

Kennedy News

Volume 1

September 8, 2009

Welcome Back to School!

We are so happy that our students are back and that the year is successfully underway. It's always an exciting time of year for everyone; students, parents and teachers are all happy to begin the new school year. I know the staff is planning many exciting projects/events for your children as the year progresses. As always, we welcome your help and appreciate all you do to help make our school successful!

New Staff and Staff Changes!

It is our pleasure to introduce our new staff members! Senora Rolandt is our new Spanish teacher. She is teaching our fifth and sixth grade students in the morning and is looking forward to a great year at JFK. Senor Adams now teaches Spanish full time at Ferndale Middle School.

Ms. Marybeth Western brings a new classroom to JFK. She teaches those students who are on the Autism spectrum, commonly known as the ASD room. Two of her paraprofessionals are new to our building also, Mrs. Kindred and Mr. Wolf. Mrs. Turner, a seasoned Kennedy staff member, joins the staff in the ASD room.

Mrs. Emanuele decided to stay home with her new baby for the school year, so we have a new kindergarten teacher with a familiar face! Mrs. Lusk, our former Reading First Literacy Coach and Resource Room teacher is our new Multi Age kindergarten teacher. She is very excited to be back in the classroom and looking forward to a great year!

As most of you know, Mr. Maxwell, our former custodian, retired at the end of last year. He was replaced by Mr. Robert McLaughlin (Mr. Mac to the students!) who has literally left his mark already by making the school sparkle this summer. He is on a brief medical leave and will be back to us in no time. He's looking forward to helping our school become a cleaner and healthier building.
Yeah, Mr. Mac!

Mrs. Bresson returns (after having a handsome baby boy!) and is re-introducing the Life Skills classroom into Kennedy.

Welcome back! We missed you and our Life Skills room! Our Resource Room will be manned by two teachers, both of whom are familiar to Kennedy. Ms. Gina Cook is teaching the resource room in the afternoons, and Mrs. Tracy Yacks is our Resource Room teacher consultant.

Dates to Remember

September 8: Back to School!

September 10: Comerica Banking Day; 9-10:30AM

September 10: Curriculum Night; 6:30-8:00PM

September 11: Market Day orders due today

September 15: MAP (Multi Age parent group) and PAC (Open Classroom parent group) meetings; 6:30-7:30PM

September 15: PTA; 7:30PM

September 18: Market Day Pick Up; 3:30-4:30PM

September 22: Ice Cream Social; 6:30PM

October 1: Picture Day

October 6: MAP & PAC, 6:30PM; PTA, 7:30PM

October 7: No School for students; teacher in-service

October 8: Comerica Banking Day; 9:00-10:30AM

October 9: Fall Festival Set Up; 4PM-9PM

October 10: Fall Festival! 11AM-3:00PM

October 13, 15, 20 & 22: MEAP test dates for grades 3-6

October 23: Multi Age Thematic Celebration

October 28: Fall Vocal Concert; 6:30PM

November 4: Building Tour, 9AM

November 6: Half Day; first marking period ends



PTA

Our PTA is open for all parents. The goal is 100% membership each year. The PTA raises money to help our school and the students who attend. They sponsor assemblies, family nights (like the Ice Cream Social) and fund new playground equipment. This year we are installing a new play structure and a new set of swing sets that PTA purchased through the fundraising efforts of parents and students. The meetings are one hour a month. We love to see new faces! The first PTA meeting is September 15 at 7:30PM in the media center. A BIG thank you to our PTA based Garden Club (from the Green School Initiative) for planting and maintaining the gorgeous vegetable garden, the pumpkin patch and the Michigan garden. We really enjoyed watching everything grow this past summer!

Parking Lot

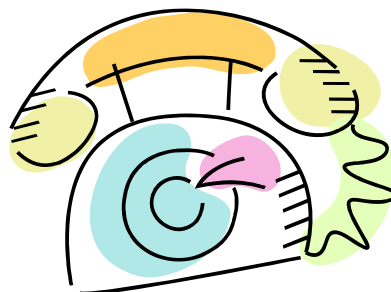
Please park only in lined parking spaces. Please do not leave your car parked illegally and unattended. When picking up your students, drive with caution. Remember, our students' safety is our Primary goal! Also, remember that the Northfield entrance is for busses only. Please do not drop off or pick up your children at the Northfield door. We have eight busses that drop off in the morning and pick up in the afternoon.

After School Child Care

Ferndale Schools offers after school child care at JFK. Latch key runs after school from 3:21-6:00PM. If you frequently need to pick up your child after 3:21PM, you should consider latch key services. Call the school for information about pricing.

Attendance

Please report your child's absence at 248-547-0880 (press 2). Also, call that number if your child is going to be late and needs a hot lunch. Thank you for your cooperation!



Entry and Dismissal Procedures- PLEASE READ!

Our hallways are extremely congested at the beginning and end of the day. These procedures are to make the hallways safer for our students, not more difficult for you. Please help by accommodating what we are asking of you except in extreme emergencies.

Entry: Students are not to be dropped off at school earlier than 7:45AM. If your child is earlier than 7:45AM, they will be required to wait in the vestibule at the office entrance or outside that same entrance. At 7:45AM students can move to either the cafeteria for breakfast or to their lockers. If your child goes to their locker, they will be asked to sit in front of their locker and read or do homework after they put away their belongings. We request that after this first week, parents do not walk their children to their lockers. If you do need to come in, please use the sign-in procedure and wear a guest/visitor badge.

Dismissal: At 3:18PM, teachers will bring those students who walk to school or who are picked up to their dismissal door (kindergarten by the blue hallway, all others by the main door). Bus students will then be walked to their spot in the school to wait for their bus to come. We ask that after the first week of school parents do not come into school to pick up their children. Please arrange a spot outside to meet up with your children. If you need to meet with your child's teacher, please wait until the hallways clear and come in no earlier than 3:30PM, or call your child's teacher to make an appointment. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.