

TO: SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
FROM: ERIC WADDELL, SUPT. OF SCHOOLS  
DATE: MAY 31, 2021  
RE: **REPORT FOR JUNE 1, 2021 SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

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We have hit a fever pitch here in the District. June has arrived, and we, the Leadership Team, are working hard to put this plane on the ground (to continue with an extended metaphor from my *Weekly Communication* on Friday). Did you know that nearly half of all aviation accidents occur during the final approach or landing? Maybe that's not the data point I want to be sharing at this point in the school year. We got this! Keep the faith!

I have been spending a lot (more) time in the schools during Phase IV in order to complete my teacher observations (and I'm fully vaccinated!). My final observation is set for Thursday at Traip Academy. I was there this morning as well. It has been such a pleasure visiting classrooms and seeing first hand how very resilient our students and staff are. The masks, the technology, the onsite, the remote--they all make it look quite easy (and I know it is absolutely not easy).

**Allow me to walk you through the agenda:**

- Those wishing to **speak publicly** during the meeting may do so during Public Comment. Pre-registration is not required. When guests speak, they are asked to share their first and last names and where they reside unless they are under the age of 18).
- Chairwoman Dow will be recognizing **Student Representative Kofos** since this potentially his last meeting (he may join us for June 15th, but it's completely up to him. He'll be a high school graduate by then!).
- Principal Gamache and Principal Drisko will be **recognizing our three retirees** (Kelley Torr, Anne Masury, and Betsy Burke, RN). Together, they represent 67 years with the Kittery School District.
- **Student Representative Kofos** will be making his final presentation of the school year.
- **Scott Harris**, Director of School Counseling in the District, will offer a presentation on student mental health following Traip Academy's student mental health survey this winter. Specifically, Mr. Harris will address these questions:
  - What measures has the school taken or does the school intend to implement to shore up mental health support for our students, particularly after a very challenging year?
  - Do students have a better sense of who can help them if they are feeling like they are having mental health issues?

- What could be the longer lasting impact of the past year on student mental health?
- Under my report, I'm sharing the **11 Cost Center Report** ending April 30, 2021. The Facilities, Finance, & Safety Committee reviewed the report with Mrs. Harkin at its recent meeting.
- As you can see from the agenda, there are **21 new appointments** since our May 18th meeting. Nearly all are for summer programming. I will read them into the record. It is important to note that anyone serving as a teacher or Ed. Tech for summer programming is already employed by the District in that capacity.
- I have **three resignations** to announce at this meeting: one teacher at Shapleigh School (Mr. Goettlich) and two support staff at Mitchell Primary School (Mrs. Ankeny and Mrs. Walker).
- Under New Business, you will consider **second read of two policies (JL and JLCA)**. The Policy Committee is also pleased to share an updated version of policy JICA (**Student Dress**) for **first read**. The Leadership Team was offered an opportunity to review the draft and had no additional feedback.
- Also under my report, you will consider accepting a **recent donation** from The Fabulous Find (\$750) to support the Traip Academy Greenhouse & Garden program.
- Following Committees & Reports, I do not anticipate an Executive Session at this meeting.

#### **A Few Loose Ends...**

- Congratulations to Lorelie and Antonia who were named **Students of the Month for May!**



**For Your Calendars:**

- June 1 ~ School Committee Meeting 6:00 PM Council Chambers
- June 1 ~ Retiree Recognition Ceremony (During School Committee Meeting)
- June 3 ~ Adult & Community Education Graduation Ceremony 6:30 PM Traip Academy
- June 5 ~ District Art Show at Kittery Arts Association 11:15 am - 5:15 pm
- June 7 ~ Wellness Committee Meeting 2:30 PM
- June 8 ~ FY22 Budget Validation Referendum (Election Day) KCC
- June 10 ~ Policy Committee Meeting 3:00 PM (Zoom)
- June 11 ~ Traip Academy Commencement 5:00 PM Ft. Foster Park
- June 15 ~ Last Day of School (half day for students)
- June 15 ~ School Committee Meeting 6:00 PM Council Chambers
- June 22 ~ Facilities, Finance, & Safety Committee Meeting 3:00 PM (Zoom)
- June 26 ~ Independence Day Celebration in Memorial Park 9:00 AM
- July 2 - 5 ~ Our office will be closed for the Independence Day Weekend



