



King Philip REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

To: King Philip Regional School District School Committee

From: Dr. Rich Drolet, Superintendent of Schools

Date: September 11, 2023

Re: Superintendent's Update

Norfolk PD Meeting

On August 29th I met with our KPRMS School Resource Officer Katie Appel, Norfolk Police Chief Tim Heinz, Deputy Chief Michelle Palladini, Lieutenant Eric Vanness, Harper the Norfolk Fire Department's comfort dog, and Mitch the Norfolk Police Department's comfort dog. Also, last week I signed an MOU (memorandum of understanding) outlining our agreement regarding the SRO between King Philip Regional School District and the Norfolk, Plainville and Wrentham Police Departments. Additions for this year include, but are not limited to, more collaboration between the three towns SROs at the middle school and high school, and updates on who the SROs directly reports to at town's respective police departments.

King Philip Regional High School Library Construction Update

We are hopeful to open the renovated high school library the week of Sept. 18th or Sept. 25th. I will keep you posted if the next School Committee Meeting will need to take place again or if we will be able to have it at the high school. *Mr. Azer will now provide a more detailed update.*

KPRHS Student Participates in Harvard Grad Schools' AI Presentation

See the image below for a panel of presenters which featured KPRHS student Lakshya Jain. Last Wednesday, Lakshya took part in a [virtual presentation](#) sponsored by Harvard Graduate School's "Education Now" series. Lakshya's session focused on how Artificial Intelligence can be used in education in a positive light. Can AI actually increase the opportunities for creativity and imagination in our classrooms, for both teachers and students? Lakshya is deeply passionate about Artificial Intelligence and entrepreneurship. He is considering majoring in Applied Mathematics and his top

schools are MIT, Harvard, Yale, and Stanford. This summer, he interned at the MIT Lincoln Laboratory. During the six-week program, he conducted research in computer networks, wireless communications, and autonomous systems/AI within the Tactical Networks division. Dr. Gilson and I attended this presentation. I was impressed with how Lakshya talked about using ChatGPT as an editor to help with his writing. He spoke about needing a good input (the prompt you ask it) to get a good output. The panel also addressed how AI will never replace humans, as humans can do things that AI can't, like motivating, modeling, and inspiring. Most kids now might use AI or ChatGPT to make things easier, more helpful, or to perhaps cheat; Lakshya talked about using it for greater purposes and I was thoroughly impressed!

educationnow
HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Experimenting with AI in the Classroom



GUEST
Dora Demszky



GUEST
Houman Harouni



GUEST
Lakshya Jain



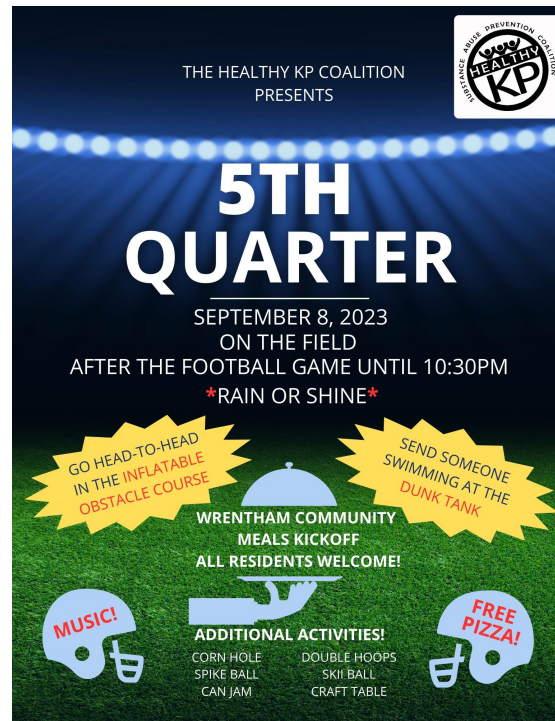
HOST
Uche Amaechi

Wednesday, September 6
3:00 PM EST

Attending Home Sporting Events

This year I plan to try to attend at least one home varsity game for each sport and root on our green and gold home teams. Last Friday, Sept. 8th I got to see our KP football team take on Walpole. In addition, I attended KP Cares' Tailgate Meet and Greet event before the football game - thanks to students Charlotte and Sariah for reaching out to invite me! And then after the game I attended Healthy KP Coalition's after party (see flyer below on next page). This "5th quarter" event was free and it was hosted by our Healthy KP Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition. Healthy KP is made up of students,

faculty, and community members who are committed to building a strong and thriving community.



School Committee Members Taking Charting the Course

As a reminder, Ann-marie Martin from [MASC](#) let Ms. Petit know that M.G.L. 71:36A requires that all school committee members take “Charting the Course” within one year of their election/appointment. Please see Ms. Petit if you are not sure whether or not you need to take the course within the next year. Here is a link below to M.G.L. 71:36A: (<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleXII/Chapter71/Section36A>).

King Philip Educating New Students

As you know, last Tuesday I was informed by DESE (Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education) that some homeless children and youth moved into two shelters in Plainville over the Labor Day weekend along with their families. DESE has a number of procedures and protocols in place for this sort of situation, and our school district will be ready to assist in any way that is needed. We strive to create a learning environment that is welcoming so that all students can feel a sense of belonging. As an aside, I have been thoroughly impressed and I feel pride to be KP’s superintendent. This is because it was only minutes after I made this announcement many people reached out to me to see how they could immediately support these new students and their families. Reminder on homeless student guidance: Click [here](#) for

DESE's guidance for supporting homeless students during a state of emergency. On August 8, Governor Healey declared a [state of emergency](#) due to the rapidly rising number of migrant families arriving in Massachusetts in need of shelter and services, coupled with a severe lack of shelter availability in the state. On August 24, [DESE issued guidance](#) ([download](#)) to provide information regarding the state of emergency and the impact on districts, DESE newcomer support resources for school districts, DESE homeless student support resources for school districts, and supplemental funding available to support school districts with homeless students. **Ms. Moy will now provide a more detailed update.**

Ms. Nerlino's Plaque from School Committee

And finally, last week I visited one of Ms. Nerlino's classes to deliver her plaque from the School Committee for being named a semifinalist for Massachusetts Teacher of the Year. Below is a photo of her holding the plaque which I took with her class of seniors.



Director of Technology and School Principal Updates

Mr. Bois, Ms. Kreuzer, and Ms. Bottomley will now provide beginning of year updates.