

OGDENSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

John F. Kennedy Elementary School

2017-18 End-of-Year Report
to
The Board of Education
August 27, 2018



John F. Kennedy Elementary School

OUR MISSION

John F. Kennedy Elementary school is located in a rural area on the United States border with Canada. Our mission is to provide a school environment that is safe, nurturing, and culturally enriched. All students, as individuals and members of a group, will be inspired to participate in planned educational experiences with the expectation that they will become effective communicators, complex thinkers, and productive workers.

“Excellence is a habit,
not an act. It takes
pride and
perseverance.”

OUR VISION

- Students, parents, school personnel, and community members will share the responsibility for our children’s education.
- Individual differences will be recognized and respected.
- Positive self-esteem is always necessary for students to demonstrate respect, self-reliance, confidence, discipline and tolerance.
- School will be a place where everyone feels safe and secure at all times.
- Firm, fair, and consistently applied discipline will promote an orderly and structured learning environment.
- The learning environment will cultivate self-direction, cooperation, creativity, individuality, critical thinking, and the desire for lifelong learning.
- Literacy, numeracy, thinking, and strong communication skills are essentials of academic competence.
- All students are capable of learning and will experience opportunities to achieve academic success, to practice civic values, and to become productive community members.

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Parent Teacher Organization Support

The John F. Kennedy PTO has enjoyed a successful year with fundraisers through student and family support. It is with pleasure that the PTO is able to provide many educational field trips, reading incentive program awards and activities for the students. In June, each class ventured in various directions for their class trip as well as enjoying the Field Day and picnic. Additionally, the PTO sponsored a staff appreciation luncheon for all members of the Kennedy faculty and staff. This is a small thank you to show gratitude for the dedicated faculty and staff at JFK. The PTO is dedicated to the students, staff, and families at John F. Kennedy.

Site Based and PTO Family and Community Involvement Activities and Events

- Open House
- The Great Pumpkin Read-In Family Night
- Scholastic Book Fair
- The Elks Club Dictionary Project for Grade 3 students
- Fire Safety presentations from members of the OFD
- Food Drive for the Neighborhood Center sponsored by Student Council
- Halloween Parade Jr. Kindergarten – Grade 3
- Veterans Day Recognition Ceremony
- Parent-Teacher Conferences (including evening sessions)
- B.O.C.E.S. North West Tech Center visitation for Grade 6 students
- Grades 5 and 6 Madill and Kennedy Chorus and Band program
- Renewal House Presentations
- READ for 2018

Site Based and PTO Family and Community Involvement Activities and Events

(Continued)

- PJ's for Christmas pajama day sponsored by Student Council
- Sleigh Rides for families
- School Spirit Week and Centers activities including musical presentations from Ogdensburg Free Academy's Jazz Rock Ensemble and Jazz Band
- Grade Level Holiday Music Programs Jr. Kindergarten – Grade 4
- Valentine's Day Dance for Grades Jr. Kindergarten – Grade 2
- Odyssey of the Mind Competition; Regionals
- Art to Remember student projects
- Family Bingo Night
- D.A.R.E. – 9 week program in Grade 5 Science with Detective Jarret LeClair and Patrolman Jason Streeter- DARE Culmination ceremony
- NYSP Computer Crime Unit Investigator Dean White, Cyber responsibilities and digital citizenship for Grades 4 – 6
- Indoor Soccer Tournament to benefit future JFK Playground renovations
- Ogdensburg Command Performances for UPK – Grade 6
- Read Across America Week celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday
- School Spirit Week sponsored by the Student Council
- Test Pep Rally and Parade
- Grades 3 – 6 Band and Chorus Spring Concerts
- Quince de Mayo Spring Social for Grades 3 – 6
- Author, Henry Cole, Visit
- Career Days for Grade 6 organized by Counselor, Bridget Dolan
- PTO sponsored Field Day and School Picnic to include rock painting for Senator Ritchie's Reading Rocks Summer Reading Program
- Grade 6 Graduation
- UPK celebrations
- Character Education and Academic Award Assemblies

Kiwanis K-Kids

K-Kids is a worldwide service organization for Elementary School students. It is sponsored by the by a local Kiwanis Club (the Kiwanis Club of Ogdensburg) who sponsors similar organizations, such as the Ogdensburg Free Academy Key Club for High School students and the Ogdensburg Free Academy Builders Club for Middle School students.

K-Kids Pledge

As a K-Kid,
I promise to serve my
neighborhood and school;
I will show respect towards my
environment;
And I will try to make the world a
better place in which to live.

K-Kids Core values

Character building: The ability to do the right thing, even when it might be the unpopular choice.

Leadership: The ability to listen, communicate, serve and guide others.

Inclusiveness: Accepting and welcoming differences in other people.

Caring: The act of being concerned about or interested in other people or situations.

Kiwanis K-Kids Advisors:

Mrs. Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Faculty Advisor
Mrs. Martha Valley, Kiwanis Advisor

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Who can join?

A: Any John F. Kennedy Elementary School student in Grade One or Grade Two. Middle and High School students cannot join K-Kids, but are encouraged to join either Builders Club or Key Club.

Q: How much does it cost?

A: K-Kids membership is completely free.

Q: When is the first meeting?

A: Thursday, November 1st, from 2:50 – 3:30 p.m. Parents do not have to attend, but should arrange transportation for their child after the meeting.

K-Kids Mission

K-Kids is an international student-led organization providing members with opportunities to perform service, build character and develop leadership.

How will K-Kids benefit your child?

In addition to immersing the core values of K-Kids (left) into your child's daily life, it will expose them to a position of student leadership at an early age. It will also teach them the importance of helping others and becoming a dedicated member of their community.





Service Projects

2017 - 2018

November

Collection boxes and posters advertising the Elementary Food Drive

to benefit:

The Ogdensburg Neighborhood Center

December

Holiday treats

to benefit:

Ogdensburg Police Department

Ogdensburg Fire Department

United States Customs and Border Patrol

Holiday cards

to benefit:

St. Joseph's Nursing Home residents

January

Thank you cards in honor of January, National Thank You Month

to benefit:

Our School Community

February and March

Pennies for Patients

to benefit:

Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

Valentine's Day cards

to benefit:

Our School Community

April

Posters advertising the Kiwanis Pancake Day

to benefit:

Kiwanis Club of Ogdensburg

John F. Kennedy Elementary School

Assessments

PALS

Universal Pre-Kindergarten – Grade 2

The Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening or PALS is administered to students in Universal Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 2. In Universal Pre-Kindergarten, Junior Kindergarten, and Kindergarten, the assessment measures a child's knowledge of several foundational literacy skills such as rhyme awareness, beginning sound awareness, alphabet recognition, letter sound knowledge, and word awareness and identification. In Grades 1 and 2, the assessment measures word knowledge and oral reading skills.

This assessment, along with the Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA 2), allows teachers to match literacy instruction to individual literacy needs. It also helps to identify children who are behind in their acquisition of fundamental literacy skills.

Students' scores on specific tasks are compared to a benchmark that represents minimum expectations for fall and spring. If a student's score is below the benchmark, that student may receive small group (Academic Intervention Services) reading instruction in addition to the regular classroom literacy instruction.

DRA 2

Kindergarten – Grade 2

The Developmental Reading Assessment 2 (DRA 2) is a standardized reading assessment used to determine a student's instructional reading level. Classroom teachers administer the DRA individually to students. This assessment allows a teacher to observe, record, and evaluate a student's oral reading fluency and comprehension skills. As a result, teachers can then match their instruction to each student's needs.

IRA

Grades 3 – 6

The Independent Reading Assessment (IRA) is a whole book comprehension assessment, fiction and non-fiction; it includes lessons to help teachers turn the formative assessment into instruction. Teachers also reference the *Reading Strategies Book* to support the independent instruction in developing skilled readers.

Students complete the assessment on their own, during independent reading. Through evaluation, teachers learn ways that will guide their ongoing teaching during conferring, small groups, guided reading, and whole class reading instruction.

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STAR Report – 2017-18

STAR Reading

Grade Level	Average Growth Percentage
2	N/A
3	52
4	42
5	41
6	53

STAR Math

Grade Level	Average Growth Percentage
2	44
3	42
4	33
5	48
6	43

- A Student Growth Percentile (SGP) compares the average student growth to that of his or her academic peers nationwide.
- A Student is considered to be making adequate growth with an SGP of 40.

New York State Science 4 Assessment

Performance Level	# of students	Percent
1	0	0
2	2	2.4
3	16	19
4	66	78.6

Total students tested: 84

John F. Kennedy Elementary School

Goals for 2018-2019:

- Provide multiple family and community involvement opportunities for Kennedy Families
- Continue to foster the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) through the character education program, Arts in Education, and social and emotional development provided by school counselors.
- Use the *Positivity Project* as a Character building curriculum and reward for doing it right
- Collaborate with the Snackpack Coalition to continue the weekend snack program for both elementary schools
- Transition Intermediate Leadership for the 2019-2020 Academic Year

