

School Committee Meeting
Monday, April 27, 2020 - Approved
REMOTE MEETING- RECORDED

OPENING OF MEETING:

Mr. Gee, Chair, opened the meeting at 6:04pm and read the following statement into the Minutes:

Good evening. This Open Meeting of the King Philip Regional School District is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the "COVID-19 Virus." "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, Section 20."

In order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor's Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible *physical* location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

The Order, which you can find posted with agenda materials for this meeting allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting.

Ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law. This meeting will present public comment during that designated portion of the meeting. As directed in the posting, public comment should have been emailed to the superintendent of school prior to the start of the public comment section of the meeting and will be read by the superintendent on the commenter's behalf.

For this meeting, the King Philip Regional School District is convening by *google hangout* as posted on the District's Website identifying how the public may join. Please visit: www.kingphilip.org

Please note that this meeting is being recorded, and that some attendees are participating by video conference. All voted will be taken by roll call vote.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Members Present:

Norfolk:	Michael Gee, Jeff Curry, Kenneth Dow
Plainville:	Bruce Cates, Samad Khan, Amy Abrams
Wrentham:	Trevor Knott, Erin DeStefano

Members Absent:

Norfolk:	Present
Plainville:	Present
Wrentham:	Jim Killion (participated at 6:20pm)

HS Student Council Representative: Marion Linde

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- March 23, 2020 Draft Minutes
- April 6, 2020 Draft Minutes
- April 13, 2020 Draft Minutes

- ✦ A Motion was made by Mrs. DeStefano, seconded by Mrs. Abrams, to approve the minutes of March 23, 2020, as presented. A roll call vote was taken: Yes (8): Mr. Gee, Mr. Curry, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Knott, Mr. Dow; No (0); Abstain: (0). All in favor. Motion carried.
- ✦ A Motion was made by Mr. Knott, seconded by Mrs. DeStefano, to approve the minutes of April 6, 2020 as presented. A roll call vote was taken: Yes (8): Mr. Gee, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Knott, Mr. Curry, Mr. Dow; No (0); Abstain: (0). All in favor. Motion carried.
- ✦ A Motion was made by Mr. Knott, seconded by Mrs. DeStefano, to approve the minutes of April 13, 2020, as presented. A roll call vote was taken: Yes (8): Mr. Gee, Mr. Curry, Mr. Dow, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Knott; No (0); Abstain: (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS, FINANCIAL REPORT

Warrants/Budget Report/Budget Transfers: Mr. Azer

Mr. Azer noted that one primary agenda item is to approve the Warrants and address them. He asked for a verbal consent to pay the Warrants and for the Minutes will reflect this.

- ✦ A Motion was made by Mr. Curry, seconded by Mr. Khan, to approve the Warrants as presented. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (8) Mr. Khan, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Knott, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Gee, Mr. Curry, Mr. Dow; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATION:

None

AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Executive Session Minutes:

- ✦ A Motion was made by Mr. Curry, seconded by Mr. Khan to approve and hold the Executive Session Minutes of April 13, 2020, as presented. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (8) Mr. Khan, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Knott, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Gee, Mr. Curry, Mr. Dow; No (0); Abstain (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

DELEGATIONS AND VISITORS

Mr. Zinni, Superintendent, Dr. Gilson, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Azer, Director of Finance & Operations

COMMUNICATION:

- Miss Linde gave an update from the HS Student Council. There will be a fundraiser held virtually for “Kiss Seniors Goodbye” with Hershey kisses that include written notes to seniors.
- Student council elections have been held and a school committee student council representative has been chosen as a successor to Miss Linde.
- Dr. Mobley along with the senior advisors held a Zoom meeting with the Senior Class Government and the Class of 2020 to provide updates on plans for the prom and graduation events. There may be a no-cost event held in November during Thanksgiving break to hold the prom. If graduation is not held on June 7 as planned, an alternative date in August is being looked at either at Stonehill or another location. More information will follow as it becomes available.

(Mr. Killion joined the meeting at 6:20pm)

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

District response to state health and safety concerns: Mr. Zinni

U.S. News & World Report:

Mr. Zinni indicated that King Philip has again been designated one of the best high schools in the country by *U.S. News & World Report* and KP can use this logo on any documentation it wishes. He reviewed the statistics as compared to last year's and noted that KP is at about the same status as last year. In 2019, KP earned a score of 89.5% out of a possible 100. In 2020 KP earned a score of 90.25%. KP ranked in the top 10% of high schools in the nation and top 20% of high schools in the state.

Learning:

Mr. Zinni gave an update on distance learning. As the governor announced that school buildings are closed, learning has continued at KP. Staff members continue to work remotely from home teaching our students, while taking care of their personal affairs, and they continue to learn new technology.

A survey was sent out to parents, students and staff members of both the MS and the HS. The results of the survey were very positive with 68% identifying learning on average or "just right." The survey indicated that students are having a difficult time that they are not in a school environment and we are trying to find more ways on how to connect with our students. We are looking into safety and security tools and are utilizing all precautionary measures available. Discussion followed.

Dr. Gilson is continuing to provide professional development opportunities to staff members. Dr. Gilson is also working with curriculum team leaders and department heads for this year's learning and into next year's return to see how this year has impacted learning and skills and adjusting the 7-12 curriculum. She has also been meeting with the elementary curriculum leaders which she noted is a very cohesive team and they are working together so that the transition is smooth going into the Fall.

Mr. Zinni discussed the grading system developed by the administrative team leaders for both the MS and the HS level. Discussion was held on HS GPA. Mr. Zinni indicated that options were discussed with the Administrative Team and they reviewed alternative methods and various percentages that could be used to see what worked best for the students. Discussion ensued on learning plan questions from parents and the difference between a-synchronous and synchronous learning format with access to technology and Wi-Fi. Mr. Zinni thanked Mrs. DeStefano and her husband for their offer to assist families who are having difficulty securing WiFi access.

Mr. Khan asked for a number of students who are without devices. Mr. Zinni will provide an update at the next meeting.

Student Fees:

Mr. Zinni noted that with the cancellation of all spring sports, the district will try to refund all spring fees. The District will also refund parking fees on a pro-rated basis which is about \$70 for the remainder of the year. The Model UN has received a credit toward next year and seniors will receive their payments.

Mrs. Abrams asked about the procedure and/or policy about refunding fees and whether this matter should have been presented to the School Committee prior to authorizing any refunds. Mr. Zinni indicated that his intention had been to notify the Committee at this meeting prior to it having been announced to the public. Discussion continued that these items are listed in the warrants that are approved by the school committee.

Discussion ensued on refunds student lunch money accounts and medication. For medication, Mr. Zinni suggested that parents contact the building principal. Lunch money, according to Mr. Azer, will be refunded to seniors or it may be added to a younger sibling's account or it may be held in balance. If anyone needs a refund, they should contact Ms. Reynolds, Food Service Director.

Building Access:

MS and HS staff were allowed into the buildings this week to retrieve any items that they may need. Students will be allowed access to their lockers at a later date to collect textbooks and personal belongings once a plan is in place.

FY20 Budget Update:

Mr. Zinni and Mr. Azer had a conference call with the Wrentham Town Manager. A Wrentham Town Meeting is still being planned in June; however, this will depend on the Governor's directive. Discussion ensued that town meetings are crucial to have a budget in place. All the towns have a lack of revenue and some are proposing a 10% cut to all departments. Plainville is still potentially seeking a 2 ½% override and proposing other ideas on how to raise revenue. The Norfolk Town Meeting scheduled in May has been rescheduled.

Mr. Azer referred to the memorandum from DESE Commissioner Riley dated April 23, 2020, on the guidelines on FY21 regional school district interim or 1/12th budget process.

NEW BUSINESS:

Holmes Transportation – Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

Discussion ensued on the proposed MOA with Holmes which is a savings to the district of about \$60,000 or a 20% reduction for the months of April, May and June. Mr. Azer will be working with Van Pool on a similar agreement.

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Killion, seconded by Mr. Khan, to approve the Holmes Transportation Memorandum of Agreement, as presented. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (9): Mr. Gee, Mr. Dow, Mr. Curry, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott. No (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

Appointment of Superintendent to BICO:

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Knott, seconded by Mrs. DeStefano, to appoint Mr. Zinni, Superintendent as the King Philip representative to the BICO Board of Directors for the 2020/2021 school year. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (9): Mr. Gee, Mr. Dow, Mr. Curry, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott. No (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

Reappointment of King Philip Regional Treasurer:

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mrs. DeStefano, seconded by Mr. Killion, to reappoint Mr. Meichelbeck as King Philip Regional Treasurer for the 2020/2021 school year. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (9): Mr. Gee, Mr. Dow, Mr. Curry, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott. No (0). All in favor. Motion carried.



Reappointment of King Philip Regional School Committee Secretary:

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mrs. Abrams, seconded by Mr. Dow, to reappoint Mrs. Witkus as the King Philip Regional School Committee Secretary for the 2020/2021 school year. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (9): Mr. Gee, Mr. Dow, Mr. Curry, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott. No (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Plainville School Committee Representative: Mrs. Abrams – Plainville discussed the bus contract; food distribution along with Wrentham and remote learning.
- Wrentham School Committee Representative: Mrs. DeStefano – Wrentham discussed the end of year plans for special education programs, report cards, DARE, Kindergarten registration and locker cleanout plans.

- Norfolk School Committee Representative: Mr. Curry - Norfolk discussed the budget and revenue shortfalls, Selectboard meeting discussion and April vacation.

ADJOURNMENT

- ✚ A Motion was made by Mr. Khan, seconded by Mrs. Abrams, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm. A roll call of members was taken: Yes (9): Mr. Gee, Mr. Dow, Mr. Curry, Mrs. Abrams, Mr. Cates, Mr. Khan, Mrs. DeStefano, Mr. Killion, Mr. Knott. No (0). All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Gee adjourned the meeting. Mr. Zinni will post this recorded meeting on the KP Website at its conclusion.

Respectfully submitted,

Elisa B. Witkus

Secretary to the School Committee

Documents presented on April 27, 2020:

Draft minutes of:

March 23, 2020

April 6, 2020

April 13, 2020 (Open and Executive Session)

Warrants

Holmes Transportation MOA

Appointment of Supt. To BICO BOD

Reappointment of Regional Treasurer

Reappointment of School Committee Secretary