

To: Representative Town Meeting
From: RTM Education Committee (By Lauren Karpf)
Re: RTM Education Committee Meeting on July 5, 2021

On July 5, 2021, the Education Committee met with Jim Marpe via Zoom. Present were Lauren Karpf, Lou Mall, Mark Friedman, Ellen Lautenberg, Kristin Schneeman, Kristin Purcell, Candace Banks, Brandi Briggs, and Jack Klinge.

The committee met to approve the request to name the Staples High School Football Field the Coach Paul Lane Field.

Jim Marpe spoke of Coach Lane's impact on countless students at Staples High School over so many years, not only of his legendary coaching, but also his unique ability to connect with and motivate students to exceed their potential. He was an icon of the football program in Westport for over 30 years, and led championship track and women's golf teams. But his accomplishments extend far beyond sports – he was an extraordinary mentor to so many youth, an icon of Compo Beach, and a respected and beloved member of the Westport community.

The Board of Education, Parks and Recreation Commission, and Board of Selectmen all unanimously supported the naming of the Coach Paul Lane Field. After a motion by Jack Klinge and seconded by Kristin Purcell, the RTM Education Committee also voted unanimously in favor of this request. The Education Committee is proud and honored to support the naming of Coach Paul Lane Field in honor of a deserving coach, mentor, and legend who so positively impacted the Staples and Westport communities.