has been awarded this grant expenditure through June 2022. Further notification will be provided re the FY23 funding for this grant once it becomes active.

FY22 SEL & Mental Health Grant Award

Congratulations to Ms. Pearl for her work for the District to be awarded over \$260,000 for the SEL & Mental Health Grant Award. This award will help to supplement salary positions to support behavioral and mental health and social emotional wellness within the district. This is a competitive grant.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Dress Code Policy (2nd reading)

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Brenneis, seconded by Mr. Harmon to approve the Dress Code Policy, as presented. All in favor: Yes (7); No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried 7-0-0**

NEW BUSINESS:

2022/2023 Program of Studies: Dr. Mobley (1st Reading)

In a memorandum dated January 4, 2022, Dr. Mobley outlined the changes to the 2022-2023 HS Program of Studies. This also includes a proposal of a MCC (Middlesex Community College) – KPRHS Partnership Pilot Program and the enrollment offerings. Grant related courses are also available due to the Digital Literacy Now Grant, previously discussed. Discussion ensued on the marketing aspect of these new programs. If approved, Dr. Mobley will plan to hold a number of town halls and information will be outlined on the District’s website on the rolling out of the new programs.

Mr. Zinni noted that the Program of Studies is presented this evening with Dr. Mobley present so that she may answer any questions. A second reading could be waived if the committee moves to approve as presented.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Waxman, seconded by Mr. Lehan, to waive the 2nd reading of the 2022/2023 HS Program of Studies. All in favor. Yes (7); No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried: 7-0-0.**
- **A Motion was made by Mr. Lehan, seconded by Mr. Brenneis, to approve the 2022/2023 HS Program of Studies, as presented. All in favor. Yes (7); No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried: 7-0-0.**

Acceptance of Donation:

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Lehan, seconded by Mr. Cates, to accept the donation made by Leuders Environmental. All in favor. Yes (7); No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried: 7-0-0.**

A thank you note will be sent on behalf of the School Committee.

Unit A Memorandum of Agreement

An agreement has been made with the teachers unit of the KPTA to run a program relative to the college courses. The stipend is paid for by the college per Mr. Zinni as they are employees of the college. The Association has approved this memorandum of agreement.

Mr. Brenneis has abstained from any discussion.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Cates, to approve the MOA as written, seconded by Mr. Harmon. All in favor: Yes (6); No (0); Abstain (1-Brenneis). Motion carried 6-0-0**

Job Description: Executive Assistant

Mr. Zinni explained that two job descriptions are being presented for the position of Executive Assistant with a separation of duties and proposing two separate positions. One position will handle the HR tasks, licensure, seniority as

outlined. The second position will serve as assistant to the superintendent, assistant superintendent, and secretary to the school committee. The District has created two separate administrative assistant positions with an increase to the budget of \$20K for these two different positions. The Finance Subcommittee has approved these job descriptions with a separation of duties.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Waxman to waive second reading, seconded by Mr. Lehan. All in favor: Yes (6); No (0); Abstain (1-Brenneis). Motion carried 6-0-0**
- **A Motion was made by Mr. Lehan, seconded by Mr. Waxman to approve the job descriptions as written. All in favor: Yes (6); No (0); Abstain (1-Brenneis). Motion carried 6-0-0**

SUBCOMMITTEES:

- Policy Subcommittee – A meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2022. The policies to be reviewed have been vetted by MASC or written by the attorney directly.
- Finance Subcommittee Meeting will be held on February 3, 2022, at 5pm
- Unit C Negotiations will be held on March 1, 2022, at 6pm.
- Unit D - TBD

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Norfolk School Committee Representative: Ms. Ward – No update at this time.
- Plainville School Committee Representative: Mr. Brenneis – Cancelled last meeting.
- Wrentham School Committee Representative: Ms. Almeida – Review of Dr. Cameron’s goals; Test & Stay Program; At-home Testing; School Safety.

LATE COMMUNICATIONS:

None

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

None

RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Mr. Waxman has been attending the DEI community meetings, which are excellent and strongly recommends others to attend as well. He also commended Ms. Pepple for the work she has done in facilitating these meetings.
- Mr. Knott will not be attending the February 7, 2022, school committee meeting/budget public hearing

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:50pm, a Motion was made by Mr. Cates, seconded by Ms. Almeida, to adjourn. All in favor: Yes (7); No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried 7-0-0

Mr. Knott, Chair, adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mrs. Elisa B. Witkus
Secretary to the School Committee*

Documents presented on January 24, 2022:

Agenda, January 24, 2022

Executive Session Draft Minutes: January 10, 2022

HS Student Council Report

Job Description: Executive Assistant (1st Reading)