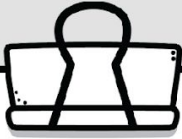




# JFK Newsletter



## About Me

This is my 4th year at JFK and I am proud and honored to be the Principal here! For most of my career I was a School Counselor, so I enjoy working with students and families. This is my 29th year in the education business and this is my 12th year in the Utica City School District. I spent 8 years at Proctor both as a School Counselor and an Assistant Principal.

## Welcome Back !

### Principal's Note:

**As Principal of John F. Kennedy Middle School, I would like to welcome everyone to the 2023-2024 school year!**

**To our new 7th graders, welcome, and we are happy that you are part of the John F. Kennedy Middle School school community! We hope that your transition from 6th grade has been smooth and that you are liking school so far!**

**To our 8th graders, welcome back! We are glad to see our 8th graders and hope that everyone had a good and restful summer!**

**I am very excited to see everyone and from what I have seen so far, we have a great group of students this year!**

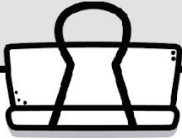




# JFK Newsletter



## Communication



**Download the  
ParentSquare  
mobile app**

Send and receive school  
communications on the go



This is the first of four newsletters we send home to let people in our school community know what is going on with school and attempt to outreach to the school community.

On a day to day basis the school website is the place we put most up to date information. Also, this year the District has gone to the "Parent Square" platform to build communication between the school and your family. I've included sign-in directions if you haven't joined yet. Please scan the bar code on the left of the page to get started!

However, I really believe in "person to person" interaction. If you ever have a problem or question you can call the school or stop by.

The school sends progress reports at 5 week intervals, and report cards at 10 week intervals. In addition, we send other information out on a continual basis and staff and teachers have different ways of communicating.

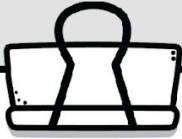
Again though, I ask teachers and staff to reach out to parents by phone and try to support a "person to person" relationship as much as possible.

On a daily basis, you may also go to individual teacher's "Google Classrooms" and most general information is posted on our School Counselor's "Google Classroom" page.





# JFK Newsletter



## Attendance

### OUR LEARNING *focus...*



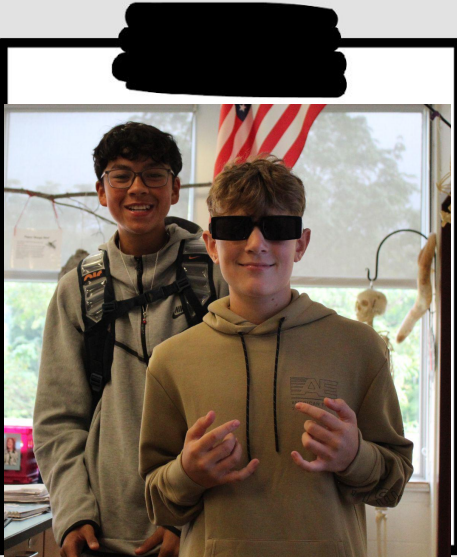
The most important issue facing our school is student attendance. As everyone knows, because of the many interruptions to our students' education over the last four years, it is of vital importance to have students coming to school on a daily basis.

As we start the school year, the staff here will be consistently reinforcing this same fact for students: It is very important that they are here every day! Every day of attendance is important. It is important to get our students back into good habits and get them caught up!



It is our job to help make students "college and career ready" and we need to catch students up the best that we can. We have great teachers. All classrooms have the best and most updated 21st century technology, and we have brand new state of the art textbooks that are aligned to our curriculum. This will help our students do their best on state tests and learn the necessary skills to be equipped to truly become "21st century learners."

Naturally, if a student is sick, students should stay home and stay at home until they are ready to come back to school. Counselors can coordinate students making up their work so that they do not get behind.





# JFK Newsletter



## Who Do I Call?

ALL numbers start with 315-368-

**Academics, grades, schedules, student school performance, setting up conferences, bus problems?**

- Mrs. Halpin x6643 (last name A-G)
- Mrs. Dentino x6647 (last name H-O)
- Mrs. Starsiak x6646 (last name P-Z and Young Scholars)

**Attendance?**

- Ms. Cavalier x6649 or Ms. Burriss x6662

**Discipline problem, problem with another student?**

- Mr. Kierpiec x6694 (last name A-L) or
- Mr. DeJesus x6688 (last name M-Z)

**Medical Records, immunizations, doctor's notes, medications?**

- Mrs. DePerno x6644

**Sports?**

- Mr. Minicozzi x6684

