



King Philip REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

To: King Philip Regional School District School Committee

From: Dr. Rich Drolet, Superintendent of Schools

Date: September 25, 2023

Re: Superintendent's Update

KPRHS Superintendent Residency Fall 2023

I spent all of last week (September 18th - September 22nd) here at King Philip Regional High School with my hallway desk traveling through the high school building. Some highlights include the renovated library being newly opened, speaking to and getting to know many friendly and supportive teachers and staff members, chatting and meeting with some high school students, and visiting a few classes (see photos below). I got to visit Ms. Vas' Chemistry class (see first two photos below) where they were playing cornhole outside - she was using this popular game to teach her students about accuracy and precision. I stopped by the KP/Milford golf match one afternoon at Wentworth Hills in Plainville (see next two photos for two seniors teeing off at hole 1) - I later heard the next day that sophomore Jason Silva scored an albatross (got it in two shots on a par 5) at this match, which is a one-in-a-lifetime amazing feat! And the last two photos show how I visited with Mr. Walsh's World Cultures elective class to discuss human migration, as he thought it would be interesting to have his class hear from me about KP's involvement and support of some newcomer students who recently joined our district. Many thanks to Dr. Schwarz and a few of our newcomer students pictured below for sharing their first-hand perspectives. I plan to spend the week of October 16th to October 20th utilizing my hallway desk and immersing myself in our middle school.





King Philip Regional High School Library Construction Update

Mr. Azer will give an update. We are close to finalizing this exciting project! Once the space is fully finished, I will produce a video to share with the KP community highlighting our new King Philip Regional High School Library Media Center.

Wrentham Cable 8 and Upcoming Show

On September 18th I met with Elizabeth (Liz) Harkins, Assistant Director at [Wrentham Cable 8](#), to record an interview for their programming. We spoke about collaborating in the future to perhaps do quarterly shows to highlight KP school district news. Also, we spoke about mutual goals to hopefully provide some high school upperclass students with some internship opportunities at Wrentham Cable 8 in the future.

Wrentham Historical Commission

On September 14th I met with Justin Schlesinger, Chair of the Wrentham Historical Commission. This was a very informative meeting. Justin spoke to me about the grass next to tennis courts that abuts Route 140 here on the high school campus. After winning the historic Battle of Yorktown in Virginia during the American Revolution in the fall of 1781, the British surrendered to George Washington and French ally Comte de Rochambeau. After winning the historical battle, Rochambeau and his troops marched back from Virginia to Boston. On their second-to-last stop before reaching Boston, they stayed here right here and right next to where our tennis courts are located for a few days. Mr. Schlesinger will likely come back to speak to you in the future about the School Committee possibly granting permission for the Wrentham Historical Commission to erect a small memorial in that area.

Commissioner Riley Plainville Visit

On Friday, September 22nd, Ms. Moy and I got to briefly meet DESE Commissioner Jeff Riley. Superintendent Jen Parson hosted this visit on behalf of the Plainville Elementary Schools. Plainville's Town Administrator, School Committee Chair, and School Committee Vice Chair also attended. This was a chance for Commissioner Riley to see the impact of newcomer students to Plainville. I want to give our fellow King Philip staff and students credit for welcoming our students to our school district.

KPRSD Possibly Joining The Education Cooperative (TEC)

On September 8th I attended my first Bi-County ("Bi-Co") Collaborative meeting, which KPRSD is a member of. At this meeting, I volunteered to replace Mr. Zinni, serving as a board member on Bi-Co's Finance Sub-Committee. Thinking of saving our district money, as well as increasing my professional learning and growth with other local superintendents in the future, I reached out to and spoke with TEC (The Education Cooperative) Executive Director Dr. Emily Parks on Sept. 14th. Our School Committee needs to first vote to approve King Philip Regional School District's request to join TEC, and then I would formally express our interest in joining TEC to Dr. Parks and their Board of Directors. With TEC Executive Director Park's agreement and interest in King Philip joining TEC per our conversation, after your vote she would then speak with her

17-member TEC Board of Directors to see if they are amenable to KP joining their cooperative. If they are willing to accept us, each individual superintendent in TEC would then ask each of their School Committees to vote to accept KP into their cooperative. Throughout the course of this school year, the 17 School Committees would then need to vote in the affirmative at each of their respective School Committee meetings to allow our King Philip Regional School District into TEC for the 2024-2025 school year, or perhaps the 2025-2026 school year if things get delayed.

Wrentham Select Board Meeting

Last week I attended the beginning of the virtual [September 19th Wrentham Select Board Meeting](#) and had a chance to introduce myself as the new KP Superintendent. I want to thank them for welcoming me and telling me how they support education and our King Philip schools. I look forward to collaborating with all local boards from Wrentham, Plainville, and Norfolk in the future. Next week I'll be meeting with Mr. Sweet, Wrentham's Town Administrator, who will be the last of the three town administrators I meet with, as I continue to get to know town leaders and constituents of our King Philip Regional School District.

KP Warriors vs. Franklin Panthers Thanksgiving Game at Fenway Park

As you know, last week Fenway Park announced they will be hosting our King Philip Warriors battle our Thanksgiving rival Franklin High. The game was moved from the originally scheduled 10 AM Thanksgiving Day game time in Franklin. This 64th installment of the KP-Franklin High football game will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 21st, at 7:30 PM at Fenway Park. The \$20 ticket is good for both games (the 5 PM matchup is between Tech Boston and Brighton). General admission tickets are available at [redsox.com/highschoolfootball](https://www.redsox.com/highschoolfootball).