

TO: SCHOOL COMMITTEE
FROM: ERIC WADDELL
DATE: JULY 20, 2020
RE: **REPORT FOR JULY 21, 2020 SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Let's focus on something positive! Our FY21 Budget passed overwhelmingly after last Tuesday's Budget Validation Referendum. 87% voted to support the budget for the upcoming school year. At a time when nothing in the future feels secure, a vote like that tells me that we have the support of our community, that they recognize the critical importance of an outstanding public education system in their community, and that we have their trust. Those are all very important to me, and I will take those sentiments with me into this new school year and remind myself of this 'vote of confidence' when times get tough(er).

Our only July meeting (and our first meeting in FY21) will be a remote meeting using the Zoom platform. I will share the link with you via email, so keep an eye out for that. Others who would like to watch the meeting may do so in two ways:

- Go to this link from the Town of Kittery website and watch the meeting streaming live: <http://www.kitteryme.gov/home/pages/kittery-channel-22-live-stream>
- For those who live in Kittery and who have cable television, they may watch the meeting live on Channel 22.

Allow me to walk you through the agenda:

- Until we resume normal operations here in the Town Hall (and everywhere else), our **warrant review** will be done remotely using only the warrant summary. The AP Specialist will email the summary to the two reviewing members of the School Committee, and their response will affirm that the warrant was successfully reviewed. The Town of Kittery is following this same procedure during the 'stay-at-home' order.
- For **Public Comment** as is noted on the agenda, members of the public who wish to offer comment may do so in writing by emailing them to Donna Schoff (dschoff@kitteryschools.com) by noon on the day of the meeting. Comments received by then will be read aloud during the Public Comment portion of the meeting. Full names are required on all written public comments.
- Under 'Correspondence' I've included three pieces to share with you:
 - **STA** (Ledgemere Transportation)
 - **YCCC** press release including Killian Campbell (TA '20)
 - An excerpt from the **Kittery Land Trust** newsletter

- There are no reports or presentations at this meeting; however, Assistant Superintendent Woodside will join us again to follow up with you in case you have questions related to her June 16th **ESEA Grants presentation**.
- Under my report, I will discuss some highlights from Mrs. Harkin's final **11 Cost Center Report for FY21**. I will also share a comprehensive **Donations/Grants Report** that Mrs. Schoff created to give you a sense of how generous and successful we have been this year with seeking and receiving grants and donations. Speaking of grants, the next round of Traip Trustees grant applications have been received by the Traip Trustees, and I am hopeful that we will hear from them soon. Even during a remote learning deployment, many of our teachers submitted thoughtful and important proposals for the Trustees' consideration.

Finally under my report, I will read into the record the **new appointments** since June 16th, many of which involve summer programming (which is going quite well!). I will also have one resignation to announce, **Cameron Cavanaugh** (TA '13) who is planning to return to school to earn his teaching credentials. Mr. Cavanaugh has been a highly successful Ed. Tech. in our District for the past school year, and I predict a successful teaching career in his future (perhaps here in Kittery!).

- Under '**New Business**' you will consider **three teacher nominations** for the upcoming school year, one at Shapleigh School and two at Traip Academy.
- Following Committees & Reports, we will enter **Executive Session** to review the MOA between the Kittery Police Department and the School District for SRO services for the 2020-21 school year.

That should take care of the Business Meeting. Allow me to share a few other items with you:

- I wanted you to know that I have been elected to the position of **Secretary for the Maine School Superintendents' Association**. MSSA is a branch of MSMA (there are two branches; yours is the other--Maine School Boards Association. As an officer of MSSA, I will be helping to lead the work of my professional state-level association, and eventually, I'll be the President (I think!). That's several years off, but in the meantime, my primary task will be to prepare the minutes from the MSSA Executive Committee meetings. I can handle that!
- Congratulations to **Guy Pollino**, Health teacher at Traip Academy, who received an Apple Award from the Choose To Be Healthy Coalition in York County. The Coalition makes the awards annually to individuals or groups who champion the work of the Coalition. Thank you to Mr. Pollino for recognizing the valuable resource in CTBH and for capitalizing on this resources to benefit his students.

- I wanted to confirm that our annual joint **Summer Workshop** with the Kittery School District Leadership Team will be Monday and Wednesday, August 17 & 19 at the Kittery Community Center. Both sessions will run from 5:00 to 8:00 PM. In large part, the facilitated workshop will be a book study of Ibram Kendi's ***How To Be An Antiracist***. You have access to a digital copy of the book for your tablet through the Rice Public Library. However, we do have 5 hard copies available in this office. Contact Donna if you'd like to borrow a hard copy.
- The Kittery School District **Re-opening Plan** is now in DRAFT form. It will be reviewed by the KEA Executive Board on Tuesday, July 21, and then shared with District staff for feedback (I will include the School Committee in that group as well). Next week (week of July 27th), it will be shared with all families for input before it goes to the School Committee on August 4th for formal action.

For your calendars:

July 21 ~ School Committee Meeting 6:00 PM

July 25 ~ Traip Academy Farmers Market Continues every Saturday from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

July 28 ~ CAFA Meeting 6:00 PM

August 4 ~ School Committee Meeting 6:00 PM

August 13 ~ Facilities, Finance, & Safety Committee Meeting 9:00 AM

August 17 ~ Kittery Adult & Community Education 2020 Graduation Ceremony 1:30 PM (Tent.)

August 17 & 19 ~ School Committee/Leadership Team Workshop 5:00 - 8:00 PM KCC

August 18 ~ School Committee Meeting 6:00 PM



Sunrise at Portage Lake, Maine (where I spent my vacation earlier this month)

