

**King Philip Regional School Committee
Minutes of Tuesday, June 2, 2026-Approved
King Philip Regional High School – Library
201 Franklin Street, Wrentham, MA 02093
7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Lehan opened the meeting at 7:04 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, Mr. Eric Harmon
Plainville:	Mr. Bruce Cates, Ms. Michele Sharpe
Wrentham:	Ms. Cait Lanza, Ms. Veronica Gonzalez

Members Absent:

Norfolk:	Mr. Peter Svalbe
Plainville:	TBD
Wrentham:	Ms. Erin Greaney

Mr. Lehan noted that Mr. Peter Svalbe, recently appointed by the Norfolk School Committee as its representative to King Philip, was unable to attend the meeting this evening. He also reported that Plainville has not yet appointed its representative. Both members will be welcomed at the June 15 meeting.

DELEGATIONS and VISITORS

Dr. Rich Drolet, Ms. Jill Brillhante, Ms. Colleen Terrill, Ms. Michelle Kreuzer, Ms. Nicole Bottomley, Mr. Michael Bois, Mr. Aiden Shaughnessy, Ms. JoHanna Ragan, Ms. Barbara Snead, Ms. Venessa Petit

STAFF RECONGITIONS/RETIREES

Mr. Harmon and Mr. Lehan acknowledged Coach Lee for his 21 years of dedicated leadership and service as head coach of the KPHS Warriors Football program.

Dr. Drolet, on behalf of the Wrentham Select Board, presented Coach Lee with a proclamation from the Towns of Norfolk, Plainville, and Wrentham.

Dr. Drolet and Ms. Bottomley also presented Coach Lee with a plaque in recognition of his commitment and service to the King Philip community.

Dr. Drolet and Ms. Bottomley recognized the following retirees for their dedicated service to the King Philip Regional School District:

- Ms. Kimberly Bertram – 28 years of service
- Ms. Marylyn Callanan – 23 years of service
- Mr. Thomas Lawler – 21 years of service
- Dr. Patricia Dennis – 15 years of service

Each retiree was presented with a plaque in recognition of their years of service and dedication to the KP School District.

At 7:31 p.m., the Committee recessed.

At 7:34 p.m., the Committee reconvened.

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 May 14, 2026
- Payment of Bills/Warrants
- Communication

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Cates, to approve the Consent Agenda, including the draft minutes from May 14, 2026 as presented. All in favor: Yes (4) Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Mr. Cates, Ms. Lanza; No (0); Abstain (2) Ms. Gonzalez, Ms. Sharpe; Motion carried 4-0-2.**

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

The June 2, 2026 KPHS Student Council Report was submitted by Ms. Ashley Cleverdon and read into the minutes by Mr. Aidan Shaughnessy. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

Mr. Shaughnessy shared that it had been an honor to serve as Student Council President and to represent the student body. On behalf of the graduating Class of 2026, he expressed his sincere gratitude to the faculty, staff, administrators, school committee, and community members whose dedication, guidance, and support contributed to the success of King Philip Students.

Dr. Drolet thanked Mr. Shaughnessy and Ms. Ragan for their many contributions to the school community. He noted that Mr. Shaughnessy will be attending Bridgewater State University and that Ms. Ragan will be traveling to Sweden to further her education. He congratulated both students and wished them continued success in their future endeavors.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

- Facilities Condition Assessment Presentation and Report
- FY25 Audit
- KPHS Hosting 2026 Unified Field Day
- M.A.S.S. Annual Spring Meeting
- Plainville and Wrentham Town Meetings

Hard copies of the Facilities Condition Assessment presentation and report, along with the FY25 Audit, will be distributed at the next School Committee meeting. Both documents have also been made available electronically to School Committee members.

Dr. Drolet shared that at the Wrentham Town Meeting voters approved the appropriation of funds for additional athletic fields at the Rice Complex. He also reported that voters overwhelmingly approved the new elementary school project in Wrentham.

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

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

- Student Showcase
- Learning Walks
- Applied Learning Leadership Institute
- ELPAC Meeting

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Overnight Field Trip Request-KP Football Team-Camp Mataponi in Naples, ME 8/24/26-8/28/26

Dr. Drolet informed the Committee that Mr. Anthony Vizikas has been named the new head football coach and offered his congratulations.

Ms. Bottomley provided an update on the overnight field trip request. She explained that the football camp has been a longstanding tradition within the King Philip football program. Over the past several years, adjustments have been made to the camp, and noted that she has met with Coach Vizikas, who fully supports the trip and has been involved with the program and related discussions in previous years.

Ms. Bottomley stated that the primary change for this year's camp is a slightly shortened schedule, with the trip reduced by one night. She also shared that the MIAA has established a committee to help standardize the athletic calendar and create greater consistency regarding the start dates of athletic seasons.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Cates, to approve the overnight field trip request for the King Philip football team to attend Camp Mataponi in Naples ME from 8/24/26-8/28/26 as presented. All in favor: Yes (6) Mr. Cates, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Lanza, Ms. Gonzalez, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 6-0-0.**

KPRMS Student Handbook

Dr. Drolet informed the Committee that King Philip currently uses one Student Handbook for both the middle and high school. For the 2026–2027 school year, the handbook will be separated into two documents: one for the middle school and one for the high school.

He noted that the only substantive changes, aside from separating the handbooks, are outlined in a memo from Ms. Kreuzer summarizing updates to the middle school handbook.

Ms. Kreuzer reviewed the changes and stated that they were approved by the King Philip Middle School Council. Her memo is attached to these minutes.

Ms. Gonzalez informed the Committee that she has served on the Middle School Council and has worked with Ms. Kreuzer on these changes and fully supports them.

Mr. Cates asked for clarification on the “Tardiness to School” section. Ms. Kreuzer explained it is intended to encourage students to arrive on time and support conversations when tardiness is an issue with the parent/guardian.

Mr. Cates agreed to support these changes and noted a correction on page 5, where the word “as” in the last bullet should remain.

Seeing no further comments, a motion was brought forward.

- **A Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Cates, to approve the proposed changes to the King Philip Regional Middle School Handbook. All in favor: Yes (6) Mr. Cates, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Lanza, Ms. Gonzalez, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 6-0-0.**

Mr. Lehan thanked Ms. Kreuzer and the KPMS Council for their work on the handbook.

KPRHS Student Handbook (first read)

Ms. Bottomley summarized the proposed revisions to the high school student handbook for the Committee.

Regarding student attendance, Ms. Bottomley highlighted a proposed revision on page 26 concerning post-secondary visits. The current handbook allows students up to three excused absences per year for college visits. She explained that the revised language expands this provision to include post-secondary planning and career readiness opportunities, recognizing that students pursue a variety of pathways after graduation and ensuring equitable support for all students.

Ms. Bottomley also noted that the high school continues to focus on improving attendance, particularly among seniors. The administration is working to strengthen communication with students about the importance of arriving on time each day and is closely monitoring attendance patterns, including tardies and absences, throughout each term.

The Committee also discussed proposed revisions to the attendance section of the handbook regarding senior privileges. Ms. Bottomley clarified that the proposal does not increase the number of allowable absences but instead revises how attendance is measured. Rather than relying solely on the state and federal definition of chronic absenteeism, which accumulates throughout the school year, the proposal would establish attendance expectations by term. She explained that this

approach provides students with opportunities to improve their attendance, regain privileges, and begin each term with a fresh start while maintaining accountability.

Regarding class dues, Ms. Bottomley informed the Committee that she had met with the Finance Subcommittee to discuss the potential implementation of high school class dues. She explained that class advisors have expressed concern about the increasing financial burden of funding class activities and events solely through fundraising, placing additional financial burden and demands on students and families. The proposed handbook language would establish the possibility of class dues, as this concept has not previously been included in the student handbook.

Ms. Bottomley noted that the amount of any class dues has not yet been determined. She is continuing to work with Ms. Brilhante, class advisors, and student class officers to evaluate the financial needs of each class and develop a thoughtful recommendation. She emphasized that families and students would be fully informed throughout the process and that additional feedback would be gathered before any specific proposal is finalized.

Dr. Drolet explained that discussions at the Finance Subcommittee included a preliminary range of \$25 to \$50 per year, although no recommendation has been made. He also noted that legal counsel advised that the handbook does not need to specify a dollar amount. Ms. Brilhante added that the current goal is simply to include language acknowledging that class dues may be implemented, while the details continue to be developed.

Committee members discussed the importance of establishing a transparent process for determining any future fee, communicating clearly with families about how funds would be used, and considering whether a uniform amount should apply across all grade levels. Members also discussed the potential benefits of reducing the number of fundraisers, easing financial and time commitments for students and families, and reviewing practices used by comparable school districts.

Ms. Bottomley explained that increasing costs for venues, transportation, and other activities, along with the growing time commitment required for fundraising, prompted the discussion. She noted that students have also expressed concerns about the fundraising burden and that many neighboring districts assess club or activity fees, while King Philip generally does not.

Student Representative Mr. Shaughnessy shared concerns that class dues could place an additional financial burden on families and encouraged broader student input through the student body before implementation. Ms. Bottomley responded that the concept of class dues originated from student class officers and that additional meetings with student leaders were planned as the proposal continued to be developed.

The Committee also discussed a proposed attendance revision related to sports showcase events. Ms. Bottomley explained that the proposed language clarifies that siblings attending these events would not receive excused absences. She noted that requests for sibling absences have increased significantly and that the change supports the district's continued emphasis on improving student attendance.

The Committee agreed to treat the handbook revisions as a first reading and defer the vote until the June 15 meeting.

Dr. Drolet recommended if any members had any additional questions or comments for Ms. Bottomley to let him know. The two changes to the handbook that were discussed by the Committee tonight were:

1. A recommendation was made that siblings not be excused from school to attend sports showcases.
2. Class Dues: The recommendation was to approve the general handbook language regarding class dues while continuing to develop the implementation details through the Finance Subcommittee.

Dr. Drolet asked that the class dues topic be placed on the agenda for the first Finance Subcommittee meeting in the fall.

REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES

None

REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Norfolk School Committee Representative:

No report

Plainville School Committee Representative:

No report

Wrentham School Committee Representative:

No report

LATE COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Lehan asked Committee members to begin considering possible dates for the annual August retreat and to review the School Committee's subcommittee assignments, including the formation of a new Facilities/Capital Subcommittee.

Ms. Sharpe and Dr. Drolet recommended adding a MASC Delegate position to the Committee's list of assignments. The delegate would attend the MASC Fall Conference and represent the Committee at the annual delegate meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

- **At 9:01 pm, a motion was made by Mr. Cates, seconded by Mr. Harmon to adjourn the meeting. All in favor: Yes (6) Mr. Cates, Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Ms. Lanza, Ms. Gonzalez, Ms. Sharpe; No (0); Abstain (0); Motion carried 6-0-0.**

Mr. Lehan, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 9:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Venessa Petit

Secretary to the School Committee

Documents presented on June 2, 2026:

Agenda

Draft Minutes from May 14, 2026

Bills/Warrants

Stuco Report June 2, 2026

Superintendent's Update

Assistant Superintendent's Update

Overnight Field Trip Request-KP Football Team-Camp Mataponi in Naples, ME

KPRMS Student Handbook Memo

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