



# King Philip REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

To: King Philip Regional School District School Committee

From: Dr. Rich Drolet, Superintendent of Schools

Date: November 20, 2023

Re: Superintendent's Update

---

## **MASC/MASS Annual Conference**

On November 8th, School Committee Chair Jim Lehan and myself attended the first day of the annual [MASC/MASS](#) (Massachusetts Association of School Committees/ Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents) Joint Conference in Hyannis. We attended a session together titled, "Unique Challenges of Regional Schools." After that, Mr. Lehan presented as a School Committee Chair along with a handful of superintendents as part of a panel session titled, "Getting the Message Right During a Crisis." Mr. Lehan presented extremely well and his words of wisdom were very well received by the session attendees!

## **North TV**

Last month I met and interviewed with Peter Gay, Executive Director of [North TV](#) for an interview to share with the community. North TV covers Plainville and North Attleboro, specifically. [Click here](#) to view the video of the interview.

## **Strategic Planning**

Over the course of the past month, I have spoken to, met with, and got proposals from three vendors, who all have a good track record with facilitating district strategic planning work in school districts. I met with representatives from the following vendors: Teaching & Learning Alliance (TLA), Hazard Young Attea Associates (HYA), and District Management Group (DMGroup). After reviewing scope of work and cost proposals, checking their references with some superintendent colleagues who have utilized their services, and meeting with representatives from each company, we've decided to partner with TLA to help us facilitate King Philip Regional School District's next Strategic

Plan. As part of this work, we will next have an initial meeting with the organization's leaders, followed up with strategic planning meetings. In addition, there will be 3-5 forum meetings with King Philip school district stakeholders, development and implementation of a quantitative survey for us to collect data to be used in the strategic planning process, planning time to analyze that data and collaborate further with our district leadership team, and then develop the strategic plan with a professional layout and design. If needed, TLA can come give an overview of the strategic planning process at a School Committee meeting this winter.

### **Dr. Erin Nerlino - Massachusetts Teacher of the Year Semifinalist**

As you know, KPRHS teacher Dr. Erin Nerlino was named a semifinalist for the 2024 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year this past spring. In the end, the DESE panel selected Mr. De'Shawn Washington, who was named by Commissioner Riley as the [2024 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year](#) a few weeks ago. Although Dr. Nerlino did not ultimately win this prestigious annual award, she is a hero to our students and she absolutely the best! Below is a photo of Dr. Nerlino with some of her students this year.



## Fall Sports Playoffs and Fall Student Signing Day

Some of our fall sports teams lost tough playoffs battles over the past 2-3 weeks, and others fell just short of qualifying for playoff competition. Our undefeated football team remains in play as they beat Barnstable in the D2 Final Four last Thursday night. Next, they play tomorrow evening at Fenway Park vs. our Thanksgiving rival Franklin Panthers. Regardless of that outcome, we will then play in the D2 Super Bowl at Gillette Stadium vs. Marshfield High School on November 30th at 5:30 PM.

Also, below are some photos from our National Letter of Intent fall student-athlete signing day held here in the library on November 14th. Besides our student-athletes, their parents and coaches were in attendance. Our five students who signed last week were (1) Heidi Lawrence, Girls Soccer, Bentley University; (2) Kelley Holmes, Field Hockey, Saint Anselm; (3) Madison Paschke, Softball, Bowdoin College; (4) Taylor Regan, Softball, Bentley University; and (5) Eilish McGowan, Girls Soccer, Salve Regina University. We expect many more of our student-athletes to compete at the college level and we will host another National Letter of Intent signing day in the spring once more of our senior standout student-athletes make their final decisions. Pictured below are all five of our seniors together. And on the next page Heidi Lawrence is shown with her soccer coach Gary Pichel, and Eilish McGowan is pictured with her family.





### **Prism Concert**

As Addison already mentioned, last Thursday night was our high school's 3rd annual PRISM Concert. It was about an hour straight of live music in near-total darkness as the student musicians moved throughout the auditorium as they performed lit up with the help of our theater department. I would like to give a shout out to our Band Director Michael Keough, Fine and Performing Arts Director Josh Woloff, and all of our super talented and hard-working student musicians. The Concert Band, Concert Choir, Jazz Ensemble, chamber groups, and some soloists performed. They all sounded great and were very impressive! Principal Ms. Bottomley and I discussed after the concert how it was one of the best high school music performances we've both ever seen! See the next page for a couple photos from the event.

