



KINGSWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Committed to Excellence

*Mr. Jason Schimpf
School Business Administrator*

*Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools*

*Ms. Patricia Calandro
Assistant Superintendent*

October 21, 2024

Dear School Community,

Today, I am sharing my [Superintendent's News and Notes](#) and [October Board Brief](#). Should you have any questions regarding the information transmitted, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Honoring Spotlight Students for October

We were pleased to honor the following students during this month's Board of Education meeting. To view the photos, click [HERE](#).

- **Middle School Students** (Team) – Annabel Logan (K), Rory Peddle (I), Bella Cavaleri (N), Sarah Kalb (G), Nolan Standard & Brody Mission (S), Reagan Peddle (W), Sydney Schiavone (A), Avalano Pierson (Y)
- **High School Students** (Grade) – Talia Burton (9), William Cabana (10), Nicolas Amaradio (11), Ryan McKeown (12)



Seniors of the Month for September & October

Congratulations to Seniors of the Month, **Haley Brown & Makayla Kline** (September) and **Emma Pieters & Kai Tolley** (October).

Principal Fox-Manno Named Administrator of the Year

Kingsway's very own **Principal, Stefanie Fox-Manno**, has been named the **New Jersey Association of Student Councils (NJASC) Administrator of the Year!** This prestigious honor is a true reflection of her leadership and dedication, and we couldn't be prouder.

Kingsway Welcomes New Staff

Members of the Board of Education welcomed **Stephanie Atene (HS Counselor)**, and **Christine Jurgens-Dittert (HS Paraprofessional)** as our newest Dragons during the October Board Meeting.

The 22nd Annual KEF Holiday Craft Show – Volunteers Wanted

The 22nd Annual Holiday Craft Show, sponsored by the Kingsway Education Foundation, is scheduled for Saturday, November 2nd. We are looking for a few good volunteers to help on Friday, 1st, and Saturday, November 2nd to assist with pre-setup and during the event. All proceeds support students in grades 7-12. To sign up, click [HERE](#).

New Graduation Requirement

A new graduation requirement, enacted by the New Jersey Department of Education under P.L. 2023, c.295, mandates that all high school seniors must complete a financial aid application (FAFSA) as a

Home of the Dragons

prerequisite for graduation. Kingsway is responsible for tracking and monitoring this requirement. Parents and students aged 18 and older have two options:

1. **Complete the FAFSA:** The FAFSA is expected to open on December 1. HESAA will notify us once the FAFSA has been submitted, but Kingsway will not have access to any financial information. To assist you with this process, we encourage you to attend our Financial Aid Information Session on October 3rd at 6:30 PM. This will be a virtual event—please [register here](#). Additionally, you can find helpful resources through the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority ([HESAA](#)).
2. **Submit a waiver form:** This [form](#) exempts your student from the requirement. Students who are at least 18 years old may also exempt themselves. Submitting the waiver does not prevent students from submitting a FAFSA or a New Jersey Alternative Financial Aid Application at a later time.

It's OK to ask for help – Kingsway Partners with Care Solace

Kingsway has [partnered with Care Solace](#) to support our ongoing commitment to removing barriers to access to mental health services. Care Solace is a free, confidential service that connects students, staff, and their families to mental health providers and substance use treatment matched to their needs – regardless of insurance. Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

Back to School Information

Last month we welcomed back nearly 3,000 middle and high school students to start the 2024-25 school year. Our Back-to-School Nights were also held, providing important information to our families. If you missed it, or would like to review our informational videos, click the following links: [Back to School Videos \(Middle School\)](#), ([High School](#)).

One Way... Do Not Enter!

The road that wraps around the high school, Dragon Circle, is one-way. This road is “ONE-WAY” because of the number of students who exit from the rear of the building and the many blind spots create a dangerous situation for pedestrians and drivers. This communication is an effort to get drivers to cooperate with the one-way direction of Dragon Circle.

Policy Updates

The Board of Education has amended and/or adopted several policies. To read more about these updates, please go to the [Board Briefs for School Year 2024-25](#) page. All [POLICIES & REGULATIONS] can be viewed on our website [HERE](#). School employees are obligated to read each policy/regulation carefully and ensure they are up-to-date with any changes. Below is a summary of policies/regulations that have been revised or abolished.

Policy/Regulation	Policy/Regulation Name
P 0141	Board Member Number and Term (Revised)
P 0141.2	Board Member Number and Term – Receiving District (Revised)
P 0164.6	Remote Public Board Meetings During a Declared Emergency (M) (Abolished)
P 2200	Curriculum Content (M) (Revised)
P & R 3160	Physical Examination (M) (Revised)



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P & R 4160	Physical Examination (M) (Revised)
R 5200	Attendance (M) (Revised)
P 5337	Service Animals (Revised)
P 5350	Student Suicide Prevention (M) (Revised)
P 7231	Gifts From Vendors (M) (Abolished)
P 8420	Emergency and Crisis Situations (M) (Revised)
P & R 8467	Firearms and Weapons (M) (Revised)
P 9181	Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-Curricular Activity Advisors/Assistants (Revised)

Look Ahead/Important Dates

Please update your calendars to include the following key dates... For more, click on the District's [2024-25 School Calendar](#) or the [Athletics & Activities Calendar](#).

- October 29 – High School Open House, 6:30 pm
- October 30 – Makeup Picture Day, Grades 7-8
- November 2 – KEF 22nd Annual Holiday Craft Show
- November 4-8 – Fall Recess/School Closed to Students
- November 13 – National Honor Society Induction Ceremony, 6:30 pm
- November 15 – 3rd Annual Veterans Day Breakfast, Middle School, 8:15 am
- November 20 – KEF Harvest Gala, 3:00 pm
- November 21 – BOE Meeting, 6:30 pm
- November 27 – Early Dismissal for Students and Staff
- November 28-29 – Thanksgiving Recess
- November 28 – Marching Band at Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade

You May Have Missed....

- [Celebrate Students' Academic Honors from College Board's National Recognition Program](#)
We are excited to highlight our students' exceptional achievements and the significance of these honors in showcasing their academic prowess. We are immensely proud of their accomplishments and the recognition they have received.
- [Kingsway Introduces Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) Playbook](#)
This comprehensive playbook offers invaluable guidance and a wealth of resources to enhance our collective AI Literacy, empowering us to support student learning better and streamline educator workflows.
- [Kingsway's Armed Service Veterans Honored with Quilts of Valor](#)
- [Kingsway's Navy JROTC Promotional Video](#)
- [Kingsway Ranked Among Best High Schools in South Jersey](#)



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Kingsway is the highest-ranked high school in Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland, and Cape May Counties (U.S. News & World Report).

- [Kingsway is Named to the College Board's AP District Honor Roll](#)

With more than twenty Advanced Placement (AP) offerings.

- [Kingsway Partners with Care Solace Removing Barriers to Mental Health Access](#)

Kingsway recently announced a partnership with Care Solace to support our ongoing commitment to removing barriers to access to mental health services.

Thank you for your attention to this announcement. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Very truly yours,



Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools

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