

2018 - 2019

JFK ASSETS

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Year at a Glance

After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens, known as ASSETs, is an expanded learning program available to all students at John F. Kennedy High. We offer daily tutoring, clubs and activities, courses for graduation credit, and serve a daily snack... all for free in a safe, inclusive environment in which students can learn, grow, and lead as young adults.

In ASSETs, we offer a variety of classes and clubs to appeal to the diverse needs of our students. This includes dance, STEAM, leadership classes, community service, and opportunities to explore youth and cultural events. Our goal is to provide our students with equitable resources and opportunities that may not fit into their regular high school schedules.

Highlights

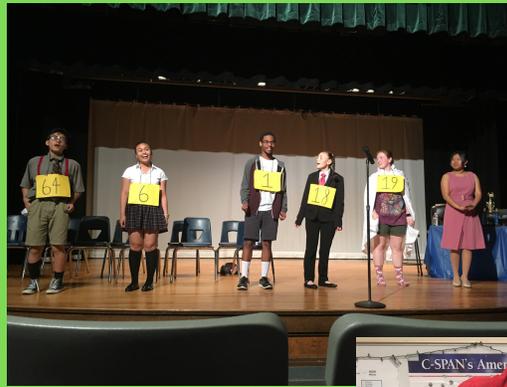
Throughout the school year, we support the academic success of students through tutoring and courses taught by certificated teachers that help students earn credits toward graduation... but that is just the beginning. Look closely, and you will also catch us having fun, mentoring youth, serving our communities, and expressing ourselves through art, poetry, and dance.



Events

In ASSETs, we love to showcase the talent and creativity of our students. This year was one for the books! We put on a production of *The Putnam County Spelling Bee*, complete with audience participation and songs. The SAYS poetry slam brought audience members to tears as the students used spoken word to express their experiences, emotions, and ideas. Our VIP dance crew hosted the History in the Making Mainstage event once again in which dancers from across the city gather to celebrate their hard work and collaborate with a final, city-wide dance that had the audience on their feet.

We are so proud of our creative Cougars!



Awards

Our students not only shine in our own hallways, but we love to travel and demonstrate our talents in competitions in other cities as well. Two outstanding examples of this include our Robotics team who makes us proud by placing in the First Robotics Competitions across the country and in Canada. The MESA team spends months preparing their STEAM projects for competitions at UC Davis and the MESA Day Think Tank competition and Google tour in Santa Clara.

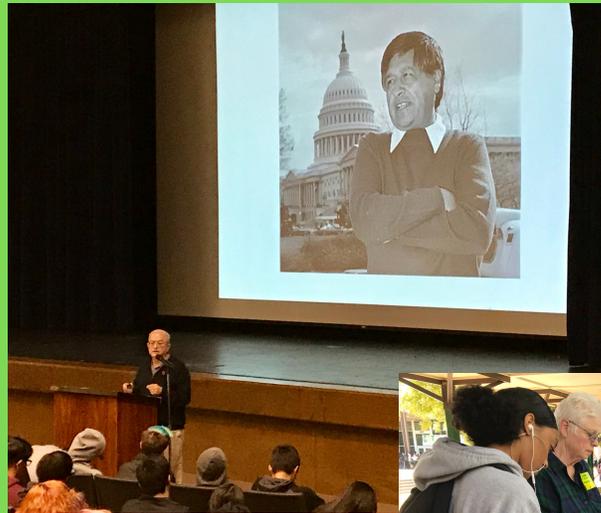
Way to go, teams!



MESA

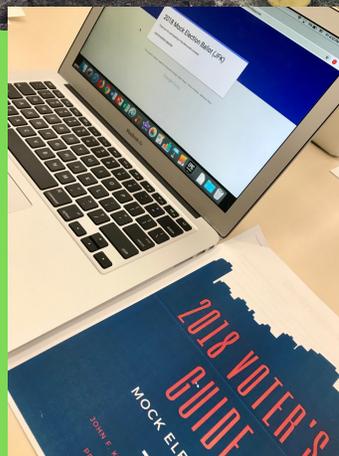
Visitors

One way we help prepare our students to become global citizens is to bring in guests and speakers to share their stories with our Cougars. Learning about others helps our students to see the world in a new light. This year we welcomed back Marc Grossman, former aide to Cesar Chavez. Students listened to his experiences and got to ask questions about Cesar's life, work, and impact. We were also delighted to host the League of Women Voters to campus to help students register and preregister to vote. Civic engagement is new for some of our students, and they got to see the excitement and power they hold as a new class of voting citizens. Speakers from Stop Stigma returned to Kennedy to speak their truth about living with mental illness and help the students see that mental wellness and support are crucial to their healthy lives.



Community Engagement

One of our favorite parts of ASSETS is the opportunity to give back to the community. This year we have planted trees, mentored younger students at both MLK and Caroline Wenzel, shared smiles while making crafts with Eskaton residents, and partnered with other high schools to host a mock election in which students learned, debated, and voted on the November ballot items. By getting involved with the community, we broaden our horizons while we lend our neighbors a helping hand.



Looking Ahead...

Another school year has come and gone, 180 days that flew by, full of celebrations, milestones, challenges, and growth. Despite the uncertainty of teacher strikes, budget crises, and political debate, we Cougars continue to forge ahead with a stronger grip on leadership, a drive to give back to our communities, and a motivation to succeed. We enter the summer months grateful for the journey and appreciate the beauty of sending another graduating class out to seize their worlds.

Good luck, Cougars! You will make a difference.



See you next year!

For questions about ASSETs at JFK, contact Ms. Chandler at chandler-cooper@scusd.edu