

**JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH
SCHOOL BELLMORE, NEW YORK**



**NINTH GRADE
PARENT ORIENTATION
PROGRAM
CLASS OF 2027**

**BELLMORE-MERRICK
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL
3000 BELLMORE AVE, BELLMORE, NEW YORK 11710
PHONE / 516 992-1400 FAX / 516 785-7198**

ADMINISTRATION

Gerard Owenburg
Principal

Michael Harrington
Superintendent of Schools

Vincent Pisano
Jeff Cronk
Dan Jantzen
Assistant Principals

Dear Parents:

Welcome parents of the students who are members of the Class of 2027! The purpose of tonight's program is to provide you with an overview of your child's high school years at Kennedy. The agenda includes graduation requirements, course selection, timelines for testing and post secondary planning. Information on clubs and activities will also be discussed.

During the evening, you will have the opportunity to hear from the entire school counseling staff and ask questions. Please keep this guidebook as a handy reference to use throughout the year as it contains important information and resources for you and your child.

Enjoy the evening!

Sincerely,



Vincent Pisano
Assistant Principal

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ROLE OF SCHOOL COUNSELOR

The following functions of the school counselor are developmental and impact on all grade levels:

- **Academic Improvement and Planning:** includes the selection of a plan of study, placement into appropriate courses and programs, attendance improvement, and developing study skills as well as peace-making strategies, and promoting prejudice reduction and compassion.
- **Personal/Social Growth:** includes counseling focused on building self-esteem, communication skills, decision-making and relationship skills, as well as promoting peace-making strategies, prejudice-reduction and compassion.
- **Crisis Intervention:** includes counseling students in crisis and providing referrals necessary.
- **Transitional Services:** orients students as they move from grade to grade, as well as from school building to school building, to provide a comfortable and success-oriented learning environment.
- **Parent Support:** assists parents in understanding the full complement of educational services, which may be available to help their students reach their goals and maximize their potential.
- **Career/Life Planning:** increases students' awareness of the career and educational planning process and of individual careers themselves while instilling in students the values and attitudes necessary for becoming successful contributors to their families and to society.
- **Consultation:** includes serving as a reference and resource regarding student and school issues for the school's Pupil Personnel Services Team (psychologists, social workers, teachers, nurses, administrators) and the community, as well as for local state agencies, mental health offices/clinics, and other professionals designated by parents/guardians and/or the school district.

EXTRA HELP

EXTRA-HELP SCHEDULE: Extra help sessions will be available to students in various formats and should be coordinated with the teacher. Sessions may be virtual either before or after school, while in person sessions will be solely after school.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY: Students are eligible for election to the National Honor Society in the spring of their junior year. Qualifications are scholarship (overall unweighted average of 87.5% or higher), character, leadership, and service to the school. Students have a second opportunity to qualify in the fall of their senior year. An unweighted average of 87.5% is needed at that time, as well. Students must show considerable involvement in school organizations to be elected to National Honor Society.

The Kennedy Counseling Center website includes information regarding the school, upcoming events and guidance programs. Parents can access up to date information on programs and events, in addition to finding helpful and important links for college and career planning.

https://www.bellmore-merrick.k12.ny.us/schools/jfkhs_guidance



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Required Courses	Regents Diploma	Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation
Art or Music	1 Unit	1 Unit
Electives	3 ½ Units	1 ½ Units
English	4 Units	4 Units
Health	½ Unit	½ Unit
Mathematics	3 Units	3 Units
Physical Education	2 Units	2 Units
Science	3 Units	3 Units
Social Studies	4 Units	4 Units
World Languages	1 Unit	3 Units
Total	22 Units	22 Units

REQUIRED EXAMS

Students MUST earn a score of 65 or above in the following required exams:

(Students with disabilities should contact their school counselor for safety net, pathways, and other diploma options)

Regents Diploma ²	Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation
English Language Arts Regents	English Language Arts Regents
Any one Math Regents	All three Math Regents Exams
Global History Regents	Global History Regents
U.S. History Regents	U.S. History Regents
Any one Science Regents	Two Regents in Science (Must include one in Life Sciences – generally Living Environment – and one in Physical Sciences)
World Language ¹	World Language ¹
World Language Checkpoint A Exam	World Language Checkpoint B Exam
Students averaging 90% or better on required Regents examinations will earn a <i>Regents Diploma with Honors.</i>	Students averaging 90% or better on all examinations required for a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation will earn a <i>Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation with Honors.</i>

¹ Students identified as having a handicapping condition may be exempt from these requirements if a student's IEP states that such requirements are not appropriate. Students completing a five-unit sequence in the Arts (visual arts, music, dance, theater) or Career and Technological Education may also be exempt.

² *Pathways to Graduation – “4 + 1” Regents Diploma Option:* Effective January 2015, students will be allowed to substitute one of the two Social Studies Regents exams with a number of different Career and Technical Education (CTE) assessments or an additional Regents exam in either math or science, or the World Language Checkpoint B exam.

Students may satisfy testing requirements with SAT Tests or Advanced Placement exams. Please see your child's school counselor for additional information.

The best way to ensure that your son or daughter meets all graduation requirements is to speak with your child's school counselor. The school counselor is the best source for reviewing changing graduation requirements and discussing the various options for meeting those requirements.

JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL
DIRECTORY OF EXTRACURRICULAR STUDENT ACTIVITIES - 2023-2024

	<u>DAY/TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>ADVISOR</u>
Animal Advocates	Thursdays @ 2:45	320	Ms. Andree
Art Club	Thursday @ 2:30	151	Ms. Ritchie / Ms. Roche
Athletes Compassionately Educating Students (ACES)	TBA	TBD	Ms. DeFilippo / Ms. Freely
C.H.A.M.P. (Culinary Hospitality Applied Management Program)	As Needed	137	Mr. DiGiovanni / Ms. Ober
Chamber Orchestra	Thursday @ 2:30	142	Ms. Kenyon
Choreography	As Needed	Auditorium	Ms. Schiavetta
Coding Club	Tuesdays(once a month) @ 2:20pm	313	Ms. Petraro
Cougar Crier (School Newspaper)	Thursdays @ 2:45	329	Mr. Seidman / Dr. Urban
Culture Club	Monday @ 2:35	220	Ms. Fiorentino
Debate Club	Select Tuesdays	GI Room	Mr. Jantzen
Drama Club	Daily @ 2:45 Sat.- 9AM to 3:30 (Sept. to the end of March)	Auditorium / Room 118	Mr. Sheffield
Esports Team	See Google Classroom	101	Mr. Alford / Mr. Prince
FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America)	1 st Monday of the Month/	TBD	Ms. Rojas
Stock Market / FBLA Committee **Committee meetings meet alternating Wednesdays opposite Stock Market game.	Stock Market Game Meets Alternate Wednesdays 2:45pm	TBD	
G.S.A. Club (Gay Straight Alliance)	Friday @ 2:25	238	Mr. Reed
Honor Society	As Needed	226	Ms. Keele
H.O.P.E. (Help Our Planet Earth)	Thursday @ 2:45	306	Ms. Norris
Jazz Ensemble/Studio Ensemble (By Audition Only)	Friday	145	Mr. Avellaneda
JFK Voices	Monday 2:45-4:00	142	Ms. Shapiro
Key Club	First Monday of each month @ 2:45	South Cafeteria	Mr. Gerakinis / Ms. Theodoros
Magnum Opus (Literary Magazine)	Wednesday @ 2:30	219	Ms. DiGennaro
Math Team	Day / Time: Monday & Tuesdays as needed / 2:45pm	324	Mr. Ma
(Nassau County Math Competition Dates: TBA)			
Mock Trial	Thursday @ 2:45	106	Mr. Gerakinis / Ms. Theodoros
Model UN	Monday @ 2:30	229	Ms. Scherer / Ms. McManus
One Special World	Last Tuesday of Month	TBD	Mr. Owenburg
Robotics Club	Thursday @ 2:30	203 / Innov Lab 200	Ms. Ocampo / Ms. Femminella
SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions)	Monday @ 2:45	Room 126	Ms. Levesque
Science Club	Wednesday @ 2:45	331	Mr. Lella
Student Government	Mon: Executive Board Wed: Senate/GA	329	Mr. Seidman
Yearbook	Monday	219	Mr. Dell'Olio

Freshman Class	Wednesdays @ 2:30	328	Ms. Rojas
Sophomore Class	Thursdays @ 2:30	GI Room	Ms. Waller
Junior Class	Thursdays @ 2:45	230	Ms. Leitzel / Ms. Longo
Senior Class	Thursdays @ 2:30	227	Ms. Scherer

Start time for each activity is 2:45 p.m. unless otherwise noted
JOIN THE FUN! *LISTEN FOR CLUB INFO DURING A.M. & P.M. ANNOUNCEMENTS*

Updated 9/27/23

GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District provides the opportunity for students to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Staff members encourage students to cultivate their interests, demonstrate their skills, acquire new skills, and develop leadership potential. Since participation in these voluntary activities is both desirable and meritorious, students, as representatives of the school, must maintain an acceptable level of academic performance and display appropriate behavior and good citizenship in and out of the classroom. Students must be in school by Period 4 in order to participate in any extra-curricular activity. In addition, any student suspended, in school or out of school, is not allowed to participate in the after-school program for the duration of the suspension. Any alcohol/drug related suspension will lead to dismissal from a sports team and/or the equivalent suspension from an extra-curricular activity. Additionally, students must be in good standing as per the District Eligibility Policy for Extracurricular, Co-Curricular and Interscholastic Activities.

The following lists of school activities are considered when students apply for the National Honor Society:

Intramural activities are offered each season based on student interest; these include such activities as basketball and weight training.

ATHLETICS

FALL WINTER SPRING

Soccer, Boys-V/JV Wrestling-V/JV Baseball, Boys-V/JV Soccer, Girls-V/JV Basketball, Boys-V/JV Softball, Girls-V/JV Football-V/JV Basketball, Girls-V/JV Lacrosse, Boys-V/JV X-Country, Boys Winter Track, Boys/Girls Lacrosse, Girls-V/JV X-Country, Girls Cheerleading-V/JV Track, Boys/Girls Tennis, Girls Kickline Tennis, Boys Badminton, Boys *Bowling, Boys/Girls Golf, Boys/Girls Volleyball, Girls-V/JV *Hockey Badminton, Girls Volleyball, Boys-V/JV *Rifle Cheerleading-V/JV *Swimming, Boys Kickline *Swimming, Girls

*Indicates District Team

Intramural activities are offered each season based on student interest; these include such activities as basketball and weight training.

Honor Society Requirements

- Minimum of 87.5 Unweighted Cumulative GPA
- At least 2 Sports, Clubs or Activities per year
- Moral and Upstanding Student



NINTH GRADE TIME LINE

The central focus of ninth grade, from the guidance viewpoint, is to facilitate the transition from Middle School to High School.

September

Back to School Night: Parents will have the opportunity to meet their child's teachers and counselors.

Keep an eye on Guidance website for news and updates. Follow us on Twitter @JFK Guidance

Permanent record begins in earnest; all of this year's grades appear on permanent high school transcript.

Ninth Grade Parent Evening Program conducted.

Monthly Counseling Center Newsletter provides important information and updates.

October

Check academic progress available on line through the Parent Portal.

Ninth grade group guidance meetings conducted in school to help facilitate transitional period.

November

School counselors will continue to meet with students individually to review goals.

First quarter report cards are available on line through the Parent Portal.

Parent-Teacher conference nights. Parents are able to meet individually with teachers to discuss their child's progress.

December

"Catalog of Courses" is posted on-line and made available in school in preparation for scheduling of courses for the following school year.

Counselors meet with students in groups to discuss preliminary choices for programming the following school year.

Check academic progress available on line through the Parent Portal.

January/February

Course selection for tenth grade is reviewed in small groups and individually with the student's school counselor.

Parents receive course selection sheets for their signature and return to the school counselor.

School counselors continue to meet with students individually to review goals. Second quarter report cards are available on line through the Parent Portal

March

Tenth grade course selection verification is posted to portal; parents review and contact the school counselor if changes are necessary.

Check academic progress available on line through the Parent Portal.

April

Informal follow-up meetings are held to make any necessary adjustments to 10th grade course selection.

School counselors continue to meet with students individually to review goals.

Third quarter report cards are available on line through the Parent Portal.

May

Check academic progress available on line through the Parent Portal.

Final 10th grade course selection verification is posted to portal; parents review and contact the school if changes are necessary.

June

School counselors contact families as needed regarding course failures and summer school registration.

Fourth quarter report cards are available on line through the Parent Portal.

TENTH GRADE TIME LINE

September

Back-to-School Night: Parents will have the opportunity to meet their child's teachers and counselors.

Monthly Counseling Center Newsletter provides important information and updates.

October

Sophomores who are taking PSAT register online through Rank One JFK School Store; if you are unsure about taking this exam as a sophomore, discuss this opportunity with your counselor as soon as possible.

PSAT is administered.

Check academic progress available on line through the Parent Portal.

November

School counselors will continue to meet with students individually to review goals.

First quarter report cards are available on line through the Parent Portal.

Parent-Teacher conference nights: Parents are able to meet individually with teachers to discuss their child's progress.

December

"Catalog of Courses" is posted on-line and made available in school in preparation for scheduling of courses for the following school year.

Counselors meet with students in groups to discuss preliminary choices for programming the following school year.

Check academic progress available on line through the Parent Portal.

January

Administration of Career Interest Inventory/Introduction to NAVIANCE to introduce students to how their interests suit potential careers.

Course selection for tenth grade is reviewed in small groups and individually with the student's school counselor.

Parents receive course selection sheets for their signature and return to the school counselor.

BOCES and Nassau Tech programs are reviewed by potential career training students.

Second quarter report cards are available on line through the Parent Portal.

February

Group Guidance is conducted to review Career Inventories' results with students, complete course selection process, and explain career resources available to students.

Students considering BOCES visit sites/BOCES applications due

March

Check academic progress on line through the Parent Portal.

Eleventh grade course selection is posted to portal; parents review and contact the school counselor if changes are necessary

April

Third quarter Report Cards are available on line through the Parent Portal.
BOCES applications available to students.

May

Check academic progress available on line through the Parent Portal.

June

Summer School registration.
Counselors contact students who failed classes.

**JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL
BELLMORE, NEW YORK
(516)992-1420**

PRINCIPAL: Mr. Gerard Owenburg 992-1410

ASST. PRINCIPAL/COUNSELING CENTER: Mr. Vincent Pisano 992-1406

ASST. PRINCIPAL/GRADE 9 & 11 ADMINISTRATOR: Mr. Dan Jantzen 992-1404

ASST. PRINCIPAL/GRADE 10 & 12 ADMINISTRATOR: Mr. Jeff Cronk 992-1402

SCHOOL COUNSELORS:

Ms. Jessica Miller 992-1464

Mr. Matthew Grasso 992-1422

Ms. Keely Coco 992-1423

Mr. Frank Sansanelli 992-1429

Ms. Elissa Germaine 992-1421

Ms. Courtney Waller 992-1447

SOCIAL WORKER: Mr. Eric Maresca 992-1424

PSYCHOLOGIST:

Dr. Allison Boyle 992-1425

Dr. Danielle Schulman 992-1434

TEMPO SOCIAL WORKER: Dan Hirschbein 992-1426

ATTENDANCE DEAN: Mrs. Teresa Negron 992-1413

SCHOOL NURSE: Ms. Melanie Caplin & Ms. Rosemary DeVito 992-1460