



KINGSWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Committed to Excellence

Ms. Sharon Ormsbee
School Business Administrator

Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Patricia Calandro
Assistant Superintendent

October 5, 2026

Dear School Community,

It is hard to believe we have already turned the calendar and welcomed **October**. With the first month of school behind us, routines are well established, our classrooms are fully engaged in the learning process, and our students are taking advantage of the many opportunities available to them through activities, athletics, clubs, and upcoming traditions such as **High School Homecoming**.

I am particularly proud of how our students have responded to the implementation of our new **Off & Away** personal internet-enabled device expectations. The transition has gone remarkably well, and many students have shared that they appreciate having a break from the constant stream of notifications, messages, and other stimuli competing for their attention throughout the school day. As a school system, we will continue to evaluate the role technology plays in education and work to strike the appropriate balance between harnessing its benefits and protecting the conditions necessary for students to focus, connect, and learn.

September also brought several opportunities to celebrate and strengthen our school community. We officially welcomed and installed our new **Student Representatives to the Board of Education**, providing an important student voice in our governance process, and introduced several **new members of our faculty and staff** to the Board of Education.

Looking ahead, preparations are already underway for one of Kingsway's favorite community traditions—our **24th Annual Holiday Craft Show**. We are currently recruiting volunteers to help make this year's event another success, and I encourage members of our #1DragonFamily to consider getting involved.

I invite you to review this month's [Superintendent's News & Notes](#) and [September Board Brief](#) for these stories, upcoming dates, and other important updates from across Kingsway.

As always, thank you for your continued support and partnership. We have enjoyed a terrific start to the school year and look forward to all that October will bring.

Very truly yours,
Jim



Home of the Dragons

Board of Education Installs Student Representatives

At its September meeting, the Kingsway Regional Board of Education proudly installed **Nadia Esan** and **Ojasvi Gaekwad** as our 2026–27 Student Representatives to the Board of Education!

Both seniors bring impressive records of leadership, service, and involvement to their new roles. Nadia is active in Student Council, SHADES, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, DECA, and numerous community service initiatives, while Ojasvi is involved in Student Council, Lifestyle Medicine Club, SADD, Biology Olympiad, athletics, and several other academic and service organizations.



Following their installation, Nadia and Ojasvi took their seats on the dais and presented their first student report of the school year.

At Kingsway, we take great pride in **elevating student voice**. Our Student Representatives provide an important connection between our students and the Board of Education, giving students an opportunity to share directly with Board members and school leaders how District policies, practices, programs, and opportunities are impacting their experiences at Kingsway.

We look forward to hearing from Nadia and Ojasvi throughout the year!

A New Day Dawns: Class of 2027 Senior Sunrise

The **Class of 2027** gathered bright and early on Monday, September 14, for Kingsway's **6th Annual Senior Sunrise**, officially checking off the first event on their senior-year bucket list! With temperatures around 58 degrees and the sun beginning to rise over campus, seniors spent the morning together enjoying friends, conversation, and the start of what promises to be a memorable final year at Kingsway. Special thanks to **Senior Advisors Mr. Fiocco and Mr. Schaffer**, along with **12th Grade Assistant Principal Ms. Alexander**, for organizing and supporting this memorable kickoff to the Class of 2027.



The Board of Education Welcomes New Staff

During our September Board of Education meeting, we were excited to officially welcome our **newest faculty and staff members** to the Kingsway family. We are fortunate to have so many dedicated, talented, and student-centered employees—both instructional and support staff—who bring their knowledge, experience, and passion to our schools each day. We are proud to welcome our newest Dragons and look forward to the important role they will play in supporting our students and continuing Kingsway's **Commitment to Excellence**.



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Volunteers Needed: 24th Annual KEF Holiday Craft Show

The **24th Annual KEF Holiday Craft Show** returns to Kingsway on **Saturday, November 7, from 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.**, bringing more than **230 crafters and vendors** and thousands of shoppers to our campus for one of our community's favorite traditions. It takes a great team to make this event possible, and **we are looking for volunteers** to assist with setup and throughout the day. Whether you can give an hour or several, we would love to have you join the Craft Show crew—and students and club members are welcome to volunteer, too!

[VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP LINK](#)



Safe Driving Practices on Campus

We are asking all drivers—students, parents, staff, and visitors—to [slow down and drive responsibly while on campus](#). We've had too many close calls recently, nearly all involving adults behind the wheel. While some of us may have a heavy foot at times, our school grounds are not the place to speed, drive aggressively, or disregard others. Please follow all posted traffic patterns, including the one-way direction on Dragon Circle, and refrain from parking along the curb during arrival and dismissal. Be mindful that nearly 3,000 students enter and exit our buildings each day from multiple directions. While we continually stress safety with our students, they are, after all, kids—and they rely heavily on adults to drive carefully. This is especially important at the rear of the building, where congestion increases with buses, vehicles, and pedestrians zig-zagging across Dragon Circle. A few extra moments of patience and courtesy behind the wheel go a long way in keeping our campus safe for everyone.

Township's "No Parking Zones" Near Campus

Woolwich Township's [Ordinance No. 2025-18](#), established "No Parking Zones" along the full length of both sides of **Wayne Drive, Merseyside Drive, Benito Drive, Cassella Way, and Weathersfield Court** in Woolwich Township. Student drivers should be aware that this is an active ordinance, and enforcement is in effect. Anyone who parks along these roads Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. may be ticketed. This ordinance was enacted in response to an excessive number of cars parking along these roads, which has led to blocked driveways, restricted access to trash cans and mailboxes, limited driveway access, and a number of outraged residents.

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 [Board Briefs](#) section. All POLICIES & REGULATIONS can be viewed on our website [HERE](#).

Look Ahead/Important Dates

Please update your calendars to include the following key dates. For more, click on the District's [2026-27 School Calendar](#) or [Kingsway Athletics GoBound Calendar](#).

October 7 – Senior Class Picture (during SMART)



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October 12 – In-Service Day (No School for Students)
 October 13-16 – HS Fall Spirit Week
 October 14 – Make-Up Picture Day (Grades 9-11)
 October 15 – Board of Education Meeting @6:30 p.m.
 October 16 – Homecoming Football Game vs. St. Augustine, 6:00 p.m.
 October 17 – Homecoming Dance @6:00 p.m.



In Case You Missed It

- [Kingsway's AP Course Participation Up 37%](#)**
 Kingsway Regional School District is proud to announce a significant increase in student participation in [Advanced Placement \(AP\) courses](#) and exams. AP course enrollment has climbed to 2,183 seats, representing a 37% increase while AP exam registrations have risen by 46%.
- [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.
- [Celebrate Students' Academic Honors from the 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](#).
- [U.S. News & World Report Recognition: Kingsway Ranked Among Best High Schools.](#)** 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.



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