



King Philip REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

To: King Philip Regional School District School Committee

From: Dr. Rich Drolet, Superintendent of Schools

Date: May 12, 2025

Re: Superintendent's Update

Norfolk Temporary Respite Shelter Update

The week of May 5th we had no new students enroll in our school district and one student leave our district. This week of May 12th we had no new students enroll in our school district and no students leave our district. As of now, we have a total of 21 *students* from the Norfolk Temporary Respite Shelter being educated in our school district (14 high school students and 7 middle school students).

DESE's Proposed Amendments to Regional School District Regulation

On April 30th the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) voted to send proposed amendments to [603 CMR 41.00, the Massachusetts Regional School District regulations, out for public comment](#). I attended a virtual meeting with DESE staff on May 9th to review their proposed changes. The regulations haven't been updated or changed in about 16 years. The proposed amendments seek to update, streamline, and simplify definitions and procedures related to regional school districts, including establishment of such districts and membership changes in existing districts; clarify the required Commissioner approval and Department review of proposed regional school district agreements (agreements) and proposed amendments to such agreements; and further refine the Commissioner's role in setting of interim budgets when required by law, along with associated Department activities; and add waiver and severability sections to the regulations. The DESE representatives we met with on Friday explained the changes as more of a relaxing of the regulations. The newly proposed regulations do not require us to amend regional agreements, but it should be noted when/if we do amend our regional agreement, we would need to abide by the new regulations. Members of the public can submit comment by June 28, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. via [the online survey](#) or to RegionalGovernance@mass.gov, to be presented at the September Board of Elementary and Secondary Education meeting. DESE anticipates returning to the Board for a vote on the final regulations in September 2025.

KPHS Arts Night and Dedication of Peter G. Tileston Performing Arts Wing

As mentioned in Aiden's report, and on behalf of KPHS Fine and Performing Arts Department Head Mr. Wolloff, I want to extend an invitation to the King Philip High School Fine and Performing Arts Night this Thursday, May 15th (see below). There will be a gallery display open at 6 PM and concert at 7 PM, including performances by the King Philip High School Concert Choir, Concert Band, and Jazz Ensemble. We will also celebrate the naming of the Peter G. Tileston Performing Arts Wing, which you approved last year.



Teacher and Staff Appreciation Last Week

Last week we gave all employees a small basil plant in a ceramic planter with our KP logo on it that says, "Working, Growing, Succeeding...TOGETHER." The box you have tonight also contains bamboo legs as a plant stand that the plant can sit on. Many thanks go out to Ms. Petit and KPHS teacher Mr. Ryan Walsh and his two horticulture classes - they did most of the "dirty" work of mixing the peat pellets and seed packets with some water to start the plants. Now you just add a little water and give them some sunlight! This plant signifies how we can nurture, feed, and replenish our plants with sunlight and water, just as we teach and help our students to grow. The plant also signifies how we grow and evolve as educators and human beings. The ceramic planter unfortunately does not have a drainage hole in the bottom. *Bad news:* The plants will not last too long if you do not take them out and eventually replant them; *Good news:* After cleaning out the container with the KP logo, you can use it as a mug if you want!

We are both grateful and thankful for the critically important work that our teachers, educators, and staff do for our students...and this includes your important work supporting our schools as King Philip Regional School Committee members!



Lastly, here is a [video](#) I made with the help of two of our student tech wizards, Jett Tucker and Jack Haltom, which I shared with our wonderful King Philip teachers, educators, and all staff last week. Jett and Jack have started their own business called [JAMS](#), which stands for "Just Another Movie Studio."