



# KINGSWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Committed to Excellence*

Ms. Sharon Ormsbee, CPA  
School Business Administrator

Dr. James J. Lavender  
Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Patricia Calandro  
Assistant Superintendent

May 28, 2026

Dear School Community,

As we approach the close of another successful school year, there is much to celebrate and be grateful for across our #1DragonFamily. Throughout the year, we have watched our students grow academically, perform with excellence on stage, and compete with pride in athletics and extracurricular activities. Although opening day in September now feels like a distant memory, the school year has moved quickly—and with incredible energy, achievement, and momentum throughout our district.

I am pleased to share this month's [Superintendent's News & Notes](#) along with the [May Board Brief](#), both filled with important updates, recognitions, and a look ahead at the exciting weeks to come.

May was especially memorable, as we honored our talented student artists during the [National Art Honor Society Induction Ceremony](#), celebrated student achievement at the [Academic All-Star Banquet & NJROTC Awards Program](#), and paid tribute to those who served our country during the [31st Annual Memorial Day Ceremony](#). We also celebrated more than 50 seniors during [Signing Day](#) who have committed to continuing their athletic careers at the collegiate level.

With just 14 school days remaining, we are entering one of the busiest and most meaningful stretches of the year. For **the Class of 2026**, [graduation on June 17](#) will mark an important milestone and the culmination of years of hard work, growth, and perseverance.

As always, thank you for your continued support of our schools and our students. Together, we are well positioned to finish the year on a strong and successful note.

Very truly yours,

## Spotlights and Recognitions

The following spotlights and recognitions celebrate individuals and groups whose dedication and accomplishments exemplify our district's *Commitment to Excellence*.

- **April, May & June Seniors of the Month**  
(April) **Haley Blair & Kamiah Schofield**  
(May) **Rita Sheets & Aidan McCourt**

*Home of the Dragons*



(June) Kevin Weisser & Reese Whitzell

- **High School Student Spotlights**

Rachel Tighe (Grade 9); Bianca Rieger (Grade 10); Reese Marsteller (Grade 11); Hannah Gradel (Grade 12)

- **Middle School Student Spotlights**

Jackson Lyons (K), Caitlyn O’Leary (I), Connor Foster (N), Ahmed Rasul (G), Kyrie Wilson (S), Ella Haas (W), Abby Castellano & Landon Harmon (A), Elly Wiedmayer (Y).

**Seniors Recognized at Glo County Academic Excellence Banquet**

Please join us in congratulating **Kingsway’s five Academic All-Stars** who were selected to represent our school at this year’s Annual Academic All-Star Banquet. These outstanding seniors exemplify what it means to be part of the Dragon Family—driven, dedicated, and committed to excellence.

- **Javen Chen** – Harvard University
- **Mason Corey** – MIT
- **Krishani Parikh** – Saint Joseph’s University
- **Mishi Chaturvedi** – John’s Hopkins University
- **Rita Sheets** – Seton Hall University



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### Kingsway Honors College-Bound Student Athletes

On Thursday, May 28, more than 50 high school seniors and their families gathered in the South Gym for our **Annual Signing Day Ceremony** to celebrate the signing of letters of commitment to continue their athletic careers at the collegiate level. Proud parents and family members watched as each student-athlete was recognized by name, sport, and future college or university. These accomplished students reflect the strength of Kingsway's commitment to excellence in both academics and athletics.



### Honoring Our Heroes: 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Memorial Day Ceremony

Kingsway proudly hosted its 31st Annual Memorial Day Ceremony, honoring the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country. This year's theme, **"The Meaning of Memorial Day: 250 Years of Sacrifice – 1776–2026,"** provided an opportunity for reflection and gratitude as we recognized that the freedoms, we enjoy today have been preserved across generations by those willing to serve something greater than themselves.

We remembered our fallen Dragons—**Donald Lee Corbin, Stephano James Fiducioso, Dennis Philip Martin, and Ryan Kenneth Iannelli**— and reaffirmed our commitment to ensuring their legacies are never forgotten.

The program featured a [Kingsway's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Memorial Day Ceremony Tribute Video](#), heartfelt student reflections, and remarks from distinguished guests, including **Keynote Speaker Colonel Paul Rumberger, U.S. Army (Ret.)**. You can watch the entire program [here](#).

### May Spotlight Teacher – Jason Behringer High School History Teacher

At our final Board of Education meeting of the school year, we were proud to recognize **Jason Behringer** as May's Spotlight Teacher. Mr. Behringer is an innovative educator who brings history to life through a student-centered approach that encourages critical thinking, literacy, and meaningful engagement with complex topics. He empowers students to analyze historical events with thoughtfulness and perspective while helping them develop the skills necessary to become informed and engaged citizens. Beyond the classroom, Mr. Behringer is a respected leader within the history department and a valued mentor in the Team Scholastics program, exemplifying professionalism, compassion, and Kingsway's **Commitment to Excellence**.

### Class of 2026 Graduation – Are you Ready?

Graduation for the Class of 2026 is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 17th at 6:30 PM** at the Anthony "Tony"

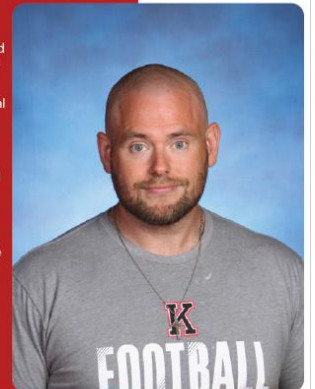
## Spotlight Teacher

**MR. JASON BEHRINGER**  
HS HISTORY TEACHER

Jason Behringer is an innovative educator dedicated to helping students master complex material through a student-centered approach. By placing learners at the heart of the classroom, he fosters an environment where students actively engage with historical concepts to sharpen their literacy and subject-matter expertise.

Mr. Behringer approaches sensitive historical topics with nuance, empowering students with the critical thinking skills necessary to draw their own informed conclusions. The foundation he builds helps students become more engaged citizens, better equipped to apply logic and reason throughout their academic careers and lives.

Beyond the classroom, Mr. Behringer is a leader within the high school history department and a vital mentor in the Team Scholastics program. He balances high professional standards with a sincere sense of compassion, whether he is leading a Scholastics class, participating in family night activities, or collaborating with colleagues. His expertise and collegiality make him a true cornerstone of the history department and our "Dragon Family."



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Barchuk Stadium. Gates will open at 5:30 PM. The event will feature several speakers and the conferral of diplomas. Each graduate will have the opportunity to cross the field and have their name read aloud. Please review the [information on our website](#) for additional information regarding graduation.



**Policy Updates**

The Board of Education has amended and/or adopted several policies. Updated policies and regulations are available on the district website and in the [2025-26 Board Briefs](#) section. All POLICIES & REGULATIONS can be viewed on our website [HERE](#). Employees are reminded of their obligation to review all policy updates carefully.

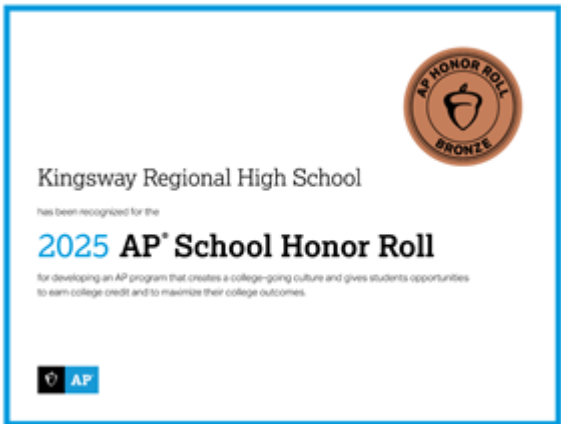
**Look Ahead/Important Dates**

Please update your calendars to include the following key dates. For more, click on the District’s [2025-26 School Calendar](#) or the [Athletics & Activities Calendar](#).

- June 2 MS End of Year Band Concert
- June 4 MS Art Show
- June 4-5 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip (Philadelphia)
- June 5 Senior Prom
- June 8 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Dorney Park
- June 9 HS/MS End of Year Chorus Concert
- June 10 HS End of Year Jazz Band Concert
- June 11 World Language Honor Society Induction Ceremony (HS)
- June 11 BLA/STEM Service Learning Awards Program
- June 15 Senior Awards Ceremony
- June 16 Senior Sunset
- June 17 Class of 2026 Graduation / Last Student Day

**You May Have Missed....**

- [College Board’s AP School Honor Roll for the 2024–2025 school year, earning Bronze-level distinction](#) This recognition highlights Kingsway’s continued commitment to expanding access to rigorous, college-level coursework while supporting student achievement and college readiness. The honor builds upon our ongoing efforts to strengthen Advanced Placement offerings and create meaningful opportunities for students to challenge themselves academically.
- **Kingsway Launches New School of Education Program.** School officials are excited to launch its [School of Education](#), an innovative, multi-year pathway for students interested in careers that support teaching, learning, and school communities. The program will open to students beginning in the **2026–2027 school year**.
- [2025–2026 Educators of the Year](#). **Morgan Moore** (Educational Support Professional of the Year), **Amanda Ottinger** (Middle School Teacher of the Year), and **Meghan Mattson** (High School Teacher of the Year) were



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honored at the January 22, 2026 Board of Education Meeting. Each of these outstanding professionals exemplifies the very best of Kingsway. Through their dedication, leadership, and commitment to student growth and well-being, they have inspired, innovated, and made a meaningful difference in the lives of those they serve.

- **[Kingsway Names Nelson New Head Softball Coach](#)**  
School Officials announced the appointment of Diane Nelson as Head Softball Coach for Kingsway Regional High School (January 2026).
- **[Kingsway Names Shaup New Head Girls' Lacrosse Coach](#)**  
School Officials announced the appointment of Carly Shaup as Head Girls' Lacrosse Coach for Kingsway Regional High School (January 2026).
- **[Meet the Cadets of Kingsway's Rising NJROTC Program](#)** by Matt Rappa, SW Neighbors "These students aren't just earning academic credits – they're building character, sharpening leadership skills, and discovering the power of camaraderie."
- **[Connor's Crew: Kingsway Students Turn Personal Tragedy into Hopeful Mission](#)**  
Born out of personal tragedy, **Paige Oatman** and **Audrey Klieger** have transformed grief into action, hope, and healing for others. Their story is a reminder of the extraordinary impact young people can make when they lead with empathy and heart.
- **Committed to Excellence: Perez & Mopal Stand Out**  
The Kingsway Regional School District proudly congratulates Senior **Jayden Perez** on his remarkable achievement—graduating from the **Gloucester County Fire Academy**. This milestone reflects Jayden's dedication, perseverance, and passion for public service. We also extend our heartfelt congratulations to **Mahi Mopal**, an 11th-grade student at Kingsway Regional High School, for being featured in the **American Journal of Lifestyle Medicine!**
- **["Commended Students" in the 2025 Merit Scholarship Program](#)**  
Daniel Houck, Evan Frederick, Natalie Ficarra, and Kai Tolley have been named Commended Students in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program.
- **[Three Seniors Achieve the Prestigious Eagle Scout Rank!](#)**  
Celebrating the remarkable achievement of three best friends—Seniors *Devin Soffy*, *Robert "Bobby" Rittershausen*, and *Anthony Barone*.
- **[Kingsway Celebrates Excellence at This Year's NHS Induction Ceremony!](#)**  
A record 168 new inductees alongside 159 returning members, celebrating their achievements and bright futures. These students exemplify the values of leadership, learning, and character, standing as tomorrow's leaders and compassionate citizens.
- **[Kingsway's Commitment to AP Courses Drives 37% Growth in Enrollment](#)**  
Kingsway Regional School District is proud to announce a significant increase in student participation in **Advanced Placement (AP) courses** and exams. For the 2024-25 school year, AP course enrollment has climbed to 2,183 seats, representing a 37% increase from the 1,375 seats filled during the 2022-23 school year. Additionally, AP exam registrations have risen by 46%, from 627 in 2022-23 to 913 this year.



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- [\*\*Kingsway Recognized as Gloucester County's Best High School by NJ.com\*\*](#)  
Kingsway Regional High School has been recognized as the top high school in Gloucester County, according to a recent NJ.com article published on September 5, 2024.
- [\*\*Quilts of Valor Honorees Celebrated at 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Day Program\*\*](#)  
Representatives from the South Jersey Quilts of Valor Foundation participated in Kingsway's 4th Annual Veterans Day Breakfast on Friday, December 15, 2024, to bestow upon Kingsway employees who have served in the United States Armed Services a handmade quilt. Honored this year were Bus Driver Henry Olinsky (U.S. Army) and School Resource Officer Billy Franklin (U.S. Marine Corps). Kingsway's Navy JROTC Cadets, Middle School Choir, Band, Student Council Members, and the Woolwich VFW Post 10886 also participated this year.
- [\*\*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 Offers More than 20 Advanced Placement \(AP\) Courses\*\*](#)
- [\*\*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\*\*](#)  
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.



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