

**King Philip Regional School Committee
Minutes of Monday, January 27, 2025 – Approved
King Philip Regional High School – Library
201 Franklin Street, Wrentham, MA 02093**

OPENING OF MEETING

Mr. Lehan, Chair opened the meeting at 7:00pm.
Pledge of Allegiance

RECORDING OF MEETING

This meeting was recorded by Wrentham Cable 8

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Members Present:

Norfolk:	Mr. Jim Lehan, Ms. Lisa Sheldon, Mr. Eric Harmon
Plainville:	Ms. Michele Sharpe, Mr. Greg Wehmeyer
Wrentham:	Ms. Cait Lanza, Ms. Erin Greaney

MEMBERS ABSENT

Norfolk:	Present
Plainville:	Mr. Bruce Cates
Wrentham:	Mr. Joseph Cronin

VISITORS

Dr. Rich Drolet, Mr. Larry Azer, Ms. Colleen Terrill, Mr. Michael Bois, Ms. Lisa Moy, Ms. Barbara Snead, Ms. Ashley Cleverdon, Ms. Michelle Kreuzer, Ms. Nicole Bottomley, Mr. Sean Jones, Ms. Lisa McIntyre Ms. Venessa Petit

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed in the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion if action is required.

- Draft January 6, 2025 Minutes
- Payment of Bills/Warrants
- Communications

A.R.

- **A Motion was made by Ms. Sharpe, seconded by Ms. Greaney, to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, including the draft minutes of January 6, 2025. All in favor: Yes (7) Mr. Wehmeyer, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Lanza, Ms. Greaney, Ms. Sheldon, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.**

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

The January 27, 2025 KPHS Student Council Report was read into the minutes by Ms. Ashley Cleverdon. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent's Update

- Project 351 Ambassadors - Dr. Drolet along with the King Philip School Committee, recognized and presented the annual Project 351 8th grader nominees. Cecelia Varey from Norfolk, Evelyn Miles from Plainville, and Isabella Pennini from Wrentham along with their advisors, Ms. Lisa McIntyre and Mr. Sean Jones were presented with certificates of recognition for modeling service learning and civic engagement. The student ambassadors shared their experiences on their "Launch Day" with the committee.
- DECA Project
- MSBA Statement of Interest/Accelerated Repair Program
- Norfolk Temporary Respite Shelter Update
- Essential Ellington
- Credit for Life

The Superintendent's Update can always be found on the district's webpage. A copy of this update is also attached to these minutes.

SUPERINTENDENT'S FY26 BUDGET UPDATE

- Introduction
- Chapter 70 State Funding for our King Philip Regional School District
- Massachusetts State Budget for Education Increased by about 6% but not for Most Districts
- Overall Financial Picture for King Philip
- Successful New Programming This Year in FY25
- New Position for FY26
- Restoring Some Positions in FY26 Reduced This Year in FY25
- Facilities Upgrades & Instructional Supplies and Services Increases
- Athletic User Fees
- Looking Forward to FY27 and Beyond
- Gratitude for King Philip School Committee and Tri-Town Support

The Superintendent's FY26 Budget Update will be made available once it has been finalized.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Bylaws

Mr. Lehan thanked Mr. Wehmeyer for noticing that there are some inconsistencies in the school committee bylaws. The bylaws are the governing body for the organization. There are some revisions that need to be made. Copies of the existing bylaws will be sent to committee members for review. Mr. Lehan will look to combine the two versions into a single version and would like to bring this item forward at the next meeting as a first read so members can discuss.

England/France Field Trip - KPHS History Department April 18, 2026-April 27, 2026

Ms. Constantine and Ms. Leblanc gave a brief overview of the England/France field trip planned for April 18, 2026 - April 27, 2026. This trip would have a maximum of 30 history students from 11th and 12th grades at the high school. This trip has been revised a bit from the trip in 2024. The stay in London has been shortened to 2 days rather than 3 days. Another day in Paris would be added to take advantage of visiting the Louvre and the WWII Memorial. Students who went on the 2024 trip shared their experiences with the committee. The chaperone to student ratio would be 1 chaperone to every 6 students. A lottery system would be held if the response was higher than 30 students. This process has been used in the past. Mr. Lehan asked for a motion to approve.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Ms. Greaney, to approve the KPHS History Department Field Trip Request to England/France from April 18, 2026 through April 27, 2026. All in favor: Yes (7) Ms. Greaney, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehymeyer, Ms. Sheldon, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.**

Spain Field Trip - KPHS Language Department April 18, 2026 -April 25, 2026

Ms. Stokes and Mr. Dinescu, gave a brief overview of the field trip planned for Andalucia, Spain April 18, 2026 - April 25, 2026. This trip would have approximately 17 students. This trip will be open to AP Spanish students but also 3 honor students as well. Dr. Drolet asked for clarification regarding the date of this trip. It is the week of school vacation, April 18 - April 25, 2026 (Saturday to Saturday). With no further questions from the committee, Mr. Lehan asked for a motion to approve.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Ms. Sharpe, to approve the KPHS Language Department Field Trip Request to Andalucia Spain from April 18, 2026 through April 25, 2026. All in favor: Yes (7) Ms. Greaney, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehymeyer, Ms. Sheldon, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.**

KPMS Proposed Changes to the Program of Studies for 2025-2026

Ms. Kreuzer gave a brief overview of the proposed changes to the KPMS Program of Studies for 2025-2026. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes. Seeing no questions from the committee Mr. Lehan asked for a motion to approve the proposed changes.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Wehmyer, to approve the proposed changes to the KPMS Program of Studies for 2025-2026. All in favor: Yes (7) Ms. Greaney, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehmyer, Ms. Sheldon, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.**

KPHS Proposed New Courses to the Program of Studies for 2025-2026

Ms. Bottomley gave a brief overview of the KPHS “proposed new courses” to the Program of Studies for 2025-2026. Ms. Bottomley will bring forth the Program of Studies for 2025-2026 to the committee for approval at a later date. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes. After a brief discussion, Mr. Lehan asked for a motion to approve.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Ms. Greaney, to approve the KPHS proposed new courses to the program of studies for 2025-2026 as presented. All in favor: Yes (7) Ms. Greaney, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Lanza, Mr. Wehmyer, Ms. Sheldon, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 7-0-0.**

Home School Competency Determination Changes

Ms. Bottomley updated the committee on MCAS & Competency Determination along with the proposed graduation requirements for the Class of 2025. Dr. Drolet said the vote that happened in November with Massachusetts eliminating MCAS as a graduation requirement was confusing. He said not every district had a policy that said you had to pass MCAS in order to graduate, but King Philip does and this needs to be addressed for the current graduating Class of 2025.

A copy of Ms. Bottomley's slides on MCAS & Competency Determination and Proposed Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2025 are attached to these minutes. There is also a memorandum from DESE which provides a Q&A regarding an Update on Student Competency Determinations.

Mr. Lehan asked the committee that if members have any questions, that they get them to Dr. Drolet so he can share them with Ms. Bottomley before the next school committee meeting on February 3rd. The committee agreed.

IKF - Graduation Requirements (First Reading)

This policy was for informational purposes only. This item will be brought before the committee at the next meeting on February 3, 2025 as it will need to be voted upon.

EFC - Free and Reduced Price Food Services (First Reading)

EFD - Meal Charge Policy (First Reading)

Dr. Drolet said these two policies are procurement procedures that need to be adopted and submitted to DESE as part of the review under Food Services. Mr. Azer reviewed the EFC policy and EFD policy with the committee. Both of these policies will be brought to the next school committee meeting for a vote. The current policies and the MASC proposed new policies are attached to these minutes.

REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES

Finance Subcommittee

Mr. Lehan said there was a Finance Subcommittee meeting earlier today. They went over the budget that will be presented at the Public Budget Hearing/School Committee Meeting on Monday February 3, 2025. Both Ms. Lanza and Mr. Lehan are hopeful about the FY26 budget.

Collective Bargaining Subcommittee

Dr. Drolet said the Collective Bargaining Subcommittee met to negotiate the Secretary contract. He said it went well and will be discussed at the executive session tonight.

Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee

Dr. Drolet has emailed the subcommittee with dates to meet virtually. The expectation would be to get the evaluation done for sometime in March before school committee elections.

Wellness Subcommittee

Mr. Harmon said there are a lot of great things going on with the Wellness Committee. There is a regional event going on February 26, 2025. "[Stress to Smartphones, From Freak Outs to Friendships](#)." Check the KP webpage for more information.

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Norfolk School Committee Representative:

Ms. Sheldon - The special election to vote on the expansion of the Freeman Kennedy School will be on Saturday, February 1, 2025. Early voting has begun.

Plainville School Committee Representative: Ms. Sharpe - No report.

Wrentham School Committee Representative: Ms. Greaney - review of policies, briefly spoke about the FY26 budget.

Mr. Lehan said that Mr. Azer and Dr. Drolet will be meeting with the town administrators tomorrow. They will get a first look at the budget and the allocations for each town.

Mr. Lehan also extended his sympathies in the loss of Mr. Joseph Botaish, Town Selectman for the Town of Wrentham. Our prayers are with his family.

LATE COMMUNICATIONS

None

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

None

RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None

ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 9:01pm Mr. Lehan asked for a motion to adjourn into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 30A, Sec. 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Ms. Greaney, to adjourn into executive session. Roll call vote: Yes (7): Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Lanza, Ms. Sheldon, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Greaney No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried 7-0-0.**

The committee adjourned at 9:01 pm and will return to open session to take any votes that may come from the executive session.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

At 9:12 pm the committee returned to open session. Mr. Lehan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:12 pm, a Motion was made by Ms. Sharpe, seconded by Mr. Harmon to adjourn the meeting. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (7); Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Lanza, Ms. Sharpe, Ms. Sheldon, Ms. Greaney, Mr. Wehmeyer; No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried 7-0-0.

Mr. Lehan, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 9:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mrs. Venessa Petit
Secretary to the School Committee*

Documents presented on January 27, 2025:

Agenda

Bills/Warrants

Draft Minutes from January 6, 2025

Stuco Report January 27, 2025

Superintendent's Update

Superintendent's FY 26 Budget Update (Draft)

Proposed England/France Field Trip 4/18/26-4/27/26

Proposed Spain Field Trip 4/18/26-4/25/26

Proposed KPMS Program of Studies 2025-2026

Proposed KPHS Proposed New Courses to the Program of Studies 2025-2026

High School Competency Determination Changes

IKF - Graduation Requirements (First Reading)

EFC - Free and Reduced Price Food Services (First Reading)

EFD - Meal Charge Policy (First Reading)