

# JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

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October 3, 2025

Dear Class of 2026 Families,

I am excited to share the date of the Class of 2026 graduation ceremony for John F. Kennedy High School: **June 8, 2026 at 1:30 pm.**

This year brings an important update. All Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) comprehensive high school graduation ceremonies will be hosted at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). This decision was made to provide every graduate and their family with:

- **A comfortable, indoor setting** that is not dependent on the weather.
- **Ample parking and accessibility** for guests.
- **Reduced costs**—MCPS negotiated with UMBC on behalf of all high schools and is covering venue rental fees, which substantially lowers costs to schools and families.

MCPS decided to use a centralized venue to ensure consistency, equity, and a celebratory experience worthy of this milestone for every student across the county.

We also know that travel may be a concern for some families. MCPS will provide information in the coming months about **transportation options and supports** to make sure all students and families are able to attend.

Graduation is one of the most memorable events in a student's life. Our school community is looking forward to celebrating the achievements of the Class of 2026 in a way that is meaningful, inclusive, and accessible for all.

We will continue to share updates and details as the date approaches, including ticket information, transportation supports, and other logistics to help families prepare.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in supporting our students. Together, we will make the Class of 2026 graduation a celebration to remember.

With pride and anticipation,  
Karla Lopez-Arias  
Principal  
John F. Kennedy High School