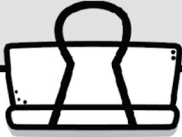




JFK Newsletter



About Me

This is my 3rd 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 28th year in the education business and this is my 11th 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 2022-2023 school year!

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

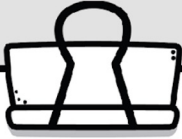
To our 8th graders, welcome back! We are glad to see our 8th graders and hope that everyone had a good and restful summer!

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





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Communication

This is the first of four quarterly newsletters we send home to let our school community know what is going on at school and give parents some important information as we kick off the year.

On a day to day basis the school website is the place we put most up to date information. Also, when it is important, I will send "all calls"...calls recorded to be sent home that you will receive on your phone. If you HAVEN'T received an "all call" this year, please contact the school so that we can have your correct phone number and contact information.

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.

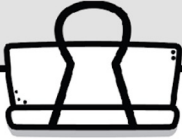
Again though, I ask teachers and staff to reach out to parents by phone and try to support a "person to person" relationship as much as possible.

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(s).





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Mrs. Greene's Social Studies class participated in a September 11th activity:

September 11, 2001

"Where were you when the World stopped turning?"

Ask a parent or guardian where they were on September 11, 2001. What they remember from the event and how they felt. Record their response below and have them sign at the bottom of the page.



In September 11, 2001 I was living in the Bronx in New York city. I was on the #1 Bus going to work with my baby in the baby carrier. My husband called me from his job which he was working FDNY as a paramedic. It was such a bad memory. May they all RIP.

September 11th I was in school in 7th grade. I remember sitting in math class at Howard Middle School in Florida. I remember the news had come on and every person on the news screaming and crying as the next plane began to crash into the next building. I was scared of what was happening because I was young myself and had no idea of what was really happening. I will always remember Sept 11, 2001.

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 three 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! Despite the obstacles we have in front of us, even if we can get students here for a partial day, that is better than them not coming at all. 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 with students making up their work so that they do not get behind.



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Who Do I Call?

ALL numbers start with 315-368-

Academics, grades, schedules, student school performance, setting up conferences?

- Ms. Halpin x6643 (last name A-L) or
- Mrs. Starsiak x6646 (M-Z and Young Scholars)

Attendance?

- Ms. Cavalier x6649 or Ms. Burriss x6662

Bussing problem?

- Ms. Halpin x6643 (last name A-L) or
- Mrs. Starsiak x6646 (M-Z and Young Scholars)

Discipline problem, problem with another student?

- Mr. Kierpiec x6679 (last name A-L) or
- Mr. Smith x 6688 (M-Z)

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

- Mrs. Prumo x6644

Sports?

- Mr. Minicozzi x6684

