

JACQUELINE
KENNEDY ONASSIS
High School of International Careers

120 West 46th Street New York, NY 10036

Manuel A. Ureña, Principal
murena4@schools.nyc.gov
Daniel Vincent, Assistant Principal
DVincent2@schools.nyc.gov
Telephone # 212-391-0041
Fax #: 212-391-1293

2023-24 Parent Newsletter # 1

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I want to officially welcome you to the 2023-24 school year! For returning students, welcome back to another school year at JKO. For new students, our JKO family welcomes you to your new home.

This year promises to be great as we set high expectations for enriching, learning experiences. As a learning community focused on elevating the career and academic success of all our students, we have planned a very exciting business and academic program, additional AP classes, College Now courses, college classes with Berkeley College, AP for All, business partnerships, etc. The goal is to prepare students for college and a career via an academically challenging program that is supported with an enriching experience outside of the classroom.

The official date for all students to report to school is Thursday, September 7, at 8:20 a.m. Students will be dismissed at 2:40 p.m. each day. The first parent newsletter for the school year can be found on our school website (JKOhighschool.org) under the "Parents" tab. I highly recommend reading the newsletter since it has an abundance of information pertaining to the new school year. Additionally, attached to this letter you can find important messages from our Parent Coordinator, Ms. Bernabel.

I want to take this moment to thank you for your continued support of our students, staff, and school community.

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Manuel A. Ureña', written over a large, light blue circular scribble.

Manuel A. Ureña, Principal

JKO SCHOOL COUNSELOR



CONNECT



From the counseling department:

WELCOME BACK!!



- ❖ **1st period Class begins at 8:20 am.** Students need to **arrive to school before 8:20 AM** and on time regularly so that they are able to effectively engage in their first period lesson. Lateness adversely impacts a child's academic performance. **The school day ends at 2:40 pm.**
- ❖ **If your child is or will be absent,** please contact Ms. Garcia (9-10th Grade Students) at ext. 5052 or email at NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov ; Mrs. Vega-Beltran (11-12th Grade Students) at ext. 5091 or via email at NVega11@schools.nyc.gov ; or Ms. Bernabel, Parent Coordinator, at ext. 1012 or email at ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov . **Please be sure to send a doctor's note if your child has a medical appointment.**
- ❖ **Please keep track of your child's academic progress, grades, and attendance in their classes staying in contact with their teacher and counselor.** You can schedule meetings with teachers on Tuesdays, please contact your child's School Counselor.
- ❖ We will have **College Tours** this Fall to both public and private institutions.
- ❖ "In order to maintain a positive learning environment, it is **expected that students dress in a professional manner.** We expect students to be dressed appropriately to ensure safety and to keep the focus on teaching and learning. **We would like all parents and guardians to remind students of proper dress protocols on campus.**
Prohibited forms of dress at [school] include, but are not limited to:
 - 1) Clothing that contains references to drugs, alcohol, sex, violence, racism, or gang-affiliation.
 - 2) Revealing clothing that does not provide coverage of torso, undergarments, and private body parts, including see-through garments of any kind.
 - 3) Sunglasses while indoors.
- ❖ **If you need assistance providing your child clothing, please contact your child's counselor.**
- ❖ **Please have your child attend tutoring and join extra-curricular activities** to join the school community. This a great way for students to make new friends, network, and be exposed to various activities/hobbies. We will distribute the schedule once times and days of activities have been established.
- ❖ **Please have your child meet for one on one academic/personal progress meetings with their counselor immediately:** Ms. Garcia (9-10th Graders) and Mrs. Vega-Beltran (11-12th Graders). This meeting is important to ensure they are on track academically with their progress towards graduation and to check in on their personal well-being.
- ❖ **Please reach out to Ms. Garcia (9-10th Grades) or Mrs. Vega-Beltran (11-12th Grade) if you feel that your child needs social/emotional support.** We have an abundance of services for students at the school and can refer your family to outside resources/assistance.

Please feel free to contact your child's School Counselor directly with any questions, concerns, or if you need assistance:
Ms. Niurkary Garcia, 9 & 10th Grade Counselor (212)391-0041 Ext. 5052
Email: NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov
Mrs. Nicole Vega-Beltran, 11 & 12th Grade Counselor 212-391-0041 Ext. 5091
Email: NVega11@schools.nyc.gov


PARENT COORDINATOR CONNECTIONS

From the Desk of the
Parent Coordinator
Ms. Bernabel
ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov
Tel #929-617-0122

Announcements

- The first day of school for students to report to school is Thursday, September 7th.
- The following is the bell schedule for the 2023-24 school year:

| PERIOD | BEGINS | Breakfast is available from 7:30 AM to 8:15 AM | ENDS |
|-----------|--------|--|-------|
| 1 | 8:20 | | 9:05 |
| 2 | 9:08 | | 9:53 |
| 3 | 9:56 | | 10:41 |
| 4(LUNCH) | 10:44 | | 11:29 |
| 5 (LUNCH) | 11:32 | | 12:17 |
| 6 (LUNCH) | 12:20 | | 1:05 |
| 7 (LUNCH) | 1:08 | | 1:53 |
| 8 | 1:55 | | 2:40 |



- Student lockers will be assigned on the last week of September.
- Student metro cards will be distributed on the first day of school; September 7th.
- Your child will receive his/her schedule upon entering the building on August 7th.
- **Welcome** to our newest staff members at JKO who have now become part of the JKO family!!! They are: Mary Conte (ENL), Jennifer El Mardi (ELA), Susy Mathew (Business), Rosilis Pelletier (ELA), Lauren Tepper (Dance/Earth Science/IEP), Falah Ridwan (Math), and William Van Nieuwenhuyze (ELA)
- Reach out to Ms. Bernabel if you have not registered for your NYC Myschools account. This is very important for parents to receive information regularly from the DOE and to be able to access certain services available online. You can register for an account at: <https://www.myschools.nyc/en/account/log-in/>



- Please complete the NYC financial forms, formerly known as Lunch Forms. While lunch is currently given to all students regardless of income, schools still need parents to complete in order to qualify for federal Title I funding. All information submitted by parents is completely confidential. The following is the link for this: <https://www.myschoolapps.com/Home/PickDistrict>.
- PTA/SLT Meetings: PTA/SLT meetings are held on the first Monday of every month. Stay tuned for the time and day of the September meeting which sometimes takes place later in the month. SLT commences at 4 pm and ends at 5 pm. PTA meetings commence at 6 pm to 7 pm. Additionally, meetings will be held virtually and in person (hybrid) until further notice from

the DOE on any changes or options for the new school year. An email with the Zoom links will be sent to parents ten days in advance.

- Computers/Laptops will be distributed to students who need one on the first day of classes. These laptops should be carried to school daily since they will be needed for instructional use while in the building.
- The following are documents students will be given on the first day of school which must be completed by parents and handed to Ms. Bernabel:



- Emergency Contact Card
 - Military Parent Letter: This form requests information regarding the military active-duty status of parents and guardians. Parents who are not on active duty can disregard this form. Parents who completed this form in prior years must complete it again. For every family who submits a survey response indicating that the student's parent or guardian is on military active duty, you or your designees must use the BINU screen in ATS to enter 'M' in the District C field.
 - Housing Questionnaire
 - CH-205 Child & Adolescent Health Examination Form
 - Parent Ethnicity Survey
 - Home Language Identification Survey
 - Financial Forms (AKA Lunch Forms)
- The following is the Student Phone Policy (New):
 - All students will be assigned a personalized phone pouch to place their phones in during the school day. Students will take this home with them and bring back to school daily. Upon entering the school building students will secure their phones inside the pouch and activate the security system that locks the pouch. When student exit the building they will be able to unlock the pouch for access to their phones. The goal is to have a phone free instructional environment that is conducive towards teaching and learning. Students are responsible for any pouches that are purposely destroyed (\$20.00 replacement fee).
 - No phones are allowed to be used inside the school building without express permission from an administrator.
 - Students in violation of the school phone policy are subject to applicable disciplinary actions based on the NYCDOE Behavioral Expectations for Students.

In order to maintain a positive learning environment, it is expected that [school] students dress in a professional manner. We expect JKO students to be dressed appropriately to ensure safety and to keep the focus on teaching and learning. We would like all parents and guardians to remind students of proper dress protocols on campus.

Prohibited forms of dress at [school] include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Clothing that contains references to drugs, alcohol, sex, violence, racism, or gang-affiliation.**
- 2) Revealing clothing that does not provide coverage of torso, undergarments, and private body parts, including see-through garments of any kind.**
- 3) Sunglasses while indoors.**

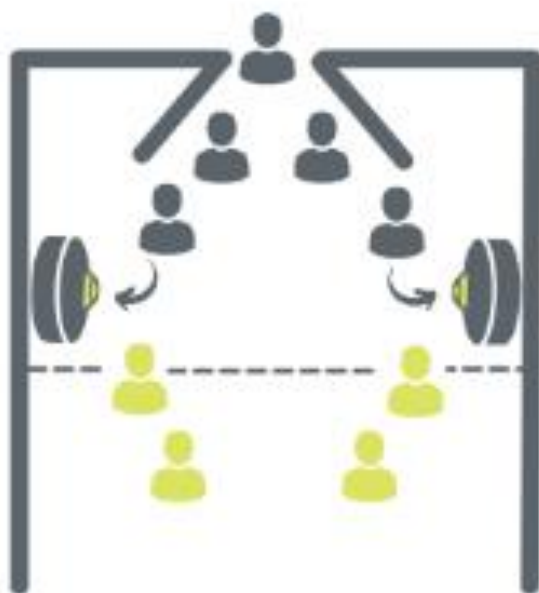
If a student comes to school wearing clothing prohibited by the Dress Code, then the student's parents will be notified, the student may be subject to the interventions and disciplinary responses set forth in the Discipline Code, and the student will be expected to make appropriate adjustments to his/her clothing to conform with the Dress Code (e.g., turning shirt inside out, borrowing temporary clothing until the end of the school day, etc.).



THE PROCESS

Integrating Yondr into student arrival and dismissal works towards establishing a phone-free day from start to finish. Students maintain possession and are responsible for their Pouch throughout the day.

STUDENT ARRIVAL



PHONE-FREE SCHOOL



ARRIVAL

Students bring their Pouch with them to school.

Under staff supervision, students turn off their device and put it in their Pouch upon arrival.



SECURE

Students press the green button to secure their Pouch and hold on to it for the day.



DISMISSAL

Students tap their Pouch on the Base to open it as they exit.

Students take their Pouch home with them.



CELL PHONE USE & YONDR'S IMPACT

Below you will find studies, legislation, feedback and survey results underscoring the impact of phone-use on adolescents and Yondr's role in schools.

"Rates of teen depression and suicide have skyrocketed since 2011. It's not an exaggeration to describe iGen as being on the brink of the worst mental-health crisis in decades. Much of this deterioration can be traced to their phones."

*- Jean M. Twenge, The Atlantic (2017)
[Have Smartphones Destroyed a Generation?](#)*



MENTAL HEALTH

A cross-sectional study in almost 500 adolescents (age = 11–15) found a positive association between social media use and poorer sleep quality, anxiety, and depression; this association was even more pronounced for adolescents who had higher levels of emotional investment in social media.

[Social Media Use and Display of Depressive Symptoms Online by Adolescents and Young Adults](#)

We received responses to our annual surveys from over **1,200 school partners**, and after implementing the Yondr Education Program:

84%

Saw a change in student engagement

72%

Saw a positive change in student behavior

68%

Saw a positive change in academic performance

Of our most recent impact survey of over 370 of our school partners: **86% saw a positive impact in student safety and wellness.**



ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE & BEHAVIOR

An observational study of middle school, high school, and college students shows how easily young people are distracted by technology... Observers recorded minute-by-minute activities over a 15-min period and found that participants averaged less than 5 min on their main task before being distracted by technology such as checking their social media and texting with friends.

[Media Multitasking and Cognitive, Psychological, Moral, and Learning Differences](#)



94%
Of teachers identified more teaching and learning time in their classrooms after implementing Yondr

Wissa HS, 2021 Yondr Impact Study

PARTNER TESTIMONIAL

"The changes have already been profound. There's so much more joy and interaction, and I can't count the number of parents who have asked me, 'How do I buy this for my home!'"

"I'm not wasting class asking students to get on task - Yondr increased valuable academic time."

"I look out of our center space and see kids laughing, playing Uno together, and looking at one another. They seem to be learning how to connect again."



LEGISLATION

Since 2018, all legislation highlights mental health as the main concern when focusing on cell phone use and adolescents. Across the world, the impact is global and so is the growing conversation.

To date, [California](#), [France](#), [Australia](#), [Canada](#), [Israel](#) and [China](#) have passed legislation that limits or prohibits student cell phone use during school hours. [Click each of the country names above to read more.](#)

"There is growing evidence that unrestricted use of smartphones by pupils at elementary and secondary schools during the school day interferes with the educational mission of the schools, lowers pupil performance, particularly among low-achieving pupils, promotes cyberbullying, and contributes to an increase in teenage anxiety, depression, and suicide."

- California Assembly Bill 272

"We reclaimed the classroom learning environment. Kids spoke to one another in the cafeteria. We had two lockdown situations and without student phones we were able to deliver critical info to families without misinformation being spread. We also keep the building more secure and calm because of it. My CEO said it was her most important purchase of the year."

- Mariana Bracetti Academy Charter HS, New Jersey



SURGEON GENERAL WARNS THAT SOCIAL MEDIA MAY HARM CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

The report by Dr. Vivek Murthy cited a "profound risk of harm" to adolescent mental health and urged families to set limits and governments to set tougher standards for use.

The nation's top health official issued an extraordinary public warning on Tuesday about the risks of social media to young people, urging a push to fully understand the possible "harm to the mental health and well-being of children and adolescents."

YONDR

- Many of our sports take place at the Graphics Campus. Please review the information below:

Athletic Director: Clarence Tennell
 Email: Graphicscampusathletics0625@gmail.com
 Phone: 212-246-2183
 Principal of Athletics: Dr. Joshua Solomon
 Email: Solomon@nycboss.org

VARSITY BOWLING:

Students that are interested in Bowling this fall please email Coach Gialis or Coach McCabe at Ngialis@schools.nyc.gov or Gmccabe@schools.nyc.gov as soon as possible. No experience is needed. Season starts September 15th. (You can obtain the paperwork on our school website at JKOhighschool.org under the Students/Sports tab.)

FALL SPORTS @ GRAPHICS CAMPUS

DON'T WAIT!!! GET YOUR SPORTS PHYSICAL NOW! YOU MUST USE THE PSAL PAPERWORK

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FALL SPORTS:

| Team | Coach | School | Email |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|--|
| Varsity Girls Volleyball | Alicia Roedl Tim Mcshan | BOSS BOSS | ARoedl@schools.nyc.gov TMcshan@schools.nyc.gov |
| Varsity Girls Soccer | Craig Schackner | BOSS | CSchackner@schools.nyc.gov |
| Varsity Boys Soccer | Younes Taoufik | UAG | YTaoufik@uagateway.org |



- The following is the DOE 2022-23 School Year Calendar:

NYC Department of Education School Year Calendar 2023-2024

This is the 2023–24 school year calendar for all 3K–12 NYCDOE public schools. If your child attends a private, parochial, charter school, NYC Early Education Center (NYCEEC) or Family Childcare Program, please contact your child’s school for information about their calendar. Please note the following:

- On days when school buildings are closed due to inclement weather or other emergencies, all students and families should plan on participating in remote learning.
- Individual schools’ Parent-Teacher Conference dates might be different from the dates below. Your child’s teacher will work with you to schedule your conference.
- On this schedule, **elementary schools** are defined as programs that serve kindergarten (K) through grade 8, including schools with 3-K and Pre-K programs, as well as those that end in grade 5. **Middle schools** are defined as programs that serve grades 6–8, and **high schools** are defined as programs that serve grades 9–12.

| DATE | WEEKDAY | EVENT |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--|
| September 7 | Thursday | First day of school |
| September 14 | Thursday | Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for elementary schools and Pre-K Centers |
| September 21 | Thursday | Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for middle schools and D75 schools |
| September 25 | Monday | Yom Kippur, schools closed |
| September 28 | Thursday | Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for high schools, K–12, and 6–12 schools |
| October 9 | Monday | Italian Heritage/Indigenous Peoples' Day, schools closed |
| November 2 | Thursday | Afternoon and Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for elementary schools; students in these schools dismissed three hours early |
| November 7 | Tuesday | Election Day, students do not attend school |
| November 9 | Thursday | Afternoon and Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for middle schools and D75 schools; students in these schools dismissed three hours early |
| November 16 | Thursday | Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for high schools, K–12, and 6–12 schools |
| November 17 | Friday | Afternoon Parent-Teacher Conferences for high schools, K–12, and 6–12 schools; students in these schools dismissed three hours early |
| November 23–24 | Thursday–Friday | Thanksgiving Recess, schools closed |
| December 25–January 1 | Monday–Monday | Winter Recess, schools closed |
| January 15 | Monday | Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, schools closed |
| January 23–26 | Tuesday–Friday | Regents Administration |

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|--|
| January 29 | Monday | Professional Development Day; no classes for students attending high schools and 6–12 schools, all other students attend school |
| January 30 | Tuesday | Spring Semester begins |
| February 19–23 | Monday–Friday | Midwinter Recess, schools closed |
| March 7 | Thursday | Afternoon and Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for elementary schools and Pre-K Centers; students in these schools dismissed three hours early |
| March 14 | Thursday | Afternoon and Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for middle schools and D75 schools, students in these schools dismissed three hours early |
| March 21 | Thursday | Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for high schools, K–12 and 6–12 schools |
| March 22 | Friday | Afternoon Parent-Teacher Conferences for high schools, K–12 and 6–12 schools; students in these schools dismissed three hours early |
| March 29–April 1 | Friday–Monday | Easter Weekend, schools closed |
| April 10 | Wednesday | Eid al-Fitr, schools closed |
| April 22–30 | Monday–Tuesday | Spring Recess, schools closed |
| May 9 | Thursday | Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for elementary schools and Pre-K Centers |
| May 16 | Thursday | Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for middle schools and D75 schools |
| May 23 | Thursday | Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for high schools, K–12, and 6–12 schools |
| May 27 | Monday | Memorial Day, schools closed |
| June 4 | Tuesday | Regents Administration in Algebra I |
| June 6 | Thursday | Anniversary Day/Chancellor's Conference Day for staff development; students do not attend |
| June 7 | Friday | Clerical Day; no classes for students attending 3-K, Pre-K, elementary schools, middle schools, K–12 schools, and standalone D75 programs |
| June 14–26 | Friday–Wednesday | Regents Administration (excluding June 17 and June 19, when schools are closed) |
| June 17 | Monday | Eid al-Adha, schools closed |
| June 19 | Wednesday | Juneteenth, schools closed |
| June 26 | Wednesday | Last day of school for students |



In the **JKO**
Spotlight

Congratulations to **Mr. Vincent, Ms. DeGergorio, and Ms. Acosta!!!** They all celebrate birthdays the first week of September.





New Staff Members

Welcome to the JKO family!!!



Mary Conte (ENL)

Jennifer El Mardi (ELA)

Susy Mathew (Business)

Rosilis Pelletier (ELA)

Lauren Tepper (Dance/Earth Science/IEP)

Falah Ridwan (Math)

William Van Nieuwenhuyze (ELA)

Christoph Whitbeck (Science)



In the ^{JKO} Spotlight

Class of 2023

Congratulations to the class of 2023 who graduated last June. We are very proud of you all!!!



Congratulations!



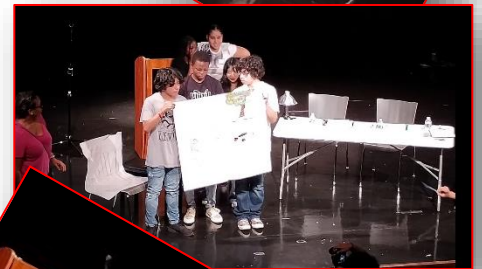
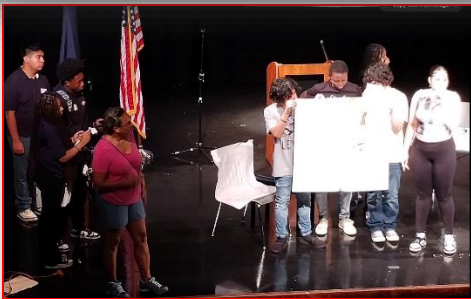




In the ^{JKO} Spotlight



As one group leaves we welcome another. Welcome to the new students at JKO!!! During the last week of August we welcomed our new students as they engaged in our New Student Summer Bridge Program. See pictures below as they participated in the Roundabout Theatre Post Card Production on day one and a host of other activities on day two and three. During day one, students were broken up into groups (Lighting, Set Design, Costuming, Sound, etc.) which culminated in a production performance at the end of this special day.



CAREER DAY

Career Day is a celebration activity in which business partners from a variety of companies come together at a school to share information about their workplace, their job, and the education and skills that are required for success in their career.



Career Days expose students to a variety of careers and jobs by connecting them with business partners. Activities are designed to:

- Provide a realistic picture of the workplace
- Help students make connection between school and the workplace
- Inform career planning

Career Day 2023 was held on May 23 and the JKO student-led team hosted representatives from over 30 organizations. Special Shout Out to JKO Alumni and Parent to Janae Dorsey (Grade 10), Lynette Whyte from Guy Carpenter Reinsurance Company as well as Elaysia Well's (Grade 11) big brother, Bobby Washington, representative from Banker's Life.

Congratulations to Seniors Marlon Clough, Cathleen Conte-Marrero, and Cristal Garcia! Lisa Tepper of Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Investment, a longstanding Industry Partner to JKO came to make their day extra special by celebrating their accomplishments in the Virtual Enterprise program.

Cristal and Marlon were also presented with Achievement and Perseverance in Business Awards from Community Outreach Associate Pat Verile of Berkeley College.





Journalist Business-Owner Director of Art Director
 Architect Computer Engineer Director of Communications
 Counselor Marketing Vice President Technician Educator
 Scenic Artist Police Officer Nurse
 City Commissioner Vice President
Career Day
 Human Resources Director Firefighter/Parademic Chef
 Banker Co-founder: Zifty.com Physician Forensic Biologist
 Filmmaker Broadcast Journalist Marketing Manager Surgeon Biologist

career DAY

