



KENNEDY MATTERS

Calendar Notes

October 2— Custodial appreciation day

October 5—Choice Study Site Visit

October 5—Fieldtrip: Uniformed Services University of the Health Science

October 8—Make-up Underclass Portraits

October 10—Homecoming Parade at 12:45 p.m.

October 10—Homecoming game at 2:00 p.m.

October 10—Homecoming party at 8:00 p.m.

October 14—College Readiness Day

October 15—ESOL Parent Night at 6:30 –Media Center

October 20—PTSA Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

October 21—Make-up senior class portraits

October 23—Fieldtrip: Leadership Training Institute

ART

Art classes have been digging deep into the fundamentals of art like drawing and design concepts, revealing to students the potentials of visual communication. Students just finished identity collages that are going up in windows and classrooms.

Art club students have been working very hard to plan for Homecoming, getting involved in the parade, in Hallways night decorations, and in other decorating plans.

Updates and News



From the Principal!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for Back to School Night. I am glad you were able to visit your child's classrooms, meet their teachers and find out valuable information about the course curriculums and classroom specific topics. It continues to be an honor to be part of such a fabulous community. As your child's principal, I strive for a continued focus on student achievement, while providing a safe environment for all of the students and staff. Our attention remains on the instructional needs of our students, and parent support is critical as we continue to work with each child. We commend you for your hard work and remind you that you are a very important member of our team.

Homecoming 2015 is right around the corner! School Spirit Week begins, Monday, October 5. The homecoming parade, game and dance, is Saturday, October 10. Regards, Joe L. Rubens

Special Services

Autism Resource Services (ARS) students grew pumpkins from seed under lights in their classroom. Now they are transplanting the seedlings outdoors in the courtyard near the cafeteria.

Thanks to Katherine Johnson (JFKHS Art Teacher) who volunteered during exam week last June to teach LFI and SCB Program students who continued to have regular classes.

Congratulations to our LFI and SCB Teachers who had a 100% passing rate on last year's Alt-HSA tests (Maryland state exams for students with developmental challenges).

English

The English Department would like to congratulate the following students for being the Students of the month for September:

9th grade - Zeeta-Marie Mweene

10th grade - Cheyanne Chavis

11th grade - Janet Barton

12th grade - Joshua Oki

These students will receive a certificate and a CAVS pride ticket for their hard work and excellence.

From MCPS

Comments Sought on Grading and Calendar Policies

The Board of Education has tentatively approved revisions to **Policy IKA—Grading and Reporting**. The Board also has endorsed the interim superintendent of schools' plan to replace two-hour semester final exams in high school courses with quarterly marking period assessments. This would require a change to the way that final semester grades are calculated for high school courses and parents, students, and staff are asked to provide feedback on four different grading options. To provide feedback on the policy and grading options, visit the MCPS website at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org, search "assessment strategy." Feedback is due by October 19.

The Board also has tentatively approved **Policy IDA—School Year Calendar**. This is a new policy that will guide procedures to develop, adopt, and disseminate a school year calendar. Policy IDA will ensure that the MCPS calendar meets the educational and operational needs of the district and complies with all relevant state and federal laws. To learn more about Policy IDA and provide feedback, visit the MCPS website and search "policies". Comments are due by October 9.

Band and Orchestra

The Marching Cavaliers will be participating in the Homecoming Parade on October 10th as well as our three home games in October.

ESOL NEWS

We are excited to invite all ESOL parents and guardians to our annual ESOL Parent Night October 15th. It is from 6:30 to 8PM in the Media Center at JFK. We will explain the benefits of the ESOL program and there will be translators for different languages.

In October, ESOL students will be taking the MAPR test, an extensive reading test which helps us evaluate your child's reading level and progress.

Encourage your child to join a club or a sport at Kennedy since it is often required for American universities. One great club, Liberty's Promise, meets Tuesdays and Thursdays in room 259 and they learn about colleges and careers.



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- October 24**—Family Market

Media Center

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Ms. Judith Berlove, our new afternoon Media Assistant. I am so excited that she has joined our team! I also invite you to take a look at some of our new fiction next time you stop by the Media Center: *The Geography of You and Me*, *The Vigilante Poets of Selwyn Academy*, *The Night Gardener* and many more.



Updates and News

Destination Graduation

Class of 2019

Ninth grade students have settled into the school year and are making strides. The majority of our ninth graders are consistently working to achieve impressive GPA's while participating in extracurricular activities. Please be sure to check Edline on a regular basis and contact your child's teachers with concerns and questions.

The Destination Graduation team is the process of finalizing college field trips for our ninth grade students on PSAT day, October 14, 2015. Permission slips will be distributed to students during the week of September 28th. In addition, be on the lookout for information regarding The Ninth Grade Mini Parent/Teacher Conference Night taking place on Wednesday, November 11th from 6pm-8:30pm. Thank you, Mrs. Tracey Wright

Science

Dr. Jo Ann Keene has retired! We are saddened to see her leave the department, but; elated that she will be able to enjoy her favorite hobbies and spend more time with her family. Dr. Keene has had a 30 year successful teaching career in the life sciences! She will be missed.

Math

Once again the JFK Mathletes have come through with an impressive victory in the local math competition against Wheaton High School, Springbrook High School and Paint Branch High School. We are very Proud of our Mathletes Team along with their coach and our AP BC Calculus teacher, Ms. Woodie.

Social Studies

The Social Studies Department has a wide array of classes being taught for the 2015/2016 school year. Along with the standard courses in U.S. History, NSL, and Modern World, we offer an array of AP, IB and Elective courses. These include AP Government, AP US History, AP Psychology, AP Human Geography, AP World, Pre IB, IB History I and II, and Theory of Knowledge. We are also offering Law, Global Issues, Entrepreneurship, Media and Society, and Sociology. All classes are designed so that students can build essential skills and gain knowledge of humans and their societies in both a rigorous and supportive atmosphere.

World Languages

In Spanish for Spanish Speakers 3, students are analyzing an excerpt from Agustín Yáñez's novel *Ojerosa y pintada*, a story about a young man from a rural area who travels to Mexico City for the first time.

In International Baccalaureate Spanish 5/6, students are finishing a unit on School and Work Relationships. They are completing oral presentations and written compositions related to the themes we studied.

In Advanced Placement Spanish Language, students are analyzing an article about the pros and cons of Facebook and other social media.