

**King Philip Regional School Committee
Minutes of April 29, 2024-Approved
King Philip Regional High School – Library
201 Franklin Street, Wrentham, MA 02093**

OPENING OF MEETING

Mr. Lehan, Chair opened the meeting at 7:00pm.
Pledge of Allegiance.

RECORDING OF MEETING

This meeting was recorded by Wrentham Cable 8.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Members Present:

Norfolk: Mr. Jim Lehan, Mr. Eric Harmon, Ms. Jennifer Wynn
Plainville: Ms. Michele Sharpe, Mr. Bruce Cates, Mr. Greg Wehmeyer
Wrentham: Ms. Cait Lanza

MEMBERS ABSENT

Norfolk: Present
Plainville: Present
Wrentham: Ms. Erin Greaney, Ms. Joe Cronin

VISITORS

Dr. Rich Drolet, Dr. Susan Gilson, Mr. Larry Azer, Mr. Michael Bois, Ms. Lisa Moy, Ms. Gillian Comeau, Ms. Barbara Snead, Mr. Brian Lee, Mr. Justin Schlesinger, Ms. Nicole Bottomley, Mr. Bauer Evans, Ms. Amanda Langley, Ms. Venessa Petit

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.

-Draft Minutes April 8, 2024
-Payment of Bills/Warrants
-Communications

- A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Cates, to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, including the draft minutes of April 8, 2024. All in favor: Yes (7) Mr. Cates, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Wynn, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent's Update

- DECA Trip to California
- Financial Assistance Awarded for King Philip High School Training
- Duct Taped to Wall for DJ
- Eclipse Glasses
- MJ Day of Kindness and Table Tennis
- KPHS Plumbing - Dr. Drolet shared a response letter from the architects in regards to the waste pipe issue at the high school. After consulting with their plumbing engineer, Building Engineering Resources, they did not recommend installing a 6" waste pipe as the solution. This may temporarily mitigate the problem, but a 6" pipe will still clog and create issues similar to a 4" waste pipe. A copy of the letter is attached to these minutes. Ms. Bottomley and the high school administration will put additional measures in place to increase supervision and educate the students about proper care of the high school property.
- School Calendar 2024-2025- Dr. Drolet informed the committee of a revision to the district school calendar. The change would be to move the King Philip High School Open House night from 10/10/24 to 10/9/24. This change is due to the high school football schedule that came out, which has a game scheduled for Thursday 10/10/24. This revision will be voted upon at the next meeting.

A copy of the Superintendent's Update is attached to these minutes.

Assistant Superintendent's Update

Dr. Gilson gave a presentation on Accountability Information. She also shared that the professional development day on April 10th, included a keynote presentation by Dr. Kalise Wornum. This presentation was fully supported by funding awarded to Dr. Gilson by the MA state department of education through the Teacher Diversification Grant. A copy of her slide presentation is attached to these minutes.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT (taken out of order)

The April 29, 2024 KPHS Student Council Report was read into the minutes by Ms. Gillian Comeau.

Mr. Lehan recognized and thanked Ms. Wynn for her contributions to the school committee over the last two years. This was Ms. Wynn's last school committee meeting as she did not seek reelection.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail Monument

On March 18, 2024, Mr. Justin Schlesinger and Mr. Roy Van gave a presentation to the committee on the proposed Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail Monument. At that time there was some confusion regarding the Revolutionary War hero "Rochambeau" from the school committee. Mr. Schlesinger's further research found that the confusion lay in the father/son relationship. Jean-Baptiste de Vimeur, Comte de Rochambeau was a distinguished French military officer who played a significant role as the commander of French forces during the American Revolutionary War, particularly in the decisive Battle of Yorktown in 1781. His contributions to the war effort and his leadership alongside General George Washington are widely recognized and celebrated.

Donatien-Marie-Joseph de Vimeur, Vicomte de Rochambeau, was indeed a historical figure known for his controversial actions and extreme views. It is important to note that while he was the son of Jean-Baptiste Rochambeau, their beliefs and behaviors were distinctly different. Donatien-Marie-Joseph de Vimeur, Vicomte de Rochambeau, notably served as a French general during the Haitian Revolution, where he was appointed as the Governor-General of Saint-Domingue (present-day Haiti) in 1791. His tenure in Haiti is marked by severe repression and brutal tactics against the Haitian population, earning him a reputation for extreme racism and cruelty. Thus this helped to clarify and differentiate the two Rochambeau names.

Mr. Cates moved the motion forward to allow the Wrentham Historical Commission to move forward with placing the French Army Encampment Memorial, to be placed on the grounds of King Philip High School in Wrentham, MA.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Cates, seconded by Mr. Harmon, to allow the Wrentham Historical Commission to move forward with placing a French Army Encampment Memorial on the grounds of King Philip High School, Wrentham, MA. All in favor: Yes (7) Mr. Cates, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Wynn, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.**

NEW BUSINESS

FY 2025 Marching Band Fees

Mr. Azer said the school committee annually approves all fees. The Marching Band will be starting registrations for the fall and the fees need to be set prior to registration. The fees were based off of recommendations from Mr. Michael Keough, and Mr. Joshua Wolloff which was \$600 for the FY2025 marching band program. The district's share of the program cost is already included in the adopted FY2025 operating budget. For comparison, the FY 2024 fee was \$530. The increase for next year is due to higher costs for lodging and transportation, as well as lower participation. A copy of the budget detail is attached to these minutes.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Cates, seconded by Mr. Harmon, to approve a fee of \$600 for the FY 2025 marching band program. All in favor: Yes (7) Mr. Cates, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Wynn, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.**

Overnight Field Trip Request-KPHS Football team to Camp Mataponi, Naples ME 8/20/24-8/25/24

Mr. Brian Lee gave members of the school committee an update of football camp changes that will be put in place for the 2024 season. Changes that will be made include areas of supervision, team activities, along with some new additions. The team and coaches also completed an extensive eight week training program which included team building, appropriate behavior training, and accountability.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Cates, to approve the KPHS Football team overnight field trip request to Camp Mataponi in Naples, ME**

8/20/24-8/25/24. All in favor: Yes (7) Mr. Cates, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Wynn, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.

Overnight Field Trip Request-AP US History and US History students trip to Philadelphia, PA and Washington, DC on 11/12/24-11/16/24

Mr. Bauer Evans and Ms. Amanda Langley gave a proposal to the committee for a constitutional history overnight field trip from 11/12/24-11/16/24 to Philadelphia, PA and Washington, DC. The purpose of this trip is to bring the constitution alive. There will be 27 students from AP US History and US History classes (juniors will have first choice then would open to sophomores depending on availability).

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Ms. Wynn, to approve an overnight field trip request for the AP US History and US History Students to attend an overnight field trip to Philadelphia, PA and Washington DC on 11/12/24-11/16/24. All in favor: Yes (7) Mr. Cates, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Wynn, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.**

Reappointment of District Treasurer

Mr. Lehan informed the committee that annual appointments for positions within the school needed to be completed. The first appointment discussed was for the District Treasurer position for FY2025.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Ms. Sharpe, to approve to reappoint Mr. Joseph Meichelbeck to serve as the District Treasurer for FY 2025 at a salary rate to be determined. All in favor: Yes (7) Mr. Cates, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Wynn, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.**

Reappointment of Crossing Guard

The next position for appointment discussed was for the Crossing Guard position for the 2024-2025 school year at a salary rate to be determined.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Cates, seconded by Mr. Harmon, to approve to reappoint Ms. Lynn Chapin as a Crossing Guard for the 2024-2025 school year at a salary rate to be determined. All in favor: Yes (7) Mr. Cates, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Wynn, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.**

Reappointment of Secretary to the School Committee

The last position for appointment discussed was for the position of Secretary to the School Committee for July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Ms. Wynn, to approve to reappoint Ms. Venessa Petit as Secretary to the School Committee from July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025. All in favor: Yes (7) Mr. Cates, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Wynn, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.**

Award Bus Transportation Contract

Mr. Azer said the bid opening for the bus transportation contract was done last week. W.T. Homes was the only bidder. Mr. Azer reviewed the specifications for providing regular education student transportation for the next three years (FY 2025-2027) (SY 2024-25, 2025-26, 2026-27). See attached memo. Mr. Cates asked Mr. Azer if there was any negotiating power at all to have a more evenly distributed increase. Mr. Azer said that a six percent increase is very good in this market. Mr. Azer said other districts around the state are getting double digit increases. The motion was brought forward.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Cates, seconded by Mr. Harmon, to award a three-year contract to W.T. Holmes Transportation Company to provide regular education student transportation service in accordance with our bid specifications, in the amount of \$265 per bus per day for FY2025; \$275 per bus per day for FY2026; and \$285 per bus per day for FY2027. All in favor: Yes (7) Mr. Cates, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Wynn, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.**

Quarterly Financial Report

Mr. Azer gave a quarterly financial update to the committee. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES

Negotiations Subcommittee

Dr. Drolet informed the committee that the negotiations subcommittee met with the Food Service Providers. Negotiations went well. Changes in the agreement will be brought to the full committee soon for a vote. Dr. Drolet thanked Mr. Harmon, Mr. Wehmeyer, Mr. Cronin and Mr. Azer for all of their work with the negotiations.

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Plainville School Committee Representative:

Ms. Sharpe said the next meeting will be held on Thursday.

Norfolk School Committee Representative:

Ms. Wynn said the committee had an extensive ELA review. Dr. Allardi presented the strategic plan action map.

Wrentham School Committee Representative:

No report

LATE COMMUNICATIONS

None

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

None

RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None

Dr. Drolet thanked Ms. Wynn for her years of service.

ADJOURNMENT:

- **At 8:27 pm, a Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Ms. Wynn to adjourn the meeting. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (7); Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Mr. Cates, Ms. Sharpe, Ms. Wynn, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehmeyer; No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried 7-0-0.**

Mr. Lehan, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 8:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Venessa Petit

Secretary to the School Committee

Documents presented on April 29, 2024:

Agenda

Bills/Warrants

Draft Minutes from April 8, 2024

Superintendent's Update

Assistant Superintendent Update (slides)

Student Council Report April 29, 2024

Rochambeau Encampment Memorial

FY 2025 Marching Band Fee

Overnight Field Trip Request-Football NaplesME Camp Mataponi 8/20/24-8/25/24

Overnight Field Trip Request- US History Students Philadelphia, PA and Washington D.C.

11/12/24-11/16/24

Reappointment of District Treasurer

Reappointment of Crossing Guard

Reappointment of Secretary to the School Committee

Bus Transportation Contract

FY 2024 Budget-Quarterly Financial Report