



Karns City Area School District

Karns City Junior-Senior High School
1446 Kittanning Pike
Karns City, PA 16041
724-756-2030

Dr. Joshua Williams
Assistant Principal

Dr. Michael S. Stimac
Principal

July 2026

Dear Karns City Jr./Sr. High Student and Family:

In preparation for the 2026-2027 school year, please take time to review this information carefully, so that you are aware of important information and changes pertaining to the new school year.

DIGITAL SCHEDULES - Just like last year, rather than mailing home students' schedules, students can now access their schedules by logging into their Infinite Campus account. This can be done by downloading the Campus Student App and using school login information. Additionally, students can access their Infinite Campus account by clicking "Student" > "Infinite Campus" on the district's website (www.kcasdk12.org). Students can log into their accounts by using their username, which is their email address (last two digits of graduation year + last name + first name @kcasdk12.org) and their password, which is their student ID followed by kc. For example, student "John Smith," class of 2032 would use 32smithjohn@kcasdk12.org (username) and 123456kc (password). When reviewing your schedule, remember that it is still tentative and additional changes may occur. For instance, you may see a course on your schedule that was not your first choice; a change like this may have been made on your behalf with your overall academic goals in mind.

If there are classes you would like to add or drop, you may request a schedule change by going to kchs.kcasdk12.org, where you can access the "Schedule Change Request" form under the "Academics" tab. You may also do so by clicking [HERE](#). It is our intention to accommodate your requests before the first day of school, but please know that changes will not be made without sound, academic rationale. You will receive an updated schedule in your homeroom when you return. If you would like to meet and discuss your schedule with a school counselor, please email Mrs. Voltz (Grades 7-9) at avoltz@kcasdk12.org or Mr. Bowser (Grades 10-12) at jbowser@kcasdk12.org. Otherwise, all requests can be made using the "Schedule Change Request" form mentioned above.

FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS: HOW CAN I CHECK MY CHILD'S GRADES

Parents can use Infinite Campus to check their child's grades. To access Infinite Campus, parents can either download the Infinite Campus Parent Portal App, or click on "Parent" > "Parent Resources" > "Infinite Campus" on the district's website. If you already have a parent account, your account will be active for the 2026-2027 school year. However, if you do not have an account, please email helpdesk@kcasdk12.org and share your name, your child's name and grade, and request an activation code. Our technology team will email you a code to register your account.

If you need to update your household information, such as your address, phone number, and/or email, please follow the directions by clicking on the following link: [Update Household Information in Infinite Campus](#)

Updating this information is extremely important, because we intend to use Infinite Campus for regular communication.

HOW DO I FIND MY CHILD'S BUSING INFORMATION IN INFINITE CAMPUS

Parents and guardians can view their child's bus number, pick-up/drop-off times, and transportation information by logging into the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Step-by-step instructions for accessing transportation details are available here: [Transportation Infinite Campus](#)

FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS: IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING DISTRICT COMMUNICATION

We will launch all-calls and email important information using Infinite Campus. Therefore, it is imperative that parents create and update their Infinite Campus contact information. By doing this, parents can receive phone calls, text messages, and emails from the district. Please click on the following link for directions about updating your contact information: [Click Here](#)

IMPORTANT DATES and INFORMATION

Seventh Grade/New Student Orientation AND Open House

We will hold Orientation and Open House on the same night. This will take place on August 24 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. New students, 7th Graders, and their families are encouraged to arrive at 5:00 for a meeting in the auditorium. After the meeting, new students will tour the building and meet their teachers. All returning students and their families can come anytime between 5:00 and 7:00.

Annual Pie Festival

One way to become acquainted with the high school is by attending the annual Pie Festival, where we honor the students who participate in Fall extracurricular activities. This is also a great opportunity to support our band by purchasing pie and other sweet treats. This year's Pie Festival will take place on Friday, August 21 at 6 pm at the high school. It is possible that, due to construction on the track surface, Pie Fest will be moved into the gym. We will communicate whether this change is necessary closer to August 21.

When is the First Day of School? When is the First Day of Vo-Tech?

The first day of school and Vo-Tech is Wednesday, August 26.

I am a KC Cyber Student. When and How will I Receive my Schedule?

KC Cyber students' schedules will be emailed directly to the student and their parents approximately 1 week before school begins.

What Time Does School Start at the High School?

Homeroom begins at 7:26 am, but students have access to breakfast, lockers, and their homeroom class starting at 7:15 am. The school day ends at 2:33 pm.

Parent-Teacher Conference Day - November 10

School will not be in session on November 10, because it is scheduled for parent-teacher conferences. Most of the high school's conferences will take place via phone calls, with the intention to address any academic, social, or behavioral concerns that may be appearing. More information will be forthcoming. If you would like to schedule an in-person conference, please call the high school office.

Changes at the High School in 2026-2027

The District would like to welcome Dr. Williams, who will serve as the Assistant Principal, and Miss Maier, who is a new math teacher.

Cell Phones and Personal Devices

Beginning this year, cell phones and personal devices must be locked in students' lockers throughout the entire day. Please take time to read important information regarding this rule by clicking [HERE](#).

NEW Vo-Tech Morning Procedures

When Vo-Tech students arrive at the high school in the morning, they must enter through the metal detectors and wait for their respective buses in the cafeteria. Vo-Tech students will not be permitted to wait for buses outside the district office doors. Similarly, upon arriving at the school from the Vo-Tech, students will take their backpacks and cell phones to their lockers; they will then walk to the cafeteria for lunch.

What Happens if School is Closed Due to Weather?

The District website provides important information regarding remote instruction when school is closed due to weather. You can read more about school-closure information by clicking "[Weather Delays/School Closures & Remote Learning](#)" under the "Our District" tab on the District's website. We encourage you to visit the District website on a regular basis for updates and announcements.

If I Drive My Student to School, Where Should I Drop Off and Pick Up My Child?

Please arrive between 7:05 am and 7:20 am and park along the yellow tree-lined curb in front of the high school's main entrance. Typically, there is a line of cars along the curb; once you are at the front of the line, your student can exit the vehicle and walk the white-lined crosswalk to the front entrance. You are not permitted to drop your child off on the curb directly in front of the school, as this will interfere with busing. If you plan to pick up your child, please arrive after the buses have pulled out of the lot; this generally occurs at about 2:45. You can park in the district parking lot.

Will Students Receive a Chromebook?

Every student will be issued their own Chromebook on the first day of school. Students are responsible for charging and maintaining their Chromebooks. Although students will possess their Chromebooks throughout the year, the District owns them. Regardless, it is critical that students take care of their devices as if *they* own them. Any damage to a Chromebook will result in financial charges to cover repair costs, as well as potential disciplinary action for intentional damage. Similarly, students are highly encouraged to be good digital citizens. Please be aware that the District employs online filters to identify potentially dangerous and/or inappropriate online content.

Attendance Information

When a student is absent from school, they should take a parental excuse to the high school office the day they return from their absence. Excuses can also be emailed to Mrs. Melinda Kepple, Attendance Clerk, at melindakepple@kcasdk12.org, or they can be faxed to the High School Office at 724-756-1060.

Failure to turn in an excuse will result in an illegal absence. By law, three illegal absences is defined as “truant.” Once a student has accrued three illegal absences, they and their parents will be required to meet with a principal to develop a truancy elimination plan. Furthermore, when a student has accrued six or more unexcused absences, by law, they are defined as “habitually truant.” Habitual truancy may result in a hearing before the Magisterial District Judge.

Above all, please keep in mind that there is a direct correlation between attendance and school performance. Students who exhibit attendance issues are more likely to experience academic difficulties. Please know that failure to attend school may result in retention. Additionally, if your child is experiencing issues that are causing barriers to school attendance, please call a principal or school counselor so that we can work to assist you and your child.

Picture Day

Picture Day for students in grades 7-11 is currently scheduled for September 30, and make-up day is scheduled for November 17. Seniors will have their pictures taken on September 29 at the high school.

State Testing Dates and Other Tests

All 7th and 8th graders will take the PSSA (grade 7 will take the PSSA English/Language Arts (ELA) and Math tests; grade 8 will take the PSSA ELA, Math, and Science tests). Testing dates are tentatively scheduled as follows: ELA - April 26, 27, and 28; Math - May 3 and May 4; Science - May 5 and May 6.

Additionally, 7th graders will take the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) to help measure abstract thinking and reasoning. It measures students’ ability to cope with school learning tasks, to suggest their possible placement for school learning functions, and to evaluate their achievement in relation to the talents they bring to school learning situations.

Prior to the end of their 11th grade year, unless opted out by a parent, every student will have taken the Keystone Literature, Algebra, and Biology Exams. 9th graders will take the Keystone Literature and Biology exams as first-time test-takers. Students enrolled in an Algebra 1 course or Honors Algebra course (grades 7 and above) will take the Algebra Exam as first-time test-takers. Students enrolled in Biology or College Prep Biology will take the Biology Exam as first-time test-takers. Students who were less than proficient may retake an exam. Please know that passing the Keystone Exams is not the only way to satisfy the State’s graduation requirements. There are numerous graduation pathways; information regarding those pathways can be found here: [Click Here](#)

The Keystone Exams are currently scheduled for the following dates: Literature - May 17-18; Algebra - May 19-20; Biology - May 24-25.

Students in grade 11 will have the opportunity to take the Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT/NMSQT) in October. We are tentatively scheduled to offer the PSAT on October 16.. The PSAT is a test generally taken in advance of taking the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). It is a multiple choice test that measures critical reading skills, mathematical reasoning abilities, and writing skills important in doing college level work. The PSAT is a test that can help students prepare for the SAT and college entrance.

Lastly, 10th graders will take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB). This test will likely be administered on Friday, January 15 and is designed to measure an individual’s vocational aptitude. It is utilized in conjunction with an interest inventory and the Occufind to help students explore career options based on their aptitudes and interests. Additionally, achieving a score of 31 or higher will satisfy PA state graduation requirements if a student does not pass the Keystone Exams.

Interested seniors may take the ASVAB on Thursday, September 24.

As we approach testing dates, we will share more information as well as the proper procedures for opting your child out of testing obligations, should you prefer your child not take one of the aforementioned exams.

Will Karns City Host the SAT this Year?

Yes. Students interested in taking the SAT will have the opportunity to take it at the High School on Saturday, November 7, 2026 and/or Saturday, March 6, 2027. Students can register on the College Board website. If you have questions regarding the SAT and registration, please call the Guidance Office at 724-756-2030, ext. 1025 or email Mr. Bowser at jbowser@kcasdk12.org.

When Will the Guidance Office Host Financial Aid Night

Students who may want to attend college are highly encouraged to attend Financial Aid Night on September 16 at 5:00 pm. Additionally, FAFSA Completion Night will take place on Thursday, November 5 at 6:00 pm. These are opportunities to learn about grants and completing the FAFSA. New this year, every senior must fill out the FAFSA or formally opt out. More information will be forthcoming. Additionally, "Junior Jump Start" will occur in April 2027. Again, this is an opportunity to learn about grants and financial options for college. More information regarding both events will be forthcoming.

College and Career Fairs

We will host a college fair on October 22 where students will have the opportunity to meet with representatives from various colleges. Additionally, we will host a career fair on November 19 where students will have the opportunity to engage with multiple representatives from various job fields.

Respectfully,

Joshua Williams
Assistant Principal

Mike Stimac
Principal