



King Philip REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

To: King Philip Regional School District School Committee

From: Dr. Rich Drolet, Superintendent of Schools

Date: August 28, 2023

Re: Superintendent's Update

Moment of Silence for Connor Reilly

Connor Reilly was a remarkable young man. With his family and with our staff's support, his life exceeded expectations and he inspired so many. Our thoughts especially go out to Connor's dad Bill, who is a teacher in the Norfolk Public Schools.



Moment of Silence for Malia Juschzek

Malia Juszczak was brave. She pushed herself with curiosity and openness. She was tenacious, yet compassionate. Like Connor, Malia also served as an inspiration to others and her life ended too soon. With hope, optimism, and confidence, her last words were, "I've got this."



Restorative Practices Training

August 16th through 18th we facilitated a “Summer Behavior Institute” here in the library for middle and high school teachers interested in learning from a renowned behavior expert. Polly Bath is a widely recognized behavior expert across New England and the nation. She consults and trains administrators, teachers, and paraprofessionals on how to manage and change difficult school behavior. She has gained her reputation most especially by teaching educators how to change the difficult behaviors that have been the most resistant to change. Her strategies are effective in the inclusive general education classroom as well as in special education settings. I got to spend an hour in this insightful training and the feedback from this training has been very positive.

New Faculty/Staff Orientation

Tomorrow and Wednesday (August 29th and 30th) we will welcome a group of enthusiastic new teachers and teacher assistants to King Philip! We will support them to the fullest as they work with our students across our three towns. Dr. Gilson will lead this new teacher/staff orientation, which will include two full days of training and a full year of continuous training and support from mentors and veteran teachers in our district.

Back to School Social

This Wednesday evening, August 30th, from 6-8 PM Healthy KP Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition is hosting a Back to School Social. New KPRHS Principal Nicole Bottomly and myself will be there if anyone wants to attend. See the flier below.



HEALTHY KP SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION COALITION PRESENTS

BACK TO SCHOOL SOCIAL

PARENTS: HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT EXHIBIT • MEET & GREET WITH SUPERINTEDENT DROLET AND PRINCIPAL BOTTOMLEY • SOCIAL HOST LAWS & LIABILITY • MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES • WELLNESS RESOURCES

STUDENTS: MARIO KART TOURNAMENT WITH 1ST PLACE PRIZE • LAWN GAMES • INFLATABLE OBSTACLE COURSE TOURNAMENT WITH 1ST PLACE PRIZE • IMPAIRED VISION GOGGLES • COMMUNITY RESOURCE DOGS

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 30, 2023
6PM-8PM
KP HIGH SCHOOL FIELD HOUSE

FREE by DINNER

PARENT & STUDENT PRIZES
Gift cards & KP SWAG

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Email kawaso@kingphilip.org

HEALTHY KP SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION COALITION

District Leadership Team Retreat

This Thursday, August 31st, our leadership team will meet for the full day. We will focus on preparing for staff's full arrival on Tuesday, Sept. 5th and our students' full arrival on Wednesday, Sept. 6th, which we are very excited for! This will be our 3rd day together this summer and we will welcome [Karen Archambault](#) and [Shawn Connors](#) to our District Leadership Team!

Massachusetts Teacher of the Year Honoree Erin Nerlino

I know Mr. Zinni has already acknowledged King Philip Regional High School English teacher Ms. Nerlino for being named a [semi-finalist for Massachusetts 2023 Teacher of the Year](#), but I would like to again acknowledge her tonight as her plaque has arrived. Ms. Nerlino had conflicts in her busy schedule these next two School Committee Meetings and she could not attend in person, so tonight we will honor her. Perhaps School Committee Chair Mr. Lehan can present the plaque to Ms. Nerlino on behalf of the entire King Philip School Committee on Tuesday morning.

King Philip High School Area Designated as a School Zone

At the June 20th Wrentham Board of Selectmen's meeting, the Wrentham Board voted unanimously to designate the area around KPRHS as a "School Zone" in line with the newest state guidelines. This was a required step needed for a grant Mr. Zahner, our Facilities Manager, worked on making the area around our high school more safe for our staff and students. This grant is being funded by the Massachusetts Safer Schools and Communities Initiative and it will pay for two speed reducing signs which should be installed sometime this fall.

Free Lunch for All Students

In case you haven't heard, Governor Healey has approved permanent free school meals for all students. We have updated the meals information on the website. The Free and Reduced Lunch Application has also been updated - it is still important for families to fill this form out, as this information ties into our annual Title I grant funding allocation.

Teacher and Staff Convocation

I am looking forward to giving my "Welcome Back" message/presentation to the entire King Philip Regional School District staff next Tuesday morning, Sept. 5th, as our educators return full time for this 2023-2024 school year. I am excited to introduce myself and meet many educators whom I haven't had a chance to meet and get to know yet. Besides myself, Adam Gentili (KPTA President) and Jim Lehan (King Philip School Committee Chair) will address the staff. This will be held in the King Philip High School Auditorium at 8 AM if any of you would like to attend.