

# Kennedy Matters

Visit us on the web at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/kennedyhs/>

*John F. Kennedy High School*

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## From the Principal

Dear Kennedy Parents and Guardians:

The next round of testing is upon us. Over the next month or so we will be administering the following student tests:

**March 24 – April 11** PARCC field testing window (select 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade classes)

**April 2** OECD testing for 75 randomly-selected group of 15-year olds.

**April 7 – 11** HSA testing for seniors only

With the second semester well under way, we want to thank you for your continued support of our

students, teachers, and school as we collectively strive to provide optimal opportunities for learning each and every day.

Our staff recognizes the important contributions you make toward our student's success. There is no question about it - success at school begins at home. Parents/guardians are the single most important variable in a child's schooling. Parents/guardians model both a silent and spoken language in front of their children daily.

In addition, please continue to be mindful that our students' academic day begins at 7:25am and continues until dismissal each afternoon. It is very important that students are arriving to school on time and not

dismissed early unless an unavoidable appointment or emergency is involved as valuable instruction from the teacher can be missed in addition to required assignments. As always, thank you for supporting the wonderful teaching and learning taking place here at Kennedy!

Regards,  
Joe L. Rubens, Principal



## School Counseling News

Counseling activities for the month of March begin to slow down a little as we complete the registration process for both our current students as well as incoming ninth graders. Sometime during mid-to late Spring, parents will be receiving confirmation of courses registration.

In the Career Center, colleges and programs continue to visit our school offering information to interested students. If your family/student is not registered for Family Connections, I encourage you to sign up with your counselor or Ms. Carroll in the Career Center so that you do not miss valuable information about the schools and programs visiting our school each month and also scholarship information. Did you know that there are scholarships available to students in other grades besides 12<sup>th</sup> grade? Sign up for Family Connections and see what you have been missing.

Counselors are also in the process of identifying students for our Achieving

Collegiate Excellence and Success (ACES) program for students in grades 10 and 11. The ACES Program offers support for students such as study sessions, Saturday School, SAT Preparation, tutoring, college application workshops, campus tours, career exploration, and more. Students should see their counselor(s) to determine eligibility.

Upcoming Events:

**March 11:** The Temple--A Paul Mitchell Hair School

**March 21:** ASVAB Spring Testing

**April 7-10:** High School Assessments for Seniors

**April 10:** NACAC College Fair at Montgomery College

**April 12:** TOEFL Testing

Finally, I would like to mention programming available at Edison High School. Students can be

dually enrolled at Kennedy and Edison, where they can enroll in programs for Nail Technology, Cosmetology, Auto Technology, Auto Repair, Graphic Design, and more. Students should see their counselor if interested.

Looking forward to Spring!

Tia Scott, Resource Counselor

## Media Center



JFK's Book Club R.A.W. (Reading Around the World) continues to inspire students who have a LOVE for Reading! Students are now reading a third book and loving every minute of it! The group consists of students in Grades 9-12. R.A.W. meets every 6 weeks over lunch for book discussion. Books are approved by MCPS and student selected.

Altheria Jones, Media Specialist



## Leadership Training Institute News (LTI)

Snow, snow, go away! The snow days have been fun, but we have work to do and activities to enjoy! Unfortunately, our LTI Leadership Conference at the University of Maryland got snowed out. The tentative reschedule date is March 25<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is Leadership in Action. More information will follow regarding the changed date.

We are still gearing up for our LTI retreat in April. Hopefully, there won't be any snow by then! We will travel to Camp Letts for teambuilding exercises, archery,

canoeing, and tie dye t-shirts. The cost of that trip will be \$125, which includes transportation, food, lodging, and all activities. Payments can be made in cash, by check (**made out to Kennedy High School**), or online by credit card **on the Kennedy website**.

**Payments and permission forms must be turned in to Ms. Desai in Room 122 by March 14.**

Julie Desai, LTI Director

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“A dream doesn't become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work.”

Colin Powell



## ESOL News

### Hello from our ESOL World

We would like to acknowledge outstanding students in ESOL who have received the award of Student of the Month for December and January. This is awarded for exhibiting outstanding effort in the classroom and on assignments, and also for showing respect to others.

ESOL Math Class: Cristian Lopez,  
In ESOL 2: Binta Kourouma,  
Thanya Ardon  
In ESOL 3: Aida Keita, Francina De Leon  
In ESOL 4: Santos Lopez,  
Estephany Choque

This semester, we have several clubs that support our students from other countries. In the American school system, getting involved in school clubs is highly valued for many reasons. It builds a sense of community as well as leadership skills. Also colleges and universities are eager to enroll

students who are more involved in high school clubs and activities. Encourage your child to join a club!

**Liberty's Promise** is an after-school program of civic engagement designed to help young immigrants learn about opportunities available to them. They focus on civic engagement and community service, scholarships, college, and job preparedness. The program starts on March 4 and meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30pm to 4:00pm (room 259). To sign up, attend the first meeting on March 4. For more information, contact Mr. Julien Labiche [jlabiche@libertyspromise.org](mailto:jlabiche@libertyspromise.org).

**The ESOL/SSL Club** is a group that meets with volunteers from Montgomery College. They connect students with opportunities to earn hours towards Student Service Learning, a requirement in Maryland for graduation. This club meets every Thursday at lunch in

Room 253. Talk to Ms. Conde for more information.

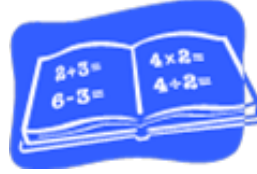
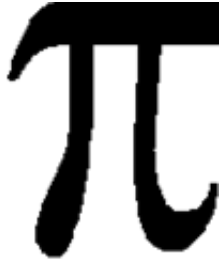
**The Multicultural Club** is a new club for students who want to celebrate and share their culture. Also they will talk about ways to highlight cultural events in our school. This club will meet during lunch in Room 205. Talk to Ms. D'Addario if you are interested.

**Identity** is a program for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders who are new to the school. They discuss school life and ways to adjust to a new school and new country. They do activities outside of school such as a trip to the zoo. They meet Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:15-4:00 PM in Room 253. For more information, talk to Ms. Fuhrman in Room 201.

Elizabeth Fuhrman, Resource Teacher

## Mathematics News

We will celebrate Pi Day on Friday, March 14th (3/14). Pi (Greek letter “ $\pi$ ”) represents the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter — which is approximately 3.14159. Our Kennedy Math Department is busy planning our annual day of educational math activities. There will be at least 9 events, running the gamut from Pi Poetry to Pi Trivia. This will be a fun day where students choose two “Pi” activities.



Reginald Wright, Resource Teacher

## MCPS News

### School Year May Be Extended Due to Snow Days

As of now, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has had nine snow days this school year. The 2013-2014 school calendar, as approved by the Board of Education, has four snow days built in, so MCPS is five days over its allotted number of snow days. In order to meet the state-required 180 days of instruction, MCPS will need to add five instructional days to the end of the school year, as outlined in the Board-approved calendar. There are no plans to change Spring Break at this time. MCPS can apply for a waiver from the state so that we would not have

to make up all of the snow days, but the state is not yet accepting these requests. Without a state waiver, the last day of school for students will be June 19, 2014. Parents are asked to plan accordingly. We will keep you updated as more information becomes available.



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“You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.”

**C. S. Lewis**

## Science News

### Science Department News

#### **The Robert Whitney Newcomb Memorial Scholarship/Internship Award 2014**

Please apply for the Robert Whitney Newcomb Memorial Scholarship/Internship Award. The National Institutes of Health will award up to two, \$2,500 summer scholarships, to selected **juniors** enrolled in a biotechnology program, or an advanced science course. A requirement of the scholarship is that students participate in a six-week summer internship with the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke of NIH as a member of a

research team and then continue their research by interning, without additional pay, the following school year. Please complete and submit the packet to:

Dr. Susan Wray, Chief, Cellular and Developmental Neurobiology Section  
NINDS, NIH Building 35, Rm. 3A-1012 Bethesda, MD 20892-3703  
fax: (301) 496-8578 by the deadline of **Friday, April 11, 2014.**

The Kennedy High School Medical Careers students are at ManorCare Wheaton delivering compassionate student nursing assistant care to their assigned residents. The staff at ManorCare has acknowledged their

good work. Please see linked presentation:

<http://www.jknewfrontier.com/video/2014/02/22/medical-careers-learns-life-lessons/>

The American Red Cross blood services will be hosted by the Medical Careers students for our third blood drive of the year on Friday, March 7, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Please email [Barbara J. Marchwicki@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Barbara.J.Marchwicki@mcpsmd.org) if you would like to participate.

Tamara Jennings, Resource Teacher

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“If you are walking down the right path and you are willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make progress.”

**Barack Obama**



13-D. Woody, 22- K. Williams and 15- J Mustama encourage 32- B. Hawkins while making foul shots against the Quince Orchard. Lets go Cavs!!!

## Physical Education News

Health:

Health classes will finish the Personal Health Unit which had students learning about Risk Behaviors, Cardiovascular Disease, Cancer, and Diabetes. During the week of March 17, students will be bringing home permission forms for the Family Life & Disease Prevention Units. **Students must have permission slips signed in order to be in class for these two units.**

Physical Education:

Students in P.E. are finishing their Basketball units and moving into Soccer, Floor Hockey and Table Tennis. While students are in these units, they will continue to focus on the 6 skill related components of fitness. Students taking Dance are working on choreography for the showcase in May.

Brady Markel, Resource Teacher

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“In order to succeed, your desire for success should be greater than your fear of failure.”

**Bill Cosby**



Deja Adams- Senior Night...Go Lady Cavs!



Cheerleaders make posters for the girl's game vs. Magruder

## ACADEMY News

Due to inclement weather, our academy events scheduled for February were postponed until March. The Business Management and Administration will host Ms. Chancellor, College Representative from FIDM/Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising during a March 17<sup>th</sup> assembly (rescheduled from February 5<sup>th</sup>). The academy programs are preparing for the upcoming school year by reviewing our programs and preparing to share the news to our community. Our team leaders would like to thank the counseling department for their support in helping students select academy electives. We would like to recognize Ms. Ariana Hubbell, a teacher of the Creative Multimedia

Academy, for hosting the President's Own Brass Quintet (members of the US Marine Band). The group performed and held a master class with approximately 60 of our band and orchestra students.

Nicole Fortson, Academy Coordinator



## Social Studies News

The Social Studies Department is pleased to announce that during the Spring semester students taking Entrepreneurship will run their own student-created and student-led events:

**March 28, 2014:** College Visit to Delaware State University

**April 7-11, 2014:** Indoor Soccer Tournament

**April 25, 2014:** Dare to Be You (D2BU) Fashion Show

**April 28, 2014:** JFK Spirit Night at the Lacrosse Double Header vs. Magruder (Girls at 5:15/Boys at 7:00)  
For information please email Keith Adams at: [Keith\\_G\\_Adams@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Keith_G_Adams@mcpsmd.org).

Keith Adams, Resource Teacher




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“I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody.”

**Bill Cosby**

**Upcoming Sports Events**

- 3/21 Baseball – Einstein@JFK, 3:30p JV  
JFK @ Einstein, 3:30p V  
Softball – JFK @ Einstein, 3:30p V  
Boys’ Tennis – JFK @ Einstein, 3:30p
- 3/22 Softball – Einstein@JFK, 10:00a JV
- 3/24 Baseball – JFK @ Springbrook, 3:30p JV  
Springbrook@JFK, 3:30p V  
Boys’ Lacrosse – Churchill@JFK  
5:15p JV, 7:00p V  
Girls’ Lacrosse – JFK @ Churchill  
5:30p JV, 7:00p V  
Boys’ Tennis – Magruder@JFK, 3:30p  
Boys’ Volleyball – JFK @ BCC, 3:30p  
Coed Volleyball – JFK @ BCC, 3:30p
- 3/25 Softball – JFK @ Springbrook, 3:30p JV  
Springbrook@JFK, 3:30p V  
Track – Outdoor, Wheaton@JFK, 3:30p
- 3/26 Baseball – JFK @ Churchill, 3:30p JV  
Churchill@JFK, 3:30p V  
Girls’ Lacrosse – Wheaton@JFK  
5:30p JV, 7:00p V  
Boys’ Tennis – Paint Branch@JFK,  
3:30p  
Boys’ Volleyball – Blake@JFK, 5:15p  
Coed Volleyball – Blake@JFK, 7:00p
- 3/27 Boys’ Lacrosse – JFK@Wheaton  
5:15p JV, 7:00p V  
Softball – JFK@Churchill, 3:30p JV  
Churchill@JFK, 3:30p V
- 3/28 Baseball – Walter Johnson@JFK,  
3:30p JV  
Boys’ Tennis – JFK@Clarksburg,  
3:30p  
Boys’ Volleyball – Northwood@JFK,  
5:15p  
Coed Volleyball – Northwood@JFK,  
7:00p

**John F. Kennedy High School**  
**1901 Randolph Road**  
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**301-929-2240 fax**

**World Language News**

IB Spanish and French students are busy taking written exams and getting ready for the speaking exams coming up in March. Spanish 2 students will be performing skits on an accident or injury and creating a news report on a natural disaster. Spanish 3 is involved in making resumes in Spanish for the unit on work and volunteering. Italian 1 created skits around the vocabulary for the house and will be performing them soon.

Christine Malich, Resource Teacher



Ms. Malich, World Language Resource Teacher, at DCC Registration Night 2014

**English News**

The English Department would like to recognize the following students for **exceeding excellence, and embracing extraordinary** during the month of February:

- Grade 9: Ivana Vera-Gonzaga
- Grade 10: Johnson Masih
- Grade 11: Alexis Hernandez
- Grade 12: Melanie Amo

Congratulations, and keep up the good work!

John Howard, Resource Teacher



JFK HS - 2014 Winter Musical "Pippin"



JFK HS - 2014 Winter Musical "Pippin"

**RESOURCE NEWS**

Learning for Independence and ROTC Horticulture Collaboration

Photos of the collaborative project using funds from our Horticulture grant. We will do a little more planting this Spring to finish this year's phase of our courtyard renovation.

Corollary Sports

The JFKHS Corollary Sports Bocce Team, coached by Donna Mitchell Miller and supported by Dawn Rowley-Toppel and Yvette Hawkins, placed third in the Countywide Bocce Ball Championship at Paint Branch High School on February 8.

Autism Resource Support

To demonstrate their emerging ability to collaborate with others and follow step-by-step directions towards a group activity, the Social Skills class made a Valentine's dinner for each other to enjoy.

Functional Life Skills Curriculum

Part of learning math in our Functional Life Skills curriculum is learning by doing!

Kate Stephansky, Resource Teacher



Mr. Muñoz and a student learning about measuring by using a variety of measurement tools.



Go Bocce Team!



Students working in the courtyard learning for independence