

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

At Kennedy Junior High School, our teachers and students have the opportunity to work with multiple support staff in and outside of their classrooms. Though these specialized teachers and staff may not appear on your child's roster, we want you to know that it is possible that at some point during the school year, your child may participate in additional academic skill assessments and work in small groups with our support staff. Mrs. Jennifer O'Donnell, Kennedy's reading specialist, Mrs. Tracey Pisarski, Kennedy's math interventionist, and Dr. Vicki Curless and Dr. Stephanie Aspan, our Learning Support Coaches, work closely with our core teachers using researched-based strategies to enrich and support all students' learning.

Kennedy Jr High currently utilizes multiple methods for determining which students may benefit from academic assistance from one of our support staff. Data from standardized assessments (including MAP and additionally administered assessments such as AIMSweb, EasyCBM, etc) are collected and analyzed at least 3 times per year (fall, winter, spring) to determine which students may demonstrate the need for additional skill building opportunities. Teacher feedback and student performance on classroom assessments are also reviewed to identify students that may require additional and targeted support.

Should your student be identified as someone who might benefit from additional structured academic support, you will receive further, and ongoing, communication from the relevant support staff. Academic support takes place periodically during class and/or supervised study and student growth is consistently monitored to determine when support is no longer needed.

As always we will communicate with you to best meet the needs of your student. Please reach out if you have any questions. We look forward to a great year of learning at KJHS!

Sincerely,

The Kennedy Jr High School Team