

**King Philip Regional School Committee
Minutes of September 22, 2025 -Approved
King Philip Regional High School – Library
201 Franklin Street, Wrentham, MA 02093**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Lehan opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.
This meeting was recorded by Wrentham Cable 8.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Members Present:

Norfolk:	Mr. Jim Lehan, Ms. Grace Lochhead, Mr. Eric Harmon
Plainville:	Mr. Greg Wehmeyer, Mr. Bruce Cates, Ms. Michele Sharpe
Wrentham:	Mr. Joe Cronin, Ms. Erin Greaney

Members Absent:

Norfolk:	Present
Plainville:	Present
Wrentham:	Ms. Cait Lanza

DELEGATIONS and VISITORS

Dr. Rich Drolet, Ms. Jill Brilhante, Ms. Lisa Moy, Mr. Michael Bois, Ms. Ashley Cleverdon, Mr. Josh Wolloff, Ms. James Dow, Mr. Timothy O'Connor, Ms. Venessa Petit

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Draft Minutes from June 9, 2025
- Draft Minutes from August 12, 2025 (Retreat)
- Draft Minutes from August 25, 2025
- Payment of Bills/Warrants
- Communication

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Cronin, to approve the Consent Agenda, including the draft minutes from June 9, 2025, August 12, 2025, and August 25, 2025 as presented. All in favor: Yes (8) Mr. Lehan, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Greaney, Mr. Cronin, Mr. Cates, Ms. Sharpe, Ms. Lochhead, Mr. Harmon; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 8-0-0.**

AGENDA

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

The September 22, 2025 KPHS Student Council Report was submitted by Ms. Ashley Cleverdon. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Drolet discussed the below topic

- Select Board Meetings and Communications
- Superintendent Residency/Hallway Desk at Each School for a Week
- M.A.S.S. Executive Committee
- Healthy KP Coalition Update
- New Administrators Coming in the Future

A copy of the Superintendent's Update is attached to these minutes.

DIRECTOR FINANCE & OPERATIONS UPDATE

Ms. Brilhante asked the committee for their approval of the FY 2026 Budget Calendar. The committee did not have any questions. A motion was made:

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Cronin, to approve the FY 2026 Budget Calendar as presented. All in favor: Yes (8) Mr. Lehan, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Greaney, Mr. Cronin, Mr. Cates, Ms. Sharpe, Ms. Lochhead, Mr. Harmon; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 8-0-0.**

A copy of the budget calendar is attached to these minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

Overnight Field Trip Request-KP DECA, International Conference, Atlanta, GA, April 24, 2026-April 29, 2026

Mr. Dow provided a brief overview of the KP DECA overnight field trip to Atlanta, GA, scheduled for April 24-29, 2026. This international conference requires students to first qualify at the district conference and then at the state conference. Lodging will be at the Hilton Atlanta. Mr. Cates asked about the "to be determined" items on the checklist. Mr. Dow explained that the details remain pending, as it is not yet known which students will qualify. He assured the Committee that once additional information becomes available, he will provide further updates. With no further discussion, Mr. Lehan called for a motion to approve.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Cates, to approve the KP DECA, International Conference Overnight Field Trip Request from April 24, 2026-April 29, 2026 with the stipulation of updating the committee with the rest of the specifics of this field trip. All in favor: Yes (8) Ms. Greaney, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Lochhead, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Cates, Mr. Cronin; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 8-0-0.**

Overnight Field Trip Request-KPHS Marching Band New Jersey (MetLife Stadium), November 7-November 8, 2025

Mr. Wolloff spoke on behalf of the KPHS Marching Band, noting that the trip will take place over two days, Friday and Saturday. A list of chaperones will be submitted and processed through the CORI system. With no further discussion, Mr. Lehan called for a motion to approve.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Cates, to approve the KPHS Marching Band overnight field trip request from November 7, 2025-November 8, 2025 at MetLife Stadium in New Jersey. All in favor: Yes (8) Ms. Greaney, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Mr. Wehymeyer, Ms. Lochhead, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Cates, Mr. Cronin; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 8-0-0.**

Overnight Field Trip Request-KPHS Model UN to attend BOSMUN Model UN Conference on February 6, 2026-February 8, 2026

Mr. O'Connor noted that this is the third year for the conference, which will be held at the Marriott Copley Place in Boston. He anticipates 15–20 students will attend, accompanied by one male and one female chaperone. With no further discussion, Mr. Lehan called for a motion to approve.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Cates, to approve the overnight field trip request to BOSMUN Model UN Conference in Boston, MA on February 6, 2026-February 8, 2026. All in favor: Yes (8) Ms. Greaney, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Mr. Wehymeyer, Ms. Lochhead, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Cates, Mr. Cronin; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 8-0-0.**

Superintendent Goals 2025-2026

Dr. Drolet noted that the School Committee approves the Superintendent's goals annually. He reviewed his goals with the committee and explained that in February or March he will provide self-reflections and an update on progress to support completion of the Superintendent's evaluation by the end of the year. A copy of the goals are attached to these minutes. With no further discussion, Mr. Lehan called for a motion to approve.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Ms. Sharpe, to approve the Superintendent's Goals for 2025-2026 school year as presented. All in favor: Yes (8) Ms. Greaney, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Mr. Wehymeyer, Ms. Lochhead, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Cates, Mr. Cronin; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 8-0-0.**

TEC (The Education Cooperative) Board of Directors Appointment Change

Mr. Lehan informed the Committee that, upon reviewing his calendar for upcoming TEC Board of Directors meetings, he discovered scheduling conflicts with three of the first four meetings. He noted that King Philip should be an active participant on the TEC Board and, after discussion with Dr. Drolet, recommended that Dr. Drolet serve as the representative since he is able to attend the upcoming meetings. Mr. Lehan asked the committee to appoint Dr. Drolet to the TEC Board of Directors. With no further discussion, Mr. Lehan called for a motion to approve.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Ms. Sharpe, to appoint Dr. Drolet to the TEC (The Education Cooperative) Board of Directors in place of Mr. Lehan, effective September 22, 2025. All in favor: Yes (8) Ms. Greaney, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Mr. Wehymeyer, Ms. Lochhead, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Cates, Mr. Cronin; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 8-0-0.**

Amendment to Increase FY 2026 Budget (Chapter 70 Increase)

Dr. Drolet informed the Committee that KP will receive a one-time increase of \$144,975 in Chapter 70 state aid for FY26. This is the result of the state raising the minimum per-pupil aid for “hold harmless” districts from \$75 per student (the figure included in the budget approved by the School Committee and towns last spring) to \$150 per student (the amount approved by the state over the summer after the budget had passed).

He explained that regional school districts may incorporate the additional aid into the FY26 budget in several ways, each requiring an amendment to the regional school committee budget (see attached DESE memo outlining the three options).

Mr. Lehan reported that the Finance Subcommittee unanimously supported Option #1, which has also been the district’s past practice. Dr. Drolet further explained that under Option #1, the Regional School District, by a 2/3 vote of the full committee, would amend the FY26 budget by \$144,975. He emphasized that town assessments would not increase as a result, and that FY26–FY27 town assessments will remain based on the original figure approved by the Committee last March. Mr. Cates expressed that Option #1 was in the best interest of both the district and the towns. With no further discussion, Mr. Lehan called for a motion to approve.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Cates, to approve Option #1 for the Chapter 70 funds. All in favor: Yes (8) Ms. Greaney, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Mr. Wehymeyer, Ms. Lochhead, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Cates, Mr. Cronin; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 8-0-0.**

REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES

Finance Subcommittee

Mr. Lehan reported that there have been detailed conversations with the new Director of Finance & Operations, and significant changes will be implemented in financial practices going forward.

Ms. Brilhante informed the Committee that certain organizations and personnel had not been charged the appropriate facility rental fees in accordance with the School Committee–approved schedule. This matter was brought to the Finance Subcommittee, and moving forward, fees will be charged in alignment with the approved schedule.

In addition, she noted that she would like to review the current fee structure for nonprofit organizations. Although facility rental fees were increased by 3% toward the end of last year, the adjustment resulted in only about a \$1 increase for nonprofit rates, bringing the cost of an auditorium or classroom rental to \$26. This modest increase does not adequately offset the rising expenses associated with operating a school facility. Costs for lighting, utilities, insurance, and general maintenance have all increased significantly, and the current fee structure no longer reflects these realities. It was noted that future adjustments should be considered to ensure that facility rentals do not result in a financial loss to the district.

Ms. Brilhante also reported that the FY25 end-of-year update is nearly complete, with one outstanding reconciliation item related to the health insurance liability account. A full report will be provided in

November to the Finance Subcommittee. At this time, the district is projecting a turnback of approximately \$1M to E&D, though the reconciliation may reduce that amount slightly.

Regarding FY26, all expense accounts are trending normally for this point in the year, with 65% encumbered, 14% spent to date, and 22% remaining in the budget as of Q1.

Mr. Cates remarked that proper checks and balances are now being implemented. Dr. Drolet and Ms. Brilhante added that work has begun on updating the fixed asset listing which is required annually. Ms. Brilhante informed the School Committee that it appears the district has not been consistently following its policy on the disposal of surplus items (Policy DNB). Going forward, all disposals of property will be presented to the Committee for declaration as surplus, and the appropriate disposal procedures outlined in the policy will be followed.

Finally, Dr. Drolet stated that the \$144,975 in additional Chapter 70 aid approved by the Committee will be used to cover out-of-district special education costs, restore or add a position in the Business Office, and support smaller capital improvement projects.

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Norfolk School Committee Representative:

Ms. Lochhead reported that the start of the school year went smoothly. She noted that they voted to adopt the same handbook language approved by KP and that the recent MSBA walk-through went well.

Plainville School Committee Representative:

Ms. Sharpe had no report at this time.

Wrentham School Committee Representative:

Ms. Greaney reported that six teachers were recognized for achieving professional teacher status. She provided an update on ongoing negotiations between the School Committee and Units A & B, noting that the next meeting with the union is scheduled for September 30. The committee also reviewed the Superintendent's goals and approved several minor handbook changes.

LATE COMMUNICATIONS

None

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

None

RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None

ADJOURNMENT:

- At 7:44 PM, a Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Cronin to adjourn the meeting. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (8): Mr. Lehan, Mr. Cates, Ms. Lochhead, Ms.

Greaney, Mr. Cronin, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Harmon; No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried 8-0-0.

Mr. Lehan, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 7:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Venessa Petit

Secretary to the School Committee

Documents presented on September 22, 2025

Agenda

Bills/Warrants

Draft Minutes from June 9, 2025

Draft Minutes from August 12, 2025

Draft Minutes from August 25, 2025

Student Council Report September 22, 2025

Superintendent's Update

KPRSD FY 2026 Budget Preparation Calendar

Overnight Field Trip Request-KP DECA Atlanta, GA 4/24/26-4/29/26

Overnight Field Trip Request-KPHS Marching Band MetLife Stadium NJ 11/7/25-11/8/25

Overnight Field Trip Request-KPHS Model UN Boston, MA 2/6/26-2/8/26

Superintendent Goals 2025-2026

DESE Memo-Chapter 70