

TO: SCHOOL COMMITTEE
FROM: ERIC WADDELL, SUPT. OF SCHOOLS
DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 2021
RE: **REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2, 2021 SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

With just a week since our last meeting, I'm not sure I'll have a lot to report on in this communication (which is perfectly fine!). If someone had told me a year ago that in January 2021, we would have held a School Committee meeting with all members AND the leadership team at an off site location with the superintendent moderating the technical part of the virtual meeting from a lake house in Northern Maine, I would definitely not have believed it was possible. It was! We did it! Frankly, I held my breath the entire time, but it worked out well. We will do it again tomorrow (in a snowstorm?), but this week, I'm back in York County (still quarantining) but just a few miles from Town Hall in a location with premium Internet service. We got this!

Out of an abundance of caution and in accordance with LD 2167, our **meeting will be a remote meeting** using the Zoom platform. I have registered you as panelists for the meeting, and you should have received a link to the meeting in your email. You will also receive a reminder email with the same link one hour prior to the meeting. 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:

- For those wishing to participate in **Public Comment**, you must register in advance using this link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bXwwdsm7TTKBkL8pSosr1Q

After registering as an attendee, guests will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting so that they may offer **Public Comment**. Registering for **Public Comment** takes only seconds. The link will allow attendees to 'enter' the Zoom meeting, and when the time comes, I will invite attendees to 'step to the lectern' to offer their comments.

- Under Reports & Presentations, **Sally Manninen from the Choose to be Healthy Coalition** (housed on the York Hospital campus) will join us to review the recent mental

health survey administered to Traip Academy students. Her summary of the results is included in your meeting materials. It is always a pleasure to have Sally join us at our meetings. She joined us about a year ago to review the February 2019 MIYHS results for Shapleigh School and Traip Academy. She has a wealth of knowledge in the arena of mental health and substance use/abuse.

- Also joining us at this meeting will be **Officer Durgin, our SRO**. As promised, he will join us from time to time to check in with you, share how things are going in the area of school and student safety, and field any questions you may have.
- Finally under Reports/Presentations, **Student Representative Kofos** will offer this monthly report to the School Committee.
- Under **my Report**, I will be reviewing data related to **remote and homeschooled students** effective today (the first day of Phase 3). I know you find this data informative, so I am pleased to review it with you.
- With the launch of some interscholastic programs at Traip Academy, I have **appointed several coaches** at Traip Academy. They are listed on the agenda.
- Under **New Business**, the Policy Committee is recommending action on **policy ADC** (Tobacco & Vape-free District) to include new required language as noted in your materials.
- Also under **New Business**, I'm pleased to share **two grant awards** as noted on the agenda and ask that you take action on them both. For our February 24th meeting, I will share a comprehensive list of grants/donations received to date since July 1, 2020. I know you appreciate seeing the scale of the grants/donations that we seek and are awarded here in the District.
- During Committees & Reports, Mrs. Cicero and I will be pleased to share a new **5-minute video production about SRTC**. It was unveiled at our SRTC Advisory Board meeting last Friday. We both think you'll like it very much!
- Chairwoman Dow is calling for an **Executive Session** for Superintendent's annual evaluation purposes.

A Few Loose Ends...

- Congratulations to **January Rotary Students of the Month** Jacob and Enrique!



- I would encourage School Committee members to join Ms. Bedard and MSMA Executive Director Steve Bailey for a York County virtual meeting of School Committee members and Superintendents on **Thursday, February 4th, 6:00 PM**. You should have received an agenda in your email. Here is the link for the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88462297180?pwd=QXhEbWFjR0J0dnJlekduRE9hS2xNdz09>

- But wait...there's more! NSBA has invited you to an online **Equity Symposium** on February 10th. The Equity Online Symposium is a half-day forum for school board members, public school advocates, and community leaders to examine and discuss the strategies, current trends, research, and best practices around equity in our nation's public K-12 schools. The keynote session, *Undoing Miseducation*, will feature Brandon P. Fleming, founder & CEO of Harvard Diversity Project and assistant debate coach at Harvard University. I will forward the registration email to you just in case you missed it!
- The **Great Kindness Challenge** is underway at Mitchell Primary School. The mission of the Challenge is to create a more positive, unified, and respectful school environment. At the heart of The Great Kindness Challenge is the simple belief that kindness is strength.



Our third **Staff Appreciation** event is set for this Friday, February 5th. Dunkin of Kittery will provide coffee and donuts to all staff in all three schools. Thank you Dunkin of Kittery!



For your calendars:

- Feb. 1 ~ Start of Black History Month
- Feb. 1 ~ Staff Mental Health Support Session (Zoom) 6:00 PM
- Feb. 1 - 5 ~ National School Counseling Week
- Feb. 2 ~ School Committee Meeting 6:00 PM (Zoom)
- Feb. 3 ~ Family Virtually Support Session (Zoom) 6:00 PM
- Feb. 3 ~ Adult & Community Education Advisory Board Meeting 6:00 PM
- Feb. 4 ~ MSBA Regional IX meeting for School Board members 6:00 PM
- Feb. 8 ~ Staff Mental Health Support Session (Zoom) 6:00 PM
- Feb. 9 ~ Fac. Finance & Safety Committee Meeting 3:00 PM
- Feb. 10 ~ Policy Committee Meeting 3:00 PM
- Feb. 15 ~ Presidents' Day (offices closed)
- Feb. 15 - 19 ~ February Break (no classes)
- Feb. 23 ~ Fac. Finance & Safety Committee Meeting 3:00 PM
- Feb. 24 ~ School Committee Meeting 6:00 PM (Zoom)



