

KENNEDY COMMUNICATOR

January 17, 2012

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!**

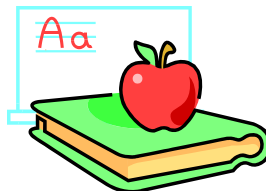
The Michigan Department of Education has adopted new standards for K-12 instruction in both English Language Arts and Mathematics, referred to as Common Core State Standards. These standards were developed in collaboration with 48 states in the nation; 45 of those states have now formally adopted the Common Core. The Common Core State Standards are more rigorous than our previous content expectations and align with college and career readiness standards. This design is to support a smooth transition from high school to college. I believe these are good changes for education and for the future of our children as they will compete in a global market.

It is always our goal to make sure that each child can reach or exceed the goals set forth by the state. To do this, over the next few years, staff will engage in professional development to support best instructional practices in the classroom. In addition, there will be changes to our state assessment system, MEAP, to align the standardized tests with the new standards and with the ACT for college readiness. Some of those changes are occurring this year. One major change is the adjustment of the cut scores that determine a student's proficiency on the MEAP test.

I want the parents at JFK to be fully informed about what the new cut score changes mean, how they affect your child's test scores compared to previous years, and how these scores are also used by the government to compare schools and districts. I have invited our Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Barb Evoe, to join me in presenting this information to you next month. **Please save the date, Monday, February 13, to attend a MEAP Data Information Night from 6:30-7:30 p.m.**

I hope that you will be able to attend, so that you can be most informed and your questions can be answered.

Sincerely,



Pauline K. Nagle, Principal

MARK YOUR CALENDARS . . .

All-City Concerts

Saturday, January 28—Ferndale High School gym

1p.m. - Choir—grades 4-12

4p.m. - Band—grades 4-12

7p.m. - Orchestra—grades 4-12



Upcoming Dates:

January 18: Building Tour 9 a.m.
Mobile Dentist

January 20: No School—Records Day

January 25: Elementary Skate Party—
Grades K-6 Troy Skate World 6:15-8:15 p.m.

January 27: Market Day pickup 3-4:30 p.m.

January 28: All-City Extravaganza—
FHS 12-4 p.m.
Choir 1 p.m.; Band 4 p.m.; Orchestra 7 p.m.

February 1: Building Tour 9 a.m.
Multi-Age Parent Mtg. 7 p.m.

February 3: JFK Sock Hop 6:30-8 p.m.

February 7:
PTA Meeting 6:30 p.m.
PAC Meeting 7:30 p.m.
MAP Meeting 7:30 p.m.

February 8: Count Day

February 13: MEAP Data Info Night -
6:30-7:30 p.m.

February 15: Building Tour 9 a.m.

February 17: Market Day pick up 3-4:30 p.m.

Feb. 20-Feb. 24: No School—
Mid-Winter Break

Feb. 27: Classes Resume

Feb. 29: Magnet Program Lottery Deadline



GREEN SCHOOL NEWS



Save the Date!

JFK's 2nd Annual Clean for Green \$ale
Saturday, April 14, 2012

Recycling Club Organizer Needed!

Looking for ways to volunteer at JFK?
JFK is swarming with students enthusiastic about recycling
and conserving the environment.

Set your own hours and days!

For further information, contact Mrs. McNeil at

dmcneil@ferndaleschools.org



JFK Recycling Projects

The JFK Green Team will be collecting your prescription bottles at the Sock Hop on Friday, February 3. Please make sure containers are empty and all labels have been removed. These bottles will be donated to FernCare, an organization that provides no-cost medical care to the medically uninsured or under-insured residents of the area.



NEW! Chip bag recycling! Empty chip bags can now be recycled in the cafeteria but you can also send them in from home! Eventually this will become a fundraiser for JFK. In the meantime, our chip bag recycling will be picked up and taken to a Frito Lay factory and the proceeds will be donated to The *Make a Wish Foundation*.



Waste-Free Wednesdays

Wednesdays are now **all** Waste-Free! How waste-free can you be? Contest coming to a classroom near you! Details will come home in a future communicator!



Lunch Club Volunteers!

Have a talent or hobby that you've always wanted to share? Lead a lunch club! Ideas are board game club, chess club, art/drawing club, knitting club, "green" school club...let us know if you have a passion and want to work with some of our students to enrich their day!

Help create our

Professional Shared Library!

We are putting together a new professional shared library for staff to utilize teaching materials, and leveled books, across the school more easily. Volunteers document book titles and organize books.

Volunteers Needed! Interested? Call the school office and let us know.