



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

6715 Gloria Drive, Sacramento, CA 95831
(916) 395-5090 • FAX (916) 433-5511

David Van Natten, PRINCIPAL
Amy Baldini, Assistant Principal
Jacki Glasper, Assistant Principal
Aaron Pecho, Assistant Principal

September 10, 2021

Dear John F. Kennedy Families:

Having students back on campus returns the tremendous energy that has been missing for too long. It is fun to see them fall back into their routines, and for those to whom the campus is new, get to know it along with their classmates. Considering the obstacles, it has been a remarkably smooth start. Your unwavering patience, advocacy, and understanding have made that possible.

COVID Testing

As a reminder, COVID testing is available on campus every day. Students may report to V-4 (The "Care Room") between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. No appointment or advance registration is required. Students may be tested as frequently as they see fit. For questions about COVID testing, call the school at (916) 395-5090.

A plethora of information, all part of the District's Return to Health plan, is available [here](#).

EQ Ambassadors

The school's Emotional Quotient (EQ) ambassadors are specially trained Kennedy juniors and seniors who represent the diversity of our community. EQ ambassadors work as peer mentors who are available to support other students with both social-emotional and academic needs.

For questions about EQ, contact Assistant Principal Glasper [here](#) or her assistant Robyn Mutchler [here](#).

Food

As a reminder, your student, every student, eats for free! Breakfast is served in the cafeteria at 7:30, and lunch includes nutritious yet delicious offerings!

Food delivery services are not permitted at school. DoorDash, Grubhub, Uber Eats, and others will be refused at the door.

Absences

Remember to call in your student's absence. Do that by dialing (916) 395-5090, extension 506030. Per District policy, an absence caused by any symptom that could potentially be a sign of a COVID infection

will require a negative COVID test before the student may return to campus. I understand that this may create an inconvenience, but it is important that we do each our part to keep our community safe.

If you wish to supply your student's proof of vaccine, you may do that by bringing it to the front office. Vaccine data can be uploaded to Infinite Campus. This may speed your child's return in the event of a contact tracing event.

Chromebooks

Is your student in need of a Chromebook? Chromebooks may be checked out in the library during textbook distribution and in the Counseling Center before or after school.

PSAT/NMSQT/SAT

October 13 is the day! The (P) SAT for grades nine, ten, and twelve will be offered at no cost. Juniors pay \$18 to take the PSAT. For more information, contact Estela Brown [here](#).

Water Bottles

This week, all students were given the option of receiving reusable aluminum water bottles. I encourage the use of a reusable bottle as the drinking fountains on campus are turned off until further notice. There are, however, two water bottle filling stations at the front of the campus.

LCFF Survey

Like last year (and the year before that), the District LCFF survey is used to determine school site funding. Although I know that it is sometimes easy to conclude that one voice won't matter, I can assure you otherwise. This year, Kennedy received \$300,000 based on results from last year's survey. It absolutely matters. Click [here](#) for more information and to take the survey.

Athletics

Be sure to follow Cougar athletics! Our student athletes are on a roll! Calendar information has been published, and you can view it [here](#).

The Option of Independent Study

For any family who prefers schooling at home, the District has issued information about an independent study option. To learn more, click [here](#). If your student is currently in transition from Kennedy to Capital City, independent study is available via us. Contact the school for more information.

Schedule Change Requests

Due to fluctuation in enrollment as well as lower-than-usual participation during course selection last spring, there are many more schedule change requests this year, and they are taking longer than usual to process. I appreciate your patience. Schedule change requests will be processed in the order received. Students will be notified when their request has been processed.

Remember, schedule changes are made for serious and compelling reasons and not all change requests are even possible. If you have a question or concern, I encourage you to contact your student's guidance counselor.

Bell Schedule

The bell schedule is available [here](#). Remember, lunch assignments are based on the location of a student's fourth period class. See the bell schedule for additional information.

Dress Code

Based on extensive feedback from teachers, staff, students, and families, the school's dress code has been heavily revised. It is available [here](#) and effective beginning tomorrow.

Drop Off and Pick Up

Drop off and pick up students from the west parking lot (corner of Florin Road and Gloria Drive). Do not utilize the east lot as the new gates are not unlocked from the outside. As a reminder, traffic, especially with the changes recently made on Florin Road, is expected to be heavy. If you want to miss the worst of it, drop off before 7:45 and pick up after 3:45. Alternatively, select a pick-up and drop-off location within walking distance of the school but far enough away to avoid the congestion.

As a reminder, Gloria Drive can be difficult to navigate early in the morning when the sun is low in the sky. Drive carefully, and watch for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Academic Schedule

Click [here](#) for the complete 2021-22 academic calendar.

Contact us at (916) 395-5090, or email me at David-VanNatten@scusd.edu.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Van Natten", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Van Natten