

COUGAR WEEK IN REVIEW

JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Kennedy Families,

As I mentioned in my message to parents last week, we are currently working on programming for the 2024-2025 school year. Our school counselors and teachers have been sharing information with students about various courses that are offered here at Kennedy. We have seen students have great success preparing for college in many of our advanced placement courses. As result, we continue to encourage all of our college bound students to experience at least one AP course before they graduate. For the next few weeks, we will highlight some of our AP courses in the weekly email to give parents a better idea of all the courses that are available to students.

This week, we were very honored to take part in a special surprise for one of our seniors. Members from the United States Marine Corps visited our campus to notify **Michael Malchevsky** that he has been selected to receive a \$180,000 NROTC Scholarship. The first board approval of these scholarships is highly competitive and Michael is one of a select few students nationwide to receive this award.



JFK Senior Michael Malchevsky receives NROTC Scholarship

Please enjoy our week in review...

Cougar TV Announcements: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JbzR7-IaMo0>

Extra Help Schedule: [https://www.bellmore-merrick.k12.ny.us/Assets/JFK Links/091223 2023-2024 JFK Extra Help Schedule - Sheet1.pdf?t=638301259198330000](https://www.bellmore-merrick.k12.ny.us/Assets/JFK%20Links/091223%202023-2024%20JFK%20Extra%20Help%20Schedule%20-%20Sheet1.pdf?t=638301259198330000)

AP Course Highlight: AP Statistics

The JFK math department is proud to offer students the opportunity to take AP Statistics in sophomore, junior, or senior year as an elective. Here are some examples of questions you'll be able to answer:

- Is Shohei Ohtani *really* worth \$700m over ten years?
- Chips Ahoy used to say there's 1,000 chips in every bag. Can that really be true?
- We randomly select one boy and one girl from JFK. What's the probability that the girl is taller?



Sign up with your guidance counselor today, or speak to mathematics chairperson David Prince at dprince@bellmore-merrick.k12.ny.us.

AP Course Highlight: AP Computer Science Principles

Students at JFK looking for an introductory coding class with no background required will love AP Computer Science Principles. You can walk into class into September not knowing how to code, and walk out in June with an app that you designed that can improve the lives of the students around you. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors will learn to program in Javascript, discuss cybersecurity, the internet, and learn how technology affects our day to day lives.

```
58 function displayObjectScore(objectName) {  
59     var objectCount = 0;  
60     for (var i = 0; i < objectsClicked.length; i++) {  
61         if (objectName == objectsClicked[i]) {  
62             objectCount++;  
63         }  
64     }
```

Sign up with your guidance counselor today, or speak to mathematics chairperson David Prince at dprince@bellmore-merrick.k12.ny.us.

COUNSELING CENTER UPDATES

Newsletter - Click [HERE](#) to see the latest edition of the Counseling Center Newsletter!

Juniors: March SAT - Kennedy High School will be offering the March 9th SAT in a closed campus setting only for JFK Juniors. This will be the first online SAT offered. If you would like to register, you MUST use the provided link ([HERE](#)) as we are not listed as a test center on the College Board site. If you have additional questions, please see your counselor.

2024-2025 Scheduling: Last week, counselors visited classrooms to discuss course selections for next year. This meeting was to get students thinking about what they would like to take next year, the actual course selections will take place in January. We encourage you to speak with your child about where their interests are in terms of courses or programs and courses.

WE WISH TO CONGRATULATE THE FOLLOWING "STUDENTS OF THE MONTH":

ENGLISH:

PHOEBE CLANCY (9)

MADISON MAZE (10)

COOPER WARREN (11)

TARA BROWN (12)

MATH:

BRENDAN MULLIN (9)

ALEXANDRA LaBELLA (10)

JOCELYN YEUNG (11)

ETHAN S GROSSMAN (12)

SCIENCE:

DANA HERNANDEZ-GUZMAN (9)

BENJAMIN STONE (10)

MORGAN BEERS (11)

COLE WASSERMAN (12)

SOCIAL STUDIES:

ALEXIS MALERBA (9)

LUCAS RICH (10)

JOSHUA ALLAND (11)

JULIA CERVERIZZO (12)

WORLD LANGUAGES:

HANNAH GURMAN (9)

DAVID GUREWICH (10)

GIANLUCA ARRIETA (11)

HAILEY KAMLER (12)

ART:

MADELINE HYMAN

BUSINESS:

SAMUEL STARK

COMPUTER SCIENCE:

DANIEL ZHOU

ENGINEERING:

SARA MALTEMPI

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE:

MICHAEL CARLINO

HEALTH:

CARLY SHERMAN

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC:

ISLA BLACK

PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

KATIE KLIERS

VOCAL MUSIC:

BROOKE GOODMAN

ENL:

JUAN DUQUE-MEDINA

JFK Students Score Big In American Mathematics Competition

In November, the top Cougar mathematicians sat for the AMC, the most challenging math competition offered to high school students across North America. Freshman Kellan Auyeung placed first at JFK in the AMC 10 for underclassmen, and junior Jacob Krukas won the AMC 12. The entire JFK math department is proud of their hard work and success. See below for the full list of students who placed. Go Cougar math!

AMC 10 (freshmen and sophomores)

1st: Kellan Auyeung (freshman!)

2nd: Mason Schlesinger

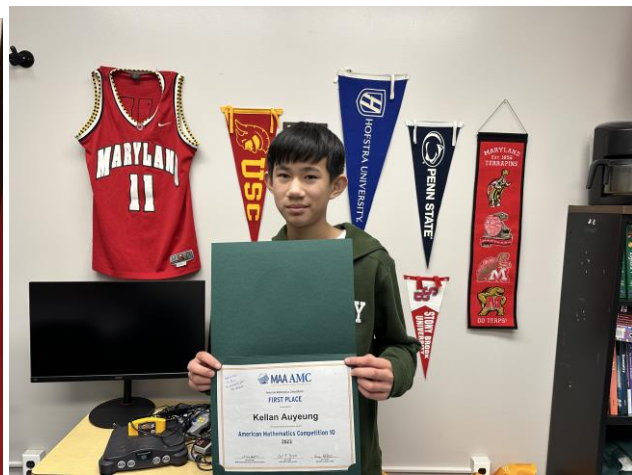
3rd: Jacob Moont

AMC 12: (juniors and seniors)

1st: Jacob Krukus

2nd: Connor Barath, Jayden Simon, Mark Prainito

3rd: Avidan Moont

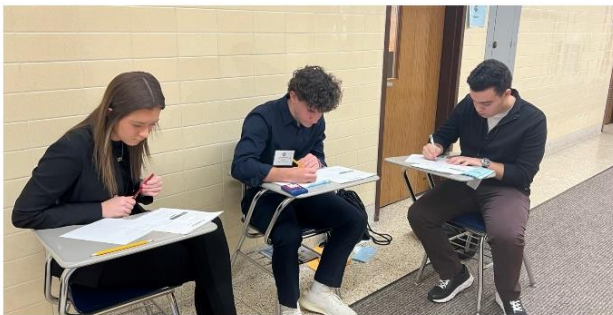
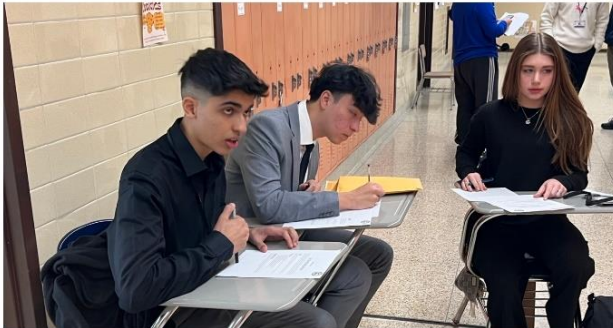


In Business News.....

Yesterday, December 14th, we held our Fourth Annual Bellmore Merrick Business Challenge and it was a huge success. This is a business competition in which teams comprised of members of all three high schools planned, presented, and defended a position in one of five business categories. The categories were Not-For-Profit Fundraising, Sports & Entertainment Marketing, Hospitality Services, Entrepreneurship, and Finance. In addition to the competition, a college expo was held giving the students an opportunity to speak with representatives from Adelphi University, Hofstra University, LIU Post, Molloy College, Pace University, Queens College, St. John's University, Stony Brook University, and SUNY Farmingdale. A delicious lunch was provided by The CHAMP program. For our listening pleasure there was live music performed by our very own Calhoun String ensemble. The entire event was covered by our district BM Broadcast program at Mepham. All of the students did a fantastic job.

Congratulations to our 2023 BMBC champions:

- **Not-For-Profit Fundraising:** Kate Kenny (CAL), **Lauren Piscazzi (JFK)**, Kimberly Janosek (MEP)
- **Sports & Entertainment Marketing:** Brynn Hutchins (CAL), **Jack LaGalia (JFK)**
- **Hospitality Services:** Alexa Addonizio (CAL), **Jenna Feig (JFK)**, Kayla Rudnitsky (MEP)
- **Entrepreneurship:** Giavannah Posner (CAL), **Brandon Magnuson (JFK)**, Saif Ahmed (MEP)
- **Finance:** **Jaclyn Cunha (CAL)**, **Nick Sabo (JFK)**, Joseph Mordoff (MEP)



If you would like to compete in great competitions like this, you need to sign up to take one of our many great business classes that we offer at Kennedy in the 24-25 school year. Here are **Business Department Course Offerings for the 24-25 school year:**

1. **College Marketing (Year Course, Grades 10-12)- College Accounting (Year Course, Grades 10-12)-** Dive into the dynamic realm of College Marketing at our Kennedy High School! Unleash your creativity and business savvy in this engaging class that feels more like a brainstorming party than a lesson. Imagine crafting amazing campaigns, decoding consumer behavior, and learning the art of viral trends—all while earning college credits simultaneously! Elevate your high school experience with a dash of marketing magic and a sprinkle of college dual enrollment excitement!
2. **College Accounting (Year Course, Grades 10-12)- College Accounting (Year Course, Grades 10-12)-** Enter on a number adventure at Kennedy High's College Accounting class! Unleash your inner financial guru as you dive into the exciting world of balance sheets, ledgers, and financial wizardry. This isn't just a class; it's your golden ticket to college credits while mastering the art of accounting. Join us where crunching numbers becomes a thrilling journey, and your high school experience becomes a launch pad for future success!
3. **Career and Financial Management (Semester Course, Grades 10-12)-** Embark on a financial journey at Kennedy High Schools Career and Financial Management class! Join us in exploring the secret language of budgets, investing, and career planning—where balancing your checkbook is as thrilling as mastering a video game level. Unveil the mysteries of fiscal fitness while navigating the road to success. It's not just a class; it's your backstage pass to toward your personal future! Buckle up for financial wisdom!
4. **Sports and Entertainment Marketing (Semester Course, Grades 10-12)-** Get ready to unleash your passion for thrills and spills at Kennedy High's Sports and Entertainment class! Dive into the world where the stadium is your playground and the stage is your spotlight. Learning to create show-stopping events, this class is your backstage pass to the heart-pounding industries of sports and entertainment. Channel your inner MVP and star, and let Kennedy High School be your arena for excitement, learning, and unforgettable experiences!
5. **Fashion Marketing (Semester Course, Grades 10-12)-** Step into the glamorous world of style and trends with Kennedy High's Fashion Marketing class! Unleash your inner fashionista as you explore the art of runway magic, brand strategies, and trendsetting techniques. From designing eye popping ad

campaigns to understanding the pulse of the fashion industry, this class is where creativity meets commerce. Join us at Kennedy High and turn your passion for fashion into a runway of possibilities!

6. **Virtual Enterprise (Year Course, 2 units, Grades 10-12)-** Embark on a virtual journey of entrepreneurship at Kennedy High's Virtual Enterprise class! Transform your classroom into a thriving business where you lead, innovate, and compete against top high schools on Long Island in electrifying trade show events. Earn not just grades but also 6 college credits while honing real-world business skills. Join us as we turn dreams into reality, one virtual enterprise at a time!

7. **Digital Literacy in the 21st Century (Semester Course, Grades 10-12)-** Dive into the digital realm at Kennedy High's Digital Literacy class! Master the art of navigating your classes using Google apps as your toolkit for high school success and beyond. From collaborative projects to tech-savvy problem-solving, this class is your passport to digital fluency. Join us at Kennedy High and unlock the power of Google apps, ensuring you're not just keeping up but leading the way in the ever-evolving landscape of technology!

8. **Wall Street 101 (Semester Course, Grades 10-12)-** Ignite your teen's financial future with Kennedy High's Wall Street 101! This dynamic class transforms students into financial maestros, teaching them to manage portfolios, decode market trends, and excel in presentations and group projects. As they delve into the world of finance, your student will gain valuable skills for success. Elevate their high school experience and set them on a path to financial mastery with Wall Street 101 at Kennedy High School—where knowledge meets opportunity!

9. **Hospitality and Management HAM (Semester Course, Grades 10-12)-** Join us on a thrilling journey into the world of Hospitality and Management at Kennedy High! This class is not just about learning; it's a hands-on adventure where you'll master the art of creating unforgettable guest experiences. Elevate your high school experience by earning college credits while diving into the exciting realms of event planning, customer service, and hospitality leadership. Join us at Kennedy High and let your passion for hospitality become a stepping stone to your future success!

Girls Who Code: Girls Who Code is a club that aims to create opportunities for female students with an interest in computer science at JFK. Run by Mrs. Petrero, the club uses JavaScript, Scratch and other languages to create fun projects. No experience required. Any questions, email cpetrero@bmchsd.org. See you on 12/19 after school in room 313!

Elementary School Music Program Visits Kennedy

Today, 6th graders from Shore Road, Levy-Lakeside, and Birch Elementary Schools visited Kennedy High School for a "sneak-peak" performance from our Concert Choir, Advanced Orchestra, and Wind Ensemble of their upcoming concert. The groups performed a few selections and then did a short Q & A session with the students about Music, team work, and what it takes to put on the high level of artistic performance that students achieve in our music classes. Thank you to Mr. Avellaneda, Ms Shapiro & Ms. Kenyon and their musicians for sharing their talents with our future Cougars! Our students also got a chance to see their elementary band directors once again which was a real treat for our students. Student's experiences like this is one of the many reasons Kennedy HS and Bellmore-Merrick are considered by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) one of the "Best Communities for Music Education".



Key Club Blood Drive

This Monday, Key Club orchestrated a successful blood drive, amassing a commendable 29 donations. Kudos to our first-time donors and returning student contributors—you are true lifesavers! Your altruism is sincerely appreciated, and together, we are making a meaningful impact. Thank you for participating and embodying the spirit of benevolence. Always remember, it feels good to do good! You've made a difference!



Kennedy Orchestra

This past weekend, students from the Kennedy Advanced Orchestra volunteered their time to perform at St. Barnabas Church for their annual nativity play. Thank you to our dedicated and talented student musicians: **Julia Cohen, Fiona Yeung, Ava Goldsmith, Constantinos Shoureas, and Jocelyn Yeung.**

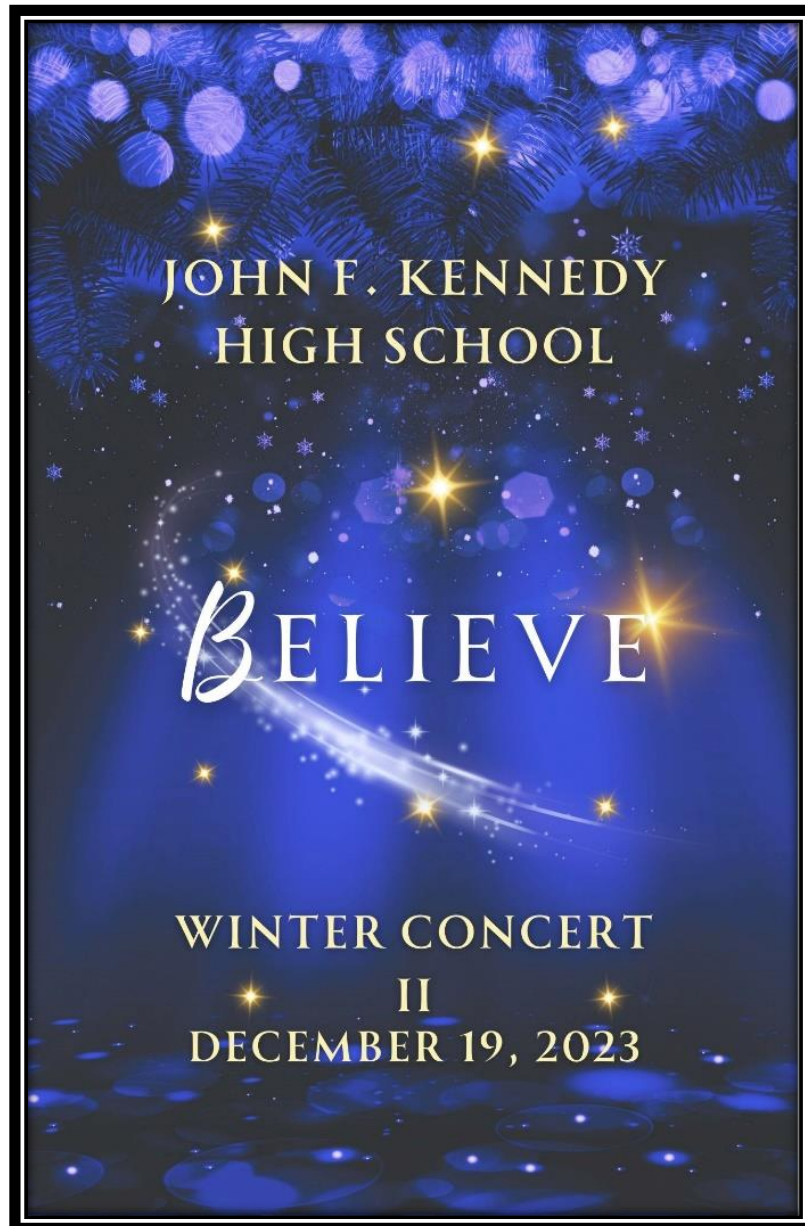


Kennedy Winter Concert

This week Kennedy High School's Music Program dazzled audiences with the first night of our annual winter concert. The captivating performance showcased the exceptional talents of our orchestra ensembles and jazz band. From festive holiday tunes to classics and contemporary pieces, our students delivered a breathtaking array of musical excellence. Their dedication and passion illuminated the stage, leaving a lasting impression on all in attendance. We're immensely proud of our musicians for their hard work and artistic expression, embodying the spirit of creativity that defines our music program. Kudos to all involved in this unforgettable musical experience!



Please join us for Winter Concert II on Tuesday, December 13 starting at 7pm. Performances by our school bands and choirs with a combined finale featuring our Wind Ensemble, Advanced Orchestra, and Concert Choir that will leave you in awe!



HOPE Club

This week HOPE club generated Environmentally friendly holiday ideas including energy saving tips as well as use of reusable and recycled materials for gift giving and gift wrapping. Being conscious of our purchasing, choosing less packaging and what we do with our discarded items (donations to local charity organizations are great) were among the great discussions for Helping Our Planet Earth. We decorated our door with 90% reused and recycled materials. Happy Holidays and a Happy Healthy New Year to all.



Yearbook: Now is a great time to purchase a yearbook for your graduating senior. Also, please consider purchasing a Recognition Ad (Parent Ad) for your graduating senior. While the students do a great job commemorating their four years of high school, they really enjoy the ads you purchase and place in the book. The Parent Ad adds something extra special. It is a great way to honor your senior and include information or photos that otherwise cannot be included.

Recognition Ad Info: https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/ybAdDesigner/1055503/-/2023051511151788082/CATALOG_SHOP/

You can purchase both the yearbook and the Parent Ad at www.jostens.com

CHAMP News

The CHAMP baking and pastry students have been working hard to create their giant 1.5 foot tall gingerbread man that they will be raffling off next week during the lunch periods to benefit UNICEF. Tickets are a \$1 to win one of their creations. Follow us on Instagram @CHAMPJFK to see their final cookie creations!


Upperclassmen catered for a Business Luncheon at Central Offices and a Special Education chairs luncheon. Everyone has been working hard and we are excited to welcome interested 8th graders at our open house on Monday, December 18th.



Kennedy Hosts Alumni Day: On December 21, during Periods 3 & 4, we will welcome back alumni from the Class of 2023 who will share their experiences with the junior class about college search process and what to expect during the the first semester of college. We will also have an alumni panel from a variety of decades that will speak with juniors and seniors about their pathways and careers after they left Kennedy.

Cougar Talks: Please join us for Kennedy High School's Cougar Talks program, an evening of unique ideas and important messages presented by the senior students in the School & Community Leadership Program. Over the first semester, these students have identified and developed ideas they are passionate about and have transformed those ideas into a TED-style talk. The messages will resonate and inspire and, perhaps most importantly, provide you with some promise for the future.

This year there will be 23 different presenters over two evenings. The program is on January 9 and 10 at 7pm in the high school auditorium.



**COUGAR
TALKS**

UNIQUE IDEAS SHARED BY KENNEDY STUDENTS
A PRESENTATION BY SENIOR STUDENTS OF THE
SCHOOL & COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 9
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10**

**7PM
KENNEDY HS AUDITORIUM**
THIS EVENT IS FREE.

Molloy College Dual Enrollment Program: Students enrolled in **Precalculus R, Precalculus H, College Italian, and College Spanish** are eligible for college credit through Molloy for the work they're completing here at JFK. Registration begins on October 16th, 2023 and runs through February 15th, 2024. Students must fill out [this registration form](#). More information can be found [here](#).

Driver Education News: Registration for the Spring Driver Ed session opens online January 3rd. Please visit our website for further information: https://www.bellmore-merrick.k12.ny.us/schools/drivers_education

KENNEDY PTA

Membership: Support our students and programs but joining the JFK High School PTA.

CLICK TO JOIN:

<https://jfkbellmorepta.memberhub.com/store?limit=21&live=true>

*But if you prefer to send a check or cash, just send it in an envelope with your name, your child's name, your email and phone number.

"Class of" GEAR:

Check out our new "Class of" line. Available for all classes!

Order Soon...Store closes on Dec 15th.

Text Leslie Cerverizzo at 516-860-5331 with any questions.

CLICK LINK TO ORDER: <https://www.4spiritwear.com/JFKCS.htm>



Spiritwear: Our spiritwear store is still open, offering both new images and items, customer favorites - plus money-saving bundles!

Email Kerry Griffin at kjgriffin06@gmail.com with any questions.

LINK TO ORDER: <https://bit.ly/49581vp>

Upcoming Important Dates:

12/18: ASR Information Night at 7:00pm

12/19: Winter Concert II

12/21: HS Alumni Day

12/25-1/1: Holiday Recess – School Closed

1/3: Board of Education Meeting at 7:30pm

1/11: Guidance Program for 11th grade

1/12: MLK Day of Service





JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL COUGAR NATION

Cougar Athletics

Strength for Strays

On Tuesday, December 12 we hosted "Strength for Strays", a strength competition with all proceeds going to Last Hope inc., Animal Rescue and Rehabilitation located in Wantagh.

Congratulations to **Mrs. Franklin**, **Sophia Lancer** and **Ethan Grossman** for winning their respective competitive divisions. We would also like to congratulate and to **Mrs. Kubler** and **Connor Barath** for also earning prizes from our sponsors Onyx gym in Bellmore and Vitamin Shoppe in Merrick.

This was ***Good, Strong, Fun.***

Special thanks to **Jack Menahem** for creating the event, securing the sponsors and promoting the competition.



Boys' Varsity Wrestling

The Cougars continue to roll as we won 4 matches to take the Annual Bellmore Duals on Wednesday. Solid performances by:

JJ Pizzirusso 4-0

Peter Mikedis 4-0

Harlan Chugerman 4-0

Hendrick Capo 4-0

Max Frank 2-0

Colin Griffin 4-0

Brandon Goldstein 4-0

Jared Eisenberg 3-1

The Cougars also had many Alumni coaching the teams today:

Mike Miller '03 Wheatley

James Durso '04 Mineola

Rob Person '13 JFK

Dan Arkow '15 JFK



Girls' Varsity Cheerleading

Last week, the varsity cheerleaders started off the season with a county competition at West Hempstead HS. The team is currently ranked 8th in the county.

This Saturday, the team will be hosting a competition for the county. We are excited to be the home to the first ever competition for both Grand Avenue and Merrick Avenue Middle School!

This Sunday, the team will be competing at UCA Empire Regionals at Hofstra University for a bid to the National High School Cheerleading Championship.



Girls JV Cheerleading

JV Cheer comes in 2nd place at their competition this past weekend at West Hempstead, earning their highest scores yet! This Saturday 12/16 the Cougars host their annual home competition at JFK. Come see JV perform at 1PM.



Girls' Winter Track: The Girls' Winter Track team had their second indoor meet this past Monday. **Ella Cullin** was a standout performer as she placed 3rd in triple jump. Fellow jumpers **Abby Finkelstein** and **Morgan Beers** also had great days with **Morgan** also jumping over 30 feet. She cleared 7 feet in pole vault- a new personal best. **Abby Finkelstein** made the finals in the 55 meter dash running one of her fastest time of the season.

In shot put **Sophie Shiner** and **Jordyn Kratenstein** had amazing performances putting them amongst the top three on the team.

Sara Maltempi, Olivia Toto, Briana Morillo and **Jezy Nagasarsingh** ran great splits on the 4 x 400!

Boys' Varsity Hockey

The Bulldogs just keep rolling! The win streak is now up to 6 with a huge statement win over big rival, Long Beach, 4-3. Jourdan Luskoff (Calhoun) had the game winner with only minutes remaining. The team has moved to the top of the league and hopes to continue the streak with games against East Williston on Monday at 6:15pm at Newbridge Arena and Tuesday against last year's County Champions, Syosset played at Town of Oyster Bay Skating Center at 6:45pm. Please come out and support the team!

Boys' Varsity Basketball

The Cougars' Varsity Basketball opened up league play with a 42-32 victory on the road over Glen Cove HS Tuesday night. **Leo Ferry** (14 pts) & **Michael Mezzone** (13 pts) led all scorers while **Zach Cohen's** 6/6 free throw shooting late in the 4th quarter sealed the game for the Cougars. **Jeremy Bergida, Aaron Jacobs, Luca Kaplan, Alex Leiderman** and **Lucas Linn** rounded out the scoring for JFK. **Ari Salama** contributed significant minutes and added big rebounds late while **Jake Wexler** provided strong defense throughout the game. Our next game will be tonight at 7 pm in our Home Opener vs Hewlett HS...let's pack the gym!!!



Girls' Varsity Basketball

The Girls Varsity Basketball team clinched their first league win against Glen Cove High School on Tuesday. **Jolie Yablon** scored a career high 27 points and 8 steals. **Sophia Fischetti** contributed with 11; **Ashley St. Suring** & **Jordi Wohlleben** 8; and **Kaylee Ayers** with 7. The girls take on Hewlett High School Friday night at 7pm at Hewlett!
Way to go girls!



Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,

Gerard Owenburg, *Principal*

"Make Every Moment Count"