

TO: SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
FROM: ERIC WADDELL  
DATE: AUGUST 17, 2018  
RE: **REPORT FOR AUGUST 21ST SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

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As I prepare my report for our only August School Committee meeting, I am preparing to join the Leadership Team at the annual *Back To School Bash* hosted by PNSY. The event brings all military families together for fun, food, and vendors. It is also a chance for us to say hello to our returning military-connected families and to meet families who arrived during the summer. This will be my 7th Bash, and each time, I come away from the event with excitement and hope for the new school year. I have such respect and admiration for our military-connected students. They bring a unique global flavor to our community, and I'm grateful for that.

Allow me to walk you through our agenda for the August 21st meeting:

- Under section V (Unfinished Business), you will consider the **Unit C Collective Bargaining Agreement** which was recently approved by the Unit C membership.
- Under my report, I will share information with you about a campaign that is emerging among some Maine municipalities and school districts to '**Raise the Floor**' of the Essential Programs & Services school funding model.

Also under my report, I will announce the **temporary long-term substitute assignment** of Monica McKeon who will be filling in for Kristen O'Neill as a Shapleigh School counselor.

I will provide you with draft copies of the **2018-19 Student/Parent Handbooks** for each of our three schools. They are still in draft form, so you will have a chance to review them and offer suggestions for clarity/accuracy before they are formalized and posted on school websites.

In your materials, you have a copy of the **2018-19 Staff Changes** for the District. This is up-to-date through this morning, and I will share any further updates at the meeting.

- Under **New Business**, you will consider my nominations for a variety of positions for the upcoming school year. I must add that it is an absolute pleasure for me to conduct the final interview for these candidates who have been thoroughly vetted through an exhaustive interview process at the building level. Even as I write this, we have interviews planned for Monday, and I fully expect to be presenting Chairwoman Dow with an addendum to include a few more nominations for this meeting.

- New Business, letter 'D' involves the **Kittery School District Employee Handbook**. Lauren Lawson, HR Manager, and I reviewed the handbook and made necessary updates and revisions for 2018-19.
- The **2018-19 Substitute Teacher** pay rates schedule requires adoption by the School Committee annually. In your information packet, you will see the proposed schedule with highlighted recommended changes for the new year (several of them are the result of CBAs). Currently, substitutes who work more than 30 days receive receive \$5 more per day. However, that count 'resets' at the start of each school year. I am recommending that once a substitute teacher reaches the 30+ benchmark, he/she will remain at that pay level in the following year. This is a way, I believe, of thanking our substitutes who make a strong commitment to working in our District, and it helps us to be more competitive with neighboring districts. We are all dipping into the same substitute teacher pool!
- We received three **donations/grant** awards recently:
  - The **Harbourside Garden Club** has donated \$1000 to support Mrs. Masury's efforts to continue to 'cultivate' learning opportunities for our students in the Traip Academy garden and greenhouse.
  - The **Traip Academy Centennial Committee** from 2006 gifted the remaining fund in their account to a special project at Traip Academy. One option that we are pursuing is to replace the plastic letter sign at Traip Academy with a digital message sign. That's just one idea. I certainly appreciate the gift, and we will definitely use it wisely to improve the Traip Academy campus.
  - **Kennebunk Savings** awarded us a \$1000 grant to support the efforts of the District nursing staff to train staff and provide them with the necessary supplies for the lifesaving techniques known as 'Stopping the Bleed.'
- Will will enter into **Executive Session** for an update on the Unit A collective bargaining process as well as discussion related to three proposed contracted services to our District for the 2018-19 school year.
- For the September 4th School Committee Meeting, I will offer a presentation on New Employees as well as facility updates/improvements over the spring/summer.

### Looking Ahead

- August 19 ~ Maine Run For Parkinson's Disease 5K (Kittery Trading Post) 8:00 AM
- August 20 ~ Substitute Teacher Orientation 9:00 AM
- August 21 ~ Facilities Committee Meeting 4:00 PM
- August 20 & 22 ~ School Committee Retreat 5:00 - 8:00 PM KCC
- August 21 ~ School Committee Meeting 6:30 PM Council Chambers

- August 22 ~ New Employee Orientation 8:30 AM
- August 27 ~ Unit A Negotiations 3:00 PM
- August 28 - 30 ~ Staff Professional Development Days
- August 29 ~ Welcome Back Assembly for all District Employees 7:30 AM Traip Academy Gymnasium
- September 4 ~ First Day of School!
- September 4 ~ School Committee Meeting 6:30 PM Council Chambers

Remember! Keep an eye on our **District calendar** (on our website homepage) for other important event information, and follow me on Twitter (**@Kitteryschools**) for photos, updates, and announcements.

