



To: King Philip Regional School District School Committee
From: Colleen Terrill, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
Date: October 15, 2025
Re: Assistant Superintendent's Update

Home School Students

I'd like to start my update stating the School Committee delegates the approval of home instruction to the Superintendent. The process for a parent seeking to home school their child is for a family to complete an application and share their initial plans for review. Ms. Petit receives the initial application and plan from the family. In order for a homeschool plan to be approved for home instruction, it must include a description of the qualifications of teachers, a home school plan, and measures to evaluate educational progress. The families must then provide a progress report at the end of the school year of their child(ren's) performance.

Current records on file indicate that 40 family requests for approval have been made for this 2025-2026 school year: Norfolk (14 students), Plainville (13 students), and Wrentham (13 students).

During the last 2024-2025 school year, the district granted 39 home school approvals.

Here is a link to view this year's [HomeSchool Report](#).

MassCUE

Today, eighteen of our educators attended the annual MassCUE (Massachusetts Computer Using Educators) conference held at Gillette Stadium some of which will be returning for day two of the conference. One of our educators, Dr. Susan Hall, volunteered at the conference. We had a positive shared experience and I look forward to future conferences for our educators to learn and grow together.





Acushnet Visit

On Tuesday, September 23, 2025, our grade 7 and 8 Science teachers visited Ford Middle School in Acushnet, MA, to participate in learning walks and observe the OpenSciEd curriculum in action. Over the past year, our teachers have been involved in a science curriculum review. Their goal was to pilot a unit from two different high quality curriculum programs: OpenSciEd and Amplify. We chose to visit Acushnet after their Assistant Superintendent shared that the school had previously used Amplify and had recently transitioned to OpenSciEd. Observing the curriculum in action and speaking with their teachers about both programs provided our team with valuable insight to make an informed decision about which curriculum to adopt at KP. We are grateful Acushnet opened their doors to us and the experience has helped our teachers decide to move forward with OpenSciEd.

MCAS Scores and 2024-2025 School/District Accountability Ratings

We received the 2024-2025 MCAS score results from tests that were administered to our students this past spring. The MCAS scores were sent home to families in October. This is the analysis of the [2024-2025 MCAS](#) results.

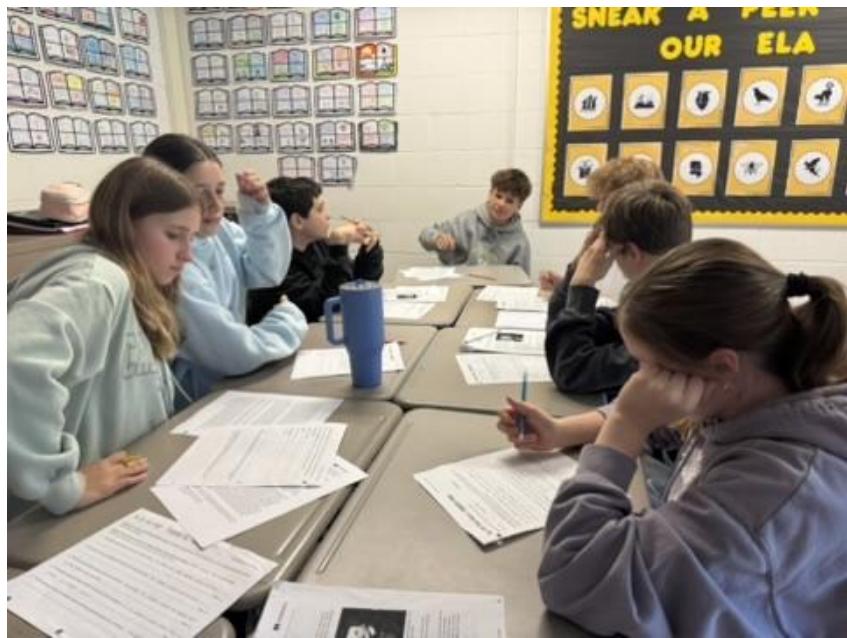
Learning Walks

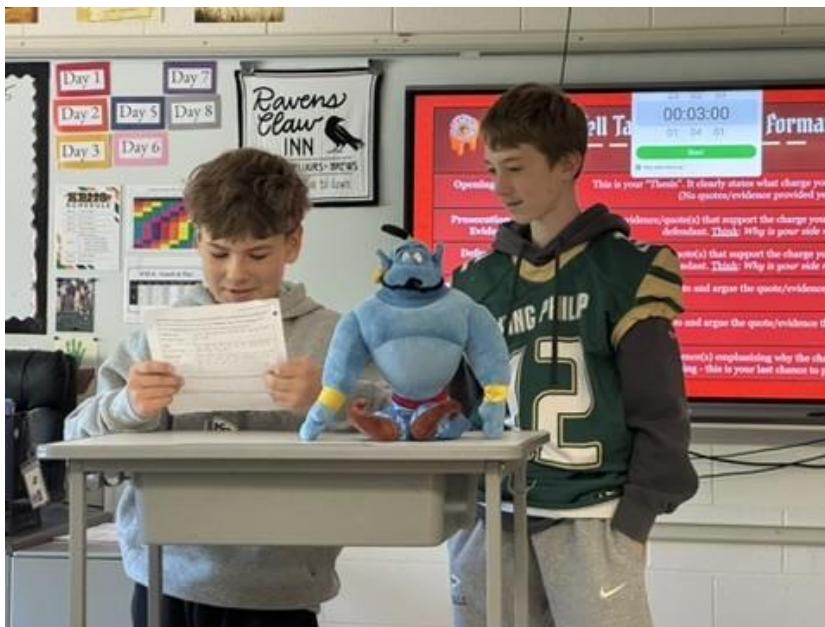
On Tuesday, October 7th the executive leadership team and the middle school principal participated in our first district learning walks. We were thrilled to see students genuinely engaged and enthusiastic about their learning. Students were actively asking questions, sharing ideas, and collaborating with peers, demonstrating both curiosity and perseverance. Teachers intentionally created space for student voice, and we were inspired by students asking thoughtful questions, engaging in productive discourse, and we even got to see an interpretive dance of a story arc (the narrative structure that outlines a story's progression, including its beginning, rising action, climax, and resolution).

These learning walks highlighted the energy, creativity, and commitment students bring to their learning every day, and it was a privilege to witness such deep engagement across the district.

Classroom Visit:

Last week I was invited to the trial of the Tell Tale Heart by Edgar Allan Poe in Mr. Jacobsen's ELA classroom. His students had to use text evidence to determine if their client, the unnamed narrator, murdered the old man. Students used evidence from the story to decide not only if the narrator was guilty but was 1st degree, 2nd degree, 3rd degree (manslaughter) or insanity. Students were divided into prosecutor team, defense team and the jury. Students had to argue their point using evidence from the text.





I also had the chance to hear Mr. Keough's Percussion Ensemble performing "Friday drumming". I could hear the music in the hall and just had to witness it first hand.



November 4 Full PD Day

We are excited to share that on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, we will host our 2nd Annual Tri-Town Professional Development Day for all four school districts: King Philip, Plainville, Norfolk, and Wrentham. This collaborative event brings together educators from across our school districts to learn from one another and share their expertise.

Thanks to the many dedicated educators who will be sharing their passion and expertise, we are offering over 40 professional learning sessions focused on topics such as instructional strategies, student engagement, artificial intelligence, and wellness.

We look forward to another inspiring and impactful day of collaboration and growth as we continue to celebrate the incredible work happening across our districts.

Competency Determination and Graduation Requirements

Earlier this spring, we brought an initial draft of our updated graduation requirements and [Competency Determination](#) policy to the School

Committee for review. These updates align with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education regulations (603 CMR 30.00) and emphasize mastery of core skills in English language arts, mathematics, science, and, beginning with the class of 2027, United States history. You will notice minimal change to the initial policy although we do believe the revised policy provides clearer guidance and greater flexibility in assessing student proficiency, including options such as capstone projects and portfolios. To review these changes in detail and explain their implications for our students, I now turn the floor over to Ms. Bottomley, our principal. Be advised that acceptance of the new policy will require a vote.