

John F. Kennedy High School

1901 Randolph Rd
Silver Spring, MD 20902
301-929-2100

Visit us at:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/kennedyhs/>

October 2014



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Thank you to everyone who joined us for Back to School Night. I am glad you were able to visit your student'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. I am glad to report that the opening of John F. Kennedy High School this year was very smooth. This was due to the outstanding work of our students and staff.

At Kennedy, we continue to be committed to excellence for all, as there is continued excellence from all. 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 2014 is right around the corner. School Spirit Week is Friday, October 10 - Thursday, October 16. Hall decoration night is Wednesday, October 15. The

homecoming pep rally is Thursday, October 16. Alumni Day is Friday, October 17. The homecoming parade, game and dance is Saturday, October 18. Please note College Readiness/PSAT Day is Wednesday, October 15.

Interim progress reports for the first marking period were updated on Edline or mailed home during the last week of September (if you have moved, please make sure that you have updated your address with our school registrar). As you know, you have the greatest impact on your child. When you have questions about your child's academic progress, Edline is a great way to address your questions. Using Edline will allow you to determine which assignments are due. You can see if your child is regularly turning in homework and obtain a general idea of the level which your child is performing. If you have a question, concern, or an idea, please don't ever hesitate to contact the teacher. The best way to contact your child's teacher is by phone or by e-mail. A complete list of our staff's contact information can be found on our school website.

Additionally, the last day of the first marking period is Thursday, October 30, 2014. Report

cards for the first marking period will be distributed to all students on Wednesday, November 12, 2014.
Regards,

Joe L. Rubens

Joe L. Rubens, Principal

JFK celebrates 50 years





DESTINATION GRADUATION

Class of 2018

Ninth grade students have settled into the school year and are making tremendous gains. The majority of our ninth grade students are consistently working to achieve impressive GPA's while participating in extracurricular sports and/or clubs. If your student has not joined anything yet, please encourage him/her to do so. With the five weeks we have left in the first marking period, continue to check Edline on a regular basis, review your student's agenda book each night, and contact teachers if you are concerned about your student's grades.

We are very excited about the plans for the ninth grade students on PSAT day, October 15, 2014. Through AMP, students had an opportunity to choose one out of four universities to attend for a full day college tour. We will have approximately 120 students at Howard University, 120 students at Washington Adventist University, 90 students at University of Maryland College Park, and 75 students at Georgetown University. Please make sure your student brings a signed permission slip and \$10 (cash, check, money order) to school no later than Monday, October 13, 2014.

Thank you to the parents who attended the first Ninth Grade Parent Night on October 1, 2014. We hope you gained valuable information about the Destination Graduation initiative and the graduation requirements for MCPS. We hope to see more of you at our next ninth grade parent event that will take place sometime during the second marking period.

Tracey Wright/Keir Lewis
Destination Graduation Team

*"Only you can control your future."
~Dr. Seuss*

CAREER CENTER NEWS

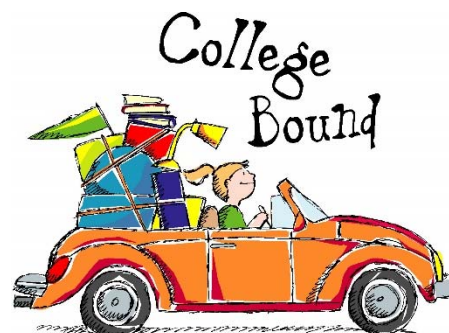
On Wed. October 29, 2014- The Hispanic College Fair will be held at: Bohrer Park – in Gaithersburg, MD. It's free of charge and permission slips can be obtained in the Career Center.

There are several college visits remaining for the month of October including:

- Elon University
- UMBC
- Harrisburg Univ. of Science & Technology
- St. John's University - Queens Campus
- Manhattan College
- Saint Mary's College
- Radford University
- Roger Williams University
- Shenandoah University
- Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- Towson University
- Mount Saint Mary's University
- Stony Brook University
- George Mason University
- American University
- West Virginia Wesleyan College

COUNSELING NEWS

Happy October! The Counseling Department continues to work with 12th grade students as they prepare for the college application process. Students have been visible in the Counseling Office and the College and Career Counseling Office to make sure they have everything completed in Family Connections in order to reach the next steps for applying to college. Later this month, Counselors will be meeting with students to make sure they are completing necessary assignments and using the resources provided to improve any failing grades since the 1st marking period ends on October 30, 2014. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's counselor to set up an appointment.



A-Tech Department News

The A-Tech Department and Creative Multi Media Academy held its first assembly of the year on Friday, September 26, 2014. Students were encouraged to apply for the Arts on the Block internship program and to participate in the many arts related extracurricular activities at Kennedy. Students can:

- Work behind the stage on either of our two drama productions this year (contact Mr. Utterback or Ms. Zmoda) by working as:
 - Stage Manager
 - Construction Crew
 - Stage Hands
 - Lights and Sound (contact Ms. Girley)
- Help in preparing for Homecoming (contact any art teacher):
 - Building props and working on a float for the parade
 - Helping with hall decorations and banners
- Preparing for the 50th Anniversary celebration (see Ms. Katrele Carroll)



John Ekelund
A-Tech Resource Teacher

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Students taking science courses have been exposed to a variety of activities that promote critical thinking and rigor. Below are a few “highlights” from some of the courses offered at KDY!

Biology Classes – Invasive Species Project

The students worked in groups to research an assigned invasive species. The students created an infographic of their choice that highlighted the negative impact of the species on ecosystems.



Chemistry Classes – Classification of Matter

The students completed a lab activity in which they observed the physical and chemical characteristics of matter. They created an organizer and used the organizer to write a brief constructed response.

Forensic Science – Hair and Fiber Analysis

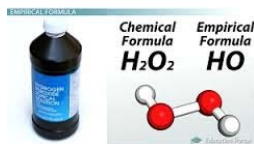
The Forensic Science students have been working hard at learning to prepare dry and wet mount slides for observation under a microscope. This knowledge is needed as they will soon analyze hair and fiber samples. They will see how a small piece of evidence such as hair helps solve crimes!

Physical Rehab Science – Muscle Project

The students in this class are currently building a 3D model of a muscle using common household materials. Not only should the model contain the components of muscle, but it must also show muscle contraction. The students must use their creativity and thinking skills to make their project mimic a muscle contraction! What a great challenge for the students that allows them to express their creativity!

IB Chemistry – Virtual Lab “The Empirical Formula of a Meteorite”

IB Chemistry students continue to study stoichiometry and empirical formulas. They have used this knowledge to help analyze the composition of a meteorite! The students will continue to apply their learning to gasses as they begin to learn the Gas Laws.



If you would like to know more about these activities or other opportunities going on in the science classes; please contact your child’s teacher.

Tamara B. Jennings (Tamara_B_Jennings@mcpsmd.org)

Science Resource Teacher

SOCIAL STUDIES NEWS

The John F. Kennedy Social Studies Department is helping lead the implantation of advanced technology in MCPS. Here are a few examples: The MCPS Social Studies Instructional Team visited Ms. Tami Goldstein's and Ms. Katherine Young's classes to experience Chromebook use in action. In addition, the Social Studies Department hosted CLic training for US History Teachers across the county. CLic is a resource available to US History students to access primary source documents, along with a variety of other resources.

We look forward to keeping the community updated on the use and implantation of these great tools.

Keith Adams

Profesor de Recursos de Estudios Sociales



SGA NEWS

The Student Government Association held its first General Assembly meeting of the year on September 23, 2014. Over fifty students attended and represented their peers with pride! The SGA is looking forward to including more students in the SGA process and making sure the student voice is heard!

Katherine Young

Sponsor



WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT NEWS

Ms. DeLand's classes have participated in various activities. In Spanish 1, students presented an introductory dialogue practicing greetings, and a small poster about seasons, the calendar and weather. In Spanish 2, students have completed the first unit, *Who am I?* reviewing Spanish 1. Spanish 4 students watched a short film from Argentina, and participated in a Socratic seminar.

Ms. Umarji's French 2 students will present a poster describing a celebrity, and they have already presented a family member; my French 3 students will present a poster about a Kennedy schoolmate; they have already done a folder project with "Maintenant" and "Avant" using the present tense and imperfect tenses (I have put up some of the folders in Room 263); my Fr. 4 students will be doing a presentation about "Qui suis-je?" for the *Identity* unit since we have worked extensively on a person's roots and heritage and immigration. They also described their mothers and the role played by the mothers in their lives following the reading of the poem, "A Ma Mère" by Camara Laye. All projects have their own requirements in terms of usage of tenses and vocabulary.

Ms. Méléance's French 1 students have presented a dialogue with their peers from various geographical locations. Students have had an opportunity to locate the French-speaking countries throughout the world while identifying their parents' country of origin. Also, they watched a video explaining the various aspects of different French-speaking cultures. Then, students compared and contrasted their culture with that of the United States.

The French 5, AP and IB 5/6 students are working on an oral presentation based on a problem or issue related to *Les relations sociales*. They were required to interview 5 peers in French class in order to get the different perspectives before presenting the issue they selected. Students will be graded based on the MCPS and IB oral communication rubrics.

Ms. Elvide Meleance



CODE NEWS

The Code.org is well on its way! The initial quarter has proven itself as a great academic choice for students with little background in the world of computing. Students have explored the impact of computers. Everything from online marketplaces and industry to art and traditional cultures. It is an exciting opportunity for students to see exactly how they fit in to the world around them!

Kia Davis



PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION NEWS (PTSA)



The JFK PTSA Executive Board is very excited about the programs that we have set for the 2014-2015 school year. We are currently running our Citrus Fruit Fundraiser. Parents, teachers and students can take orders until October 31, 2014. This is the final date to return all orders. The fruit will be delivered on December 16, 2014, just in time for the Holiday season.

Our October Meeting celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month. We have activities planned for students and parents. Our guest speaker for that evening is Senora Marie Arana a well-known Hispanic author to the Metro Area. Please join us as we celebrate the diversity of Kennedy High School on October 21, 2014, in The Levy Media Center at 7pm.



FITZ!

LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE NEWS

Our students are hard at work both in their classes and out. We're encouraging our students to sign up for SSL opportunities together, not only because the more the merrier, but also because it makes LTI more visible in the Kennedy Community. Our students are out and about working in our local parks, with local politicians, and even in our feeder schools. If your child is in need of SSL hours, have him or her talk to a few friends about completing hours together, making it true "community" service.

Beginning the month of October, LTI students will have dress days on Tuesdays. The 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month we will be the wearing our LTI t-shirts. The 2nd and 4th Tuesdays will be "Dress for Success" days.

Thanks to the Kennedy Community for supporting our first fundraiser at McDonald's at Plaza del Mercado. It was a great experience and nice opportunity to interact with one another and individuals within the community. On Tuesday, October 21, we hope to see as many, if not more, Kennedy support for our next fundraiser at Ledo's in the Colesville Shopping Center.

Some other events occurring during the month include a field trip to Adventure Park, in Sandy Spring, MD. Also, on Monday, October 27, state delegate Jeff Waldstreicher will visit and speak to LTI students.

Upcoming dates:

October 13:	Adventure Park field trip
October 14:	LTI students dress for success
October 21:	LTI students wear t-shirts
October 21:	LTI fundraiser at Ledo's (Colesville Shopping Center)
October 28:	LTI students dress for success

Mr. Kofi Frempong
Leadership Training Institute Coordinator

MATH DEPARTMENT NEWS

Currently College Institute is accepting applications for three spring early college classes: This spring will be the first time that we have ever offered Women's Studies and Music on our campus. All three classes provide 3 credits and fulfill General Education requirements.

Communication: COMM 108 - Intro to Human Communications

Women's Studies: WMST 101 - Intro to Women's Studies

Music: Music 131 – American Popular Music

If you are a current junior or senior, with a CGPA of 2.75 or above and would like to earn college credit this spring, see Ms. Aaron in room 241 as soon as possible.

Christine Aaron
College Institute (CI) Coordinator



"A good leader takes a little more than his share of the blame, a little less than his share of the credit."

~Arnold H. Glasow

PE DEPARTMENT NEWS



PE - During the Month of October, the physical education department will be teaching Table Tennis, Flag Football, Track & Field, Bowling, & Team Handball. During these units the teachers will cover skills & strategies that allow the students to be successful in the sport. Students will receive a study guide for each unit that summarizes everything they have learned. With each unit students will take a summative unit test. If students need additional help they should visit their teacher during the first 20 minutes of lunch.

Health - The following units will be learned during the month of October in health education. Personal & Consumer Health, Safety and Injury, & Nutrition & Fitness. Personal & Consumer Health focuses on being a health literate consumer as well as risk behaviors that could lead to chronic illness such as obesity, diabetes, cancer, & heart disease. Safety & Injury focuses on

violence, dangerous situations, driver safety, and first aid. Nutrition & Fitness focuses on nutrients, food groups, food labels, calories, & exercise. Teachers will provide a study guide that prepares students for each unit test.

Brady Markel
PE Resource Teacher

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWS

The English department would like to recognize the September Students of the Month:

9th Tenzin Longrin
10th Oum Koulthoum Boubacar Moussa Rilla
11th Cristian Vallejo Gonzalez
12th Nazaree Moore-Ross

Congratulations!

The 9th grade English students spent the last few weeks exploring denotative and connotative meanings through art. Each student created his or her own art piece that involved brining an ordinary object to life through emotion and are now in the process of writing art reviews with strong claims and specific evidence.

John Howard
English Resource Teacher



ESOL DEPARTMENT NEWS

In the ESOL world, we welcome a new teacher, Ms. Somers. She immigrated to the United States from Kyrgyzstan. She speaks Russian. She will be teaching ESOL 1 students.

Also we have been doing MAPR testing. This is an extensive reading test which helps us measure our students' reading and vocabulary skills with different types of literature. The results of this test along with WIDA/Access scores from last spring and the grades of students help us determine the best placement for your child in ESOL.

Reminder to parents, please check Edline for the grades and the attendance of your child. If your child gets 3 or more unexcused absences, this puts them in danger of losing credit for a course. Absences due to illness, religious holidays like Eid-al-Adha, and court dates can be excused. Write and send a note within three days from the absence, in Spanish or English, put your child's ID number, your phone number, the date of the absence and the reason in your note. Tell your child to take it to the "attendance window". If you have concerns, please contact Ms. Fuhrman at 301-962-5946 or your child's counselor at 301-929-2120.

THE BEST NEWS FOR LAST: On October 23, 2014, from 6:30-8:00 pm is our annual ESOL PARENT NIGHT. This event is for parents and guardians to learn more about our program and school. There will be translators for Spanish, Amharic, Chinese, Vietnamese, Arabic and French speaking parents. You will learn about the different classes our program offers, school policies and graduation requirements, as well as meet the staff that support your children at Kennedy. We will also raffle off some prizes. LOOKING FORWARD to seeing you October 23, 2014!

Elizabeth Fuhrman
ESOL Resource Teacher

Mr. Nelson's got the spirit! What about you?...



Its Wacky Tacky Day...

Homecoming 2014

Day	Theme	Lunch Time	Competitions	School Events
Friday, 10/10/14	Wacky Tacky Day	Request Homecoming songs at lunch	Penny Wars Begin	Banner Making Event 2:30 pm-Room: 161
Monday, 10/13/14	Twin Day	Pie Eating Contest	Penny Wars	Banner Making Event 2:30 pm-Room: 159
Tuesday, 10/14/14	Decades Day	Lip SYNC Battle	Penny Wars	N/a
Wednesday, 10/15/14	College Gear	Music Mixer	Penny Wars End	Hall Way Night 2:30 pm-until: 9th Grade (9 pm) 10th Grade (10 pm) 11th (11 pm) 12th (12 am)
Thursday, 10/16/14	Class Colors: Seniors-Black Underclass: Green & Gold	Purchase Tickets	Hall Way Night Judging (7:00 am)	Indoor Pep Rally (2) 9th vs. 10th 11th vs. 12th
Friday, 10/17/14	JFK Gear	Alumni Day- NO SCHOOL	Junior vs. Senior Powder Puff Game 2:00 pm	Alumni Day Event Float Construction
Saturday, 10/18/14	Parade Day	N/a	Game Day 2:00 pm BEAT BLAKE! Homecoming Ticket Sales	Dance- Cafeteria "A Night of Glow..." 8:00pm-11:30 pm

RESOURCE DEPARTMENT NEWS

CavaJava, our student run coffee service, opened early this year under new management: our LFI and ARS program students under the guidance of Tony Adee and Jessica Barron with their Paraeducators. Please stop by the 2nd floor Staff Lounge on Fridays during 2nd or 3rd periods to enjoy delectable foods and great coffee. Teaching then? Once again students will come to classrooms and take your order for Friday delivery to your classroom.

You have probably seen students in our LFI program working with Medical Careers students in the courtyard between the Medical Careers classroom and the cafeteria. They've pruned shrubs, weeded, mulched, and put in many, many new colorful fall plants for everyone to enjoy.

Free Workshop

TRANSITIONING YOUTH RESOURCE FAIR

Saturday, October 18, 2014 9:00-1:30

Montgomery College--Takoma Park campus, Falcon Hall Building Gym

Information for Teens & Young Adults. 28 Workshops and up to 65 exhibits: Jobs, Education, Training, Recreation and Social Life, Housing, Benefits, Financial Independence.

Kate Stephansky
Resource Teacher



This group of Hispanic students attended the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute at the Ronald Reagan building on October 1st. They were accepted into the Student Emerging Leaders Program a couple of weeks ago. After engaging in various breakout sessions discussing issues affecting the Latino community, including hearing Arne Duncan speak, students chose two topics to focus on in preparation for mock debates taking place in spring. They were super excited all day and left the caucus feeling proud, empowered, and grateful for the opportunity.



UPCOMING ATHLETIC EVENTS

- 10/6 Football, JV
JFK@Watkins Mill
5:30p
Boys' Soccer
JFK@BCC, 7:00p V
Girls' Soccer
JFK@BCC, 5:00p V
Girls' Volleyball
Gaithersburg@JFK
5:30p JV, 6:30p V
- 10/7 Field Hockey
BCC@JFK
3:30p V, 5:00p JV
Boys' Soccer
JFK@Richard Montgomery
3:30p JV
Girls' Soccer
JFK@Richard Montgomery
5:30p JV
Girls' Tennis
Magruder@JFK
3:30p
- 10/8 Boys' Soccer
JFK@Whitman, 7:00p V
Girls' Soccer
JFK@Whitman, 5:00p V
- 10/9 Girls' Tennis
Blair@JFK, 3:30p

UPCOMING ATHLETIC EVENTS

- 10/10 Football
JFK@Einstein, 6:30p V
Girls' Volleyball
Churchill@JFK
5:30p JV, 6:30p V
- 10/11 Football
JFK@Einstein, 10:00a JV
Field Hockey
Walter Johnson@JFK
2:30p V
Blake@JFK, 5:30p JV
JFK@Northwood, 6:30p V
- 10/13 Field Hockey
JFK@Blair, 6:00p V
Boys' Soccer
JFK@Walter Johnson
5:00p V
JFK@Churchill
3:30p JV
Girls' Soccer
JFK@Walter Johnson
7:00p V
JFK@Churchill
5:30p JV
Girls' Volleyball
JFK@Wheaton
5:30p JV, 6:30p V
- 10/15 Field Hockey
JFK@Magruder, 3:30p V
Girls' Volleyball
Magruder@JFK, 6:00p V

UPCOMING ATHLETIC EVENTS

- 10/16 Football
Blake@JFK, 5:30p JV
- 10/17 Boys' Soccer
Richard Montgomery@
JFK, 5:00p V
Girls' Soccer
Richard Montgomery@
JFK, 7:00p V
- 10/18 Football
Blake@JFK, 2:00p
- 10/20 Boys' Soccer
JFK@Northwood, 5:00p V
Girls' Soccer
JFK@Northwood, 7:00p V
- 10/21 Girls' Volleyball
Einstein@JFK, 6:00p V
- 10/23 Football
JFK@Northwood, 5:30p JV
Girls' Volleyball
JFK@Blake, 3:30p V
- 10/24 Football
JFK@Northwood, 6:30p V
- 10/31 Football
Springbrook@JFK, 6:30p V
- SENIOR NIGHT
- 11/1 Football
Springbrook@JFK, 10:00a JV