



KINNELON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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David C. Mango
Superintendent

August 18, 2023

Dear Kinnelon Colts School Community Members,

I would like to take this moment and welcome you back to the 2023-2024 school year! Throughout the summer months much has been happening with the arrival of new staff, relocation of kindergarten from Stonybrook School to Kiel School, and relocation of our PK programs to the Sisco building. Additionally, our district architect of record has completed a thorough facility assessment for each of our schools. The information shared will assist all district and community stakeholders in determining a true facility upgrade/renovation vision for the future. The facility assessment will be used as a vehicle to steer our upcoming Strategic Planning process and 2024-2025 budget development. Please join us for those very important meetings to determine the next steps and future of our fantastic school district. Below you will find district-wide informational items. Please feel free to contact my office should you have any questions or concerns.

Before and After School Programs:

For the 23-24 school year, the District will continue to use the services of the Boys and Girls Club of Pequannock. The Boys and Girls club will be located at Kiel School and Stonybrook School. The hours for before and after care are as follows: Before care begins at 7:00am and Aftercare is held from 3:30-6:30 pm. All pertinent information can be found on the main page of our district website under the **Resources-Parents tab**.

District Projects & Updates

Tech Infrastructure Upgrade:

PRM/KHS technology infrastructure has been underway all summer. The installation process at PRM has been fully completed. The KHS infrastructure has an anticipated completion date of September 30th, this upgrade is the first phase of our technology infrastructure upgrade. Phase two will begin next summer and impact the Sisco building, Kiel School and Stonybrook School. This much needed upgrade will allow students, staff, and community members better quality access to our school networks and enhance the function of educational technology throughout the school day.

KHS Auditorium:

A collaborative decision was made by our PRM and KHS Fine and Performing Arts staff, KHS Administration, Central Office, and the Board of Education to not move forward with the upgrade for the auditorium lighting and sound. We will hold off on those renovations, and partner with our architect of record in maximizing our finances for a future state of the art Theatre for our students. More information will be available at a later date.

Athletics:

- ~ Spiros Sports Center Update- all electrical upgrades to the press box have been completed, including a new sound system.
- ~ Fencing in front of the bleachers between the ticket booth and snack stand have been replaced.
- ~ We are awaiting final fence installation around the sides and back of our home bleachers. The anticipated time for completion is the end of August.
- ~ KHS Weight Room renovation remains in a holding pattern until all pre ordered equipment has been delivered. The anticipated time for equipment arrival is October 1st. Once completed, our student athletes and students who enjoy weight training and are dedicated to the sport will have an entire upgrade to enhance their training regimen.

Security:

- ~ In collaboration with K.P.D., revised security signage will be placed throughout our district.
- ~ The LENS visitor management system will be completed by the end of August.
- ~ The Alyssa's Law compliance mechanism have a tentative installation date scheduled for August 22nd. This enables the district to immediately notify law enforcement, staff, and students that a lockdown has occurred and/or threat is present.
- ~ We await the security surveillance project at the Sisco building to be installed during the afternoon hours this Fall.
- ~ Student identification cards have been ordered and are expected to arrive August 28th. In accordance with district policy, students for the 23-24 calendar year attending PRM and KHS will be required to wear student identification throughout the school day.
- ~ Drop off and Pick up procedures have been revised at PRM and the Sisco building. You can find all pertinent information on the front page of the Kiel School and PRM websites.

Educational Technology:

~ KHS students will be receiving new chrome books for the 23-24 school year. Notification will be sent out to parents on Monday, August 21st. Distribution of the chrome books will occur on September 5th and 6th.

~ We are excited to announce the implementation of Google Classroom throughout the district. Google Classroom affords parents the opportunity to remain up to date with their child's coursework and announcements. An update will be provided within the August 21st Educational Technology letter to include links and videos.

~ All students in grades 3-12 will be required to bring their district device to school for use. The newly approved 1:1 Digital Learning Environment and Device Guidelines handbook is available on the parent portal for review.

~ At Kiel School, each grade level will have access to chrome book carts. This access provides our youngest learners the opportunity to become familiarized with technology and have access to interactive educational platforms.

Please join us via livestream or in-person for the following events:

Educational Technology Orientation- August 21, 2023 (Email notification to follow)

Public Board of Education Meeting – August 22, 2023

Kiel and Stonybrook Schools, Kindergarten and 3rd Grade Open House- August 23, 2023

Special Education Forum- August 24, 2023

Back to School Night Schedule:

September 18, 2023 - Stonybrook School

September 20, 2023 - KHS

September 21, 2023 - Kiel School

September 28, 2023 - PRM

Strategic Planning:

September 27, 2023, November 2, 2023 & January 25, 2024

Focus/Forums & 8th Grade Open House:

Curriculum & Ed Tech Focus - September 13, 2023

8th Grade Open House - October, 5, 2023

KHS Principal Forum - October 10, 2023

PRM Principal Forum - October 12, 2023

Kiel/SB Principal Forum - October 26, 2023

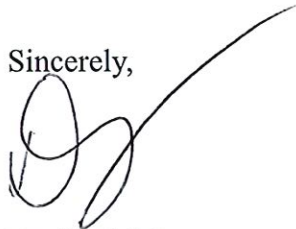
Security Forum - November 6, 2023

Special Education Forum - December 8, 2023

Building principals will be disseminating specific information related to their buildings and programs separately in the coming weeks, prior to the official start of school. On behalf of the Board of Education, I would like to thank all members of our school community for their never-ending patience and support.

Wishing you all a safe, healthy, and successful school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Mango', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

David C. Mango

Superintendent of Schools