

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Dear Students and Families,

As we begin to wrap up the year, I'd like to pause to recognize and celebrate all of our Commanders who come from Asian and/or Pacific Islander descent, as May is Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. To learn more about how these beautiful and dynamic cultures have shaped and impacted the American culture, please visit this [Official Site](#).

Students, we need your voices in planning for 20-21. If you haven't already, please take the following survey **Thursday 5/21**, brought to you by SBOE:

1. [Remote Learning 2020-2021 Student Input Survey](#)
2. [Social Justice Issue Suggestions for SBOE](#)

There is a lot of information below that is both exciting and imperative for you to read and understand. Please reach out with questions, and remember, "success is a collection of problems solved." *I.M. Pei*, we don't back down, we pivot, and when we don't know the answer or have a problem, we work together to find a solution, so let's end this year STRONG together!

With LOVE and Gratitude,
Tiffany Almon
Your Proud Principal
tiffany_almon@dpsk12.org

UPDATES FOR THE WEEK:

- ★ Through the JFK COVID 19 Relief Fund, we have raised \$2,280, and have distributed gift cards to 17 students and their families to aid in paying bills or buying food. We could still use more donations to support our families in need. Donate [here](#) if you can and reach out to Tiffany Almon at tiffany_almon@dpsk12.org if you are in need.
- ★ John F. Kennedy High School will be featured doing the Morning Announcements this week and will be on [Facebook Live](#) with Superintendent Cordova and President of the School Board, Dr. Carrie Olson. Check it out!
- ★ If you haven't heard, Mr. Mike Laguardia will be our Head Football Coach as we move into the 20-21 season. Congratulations, Coach!
- ★ **SENIOR UPDATES and TIMELINE:**
 - Your grades will be posted in Infinite Campus by **5/19**
 - If you chose to receive CREDIT instead of a letter grade AND engaged in your classes by turning in assignments each week OR communicating with your teachers to create an alternative plan, you will receive a "P" for passing in the grade book by the end of the day on 5/19.
 - If you chose to receive CREDIT, but did not engage in your classes, you will receive an "I" for incomplete in the grade book by the end of the day on 5/19.
 - You will check out through Google Meet with your counselor on **5/20**, and can discuss ways to make up work OR incomplete grades at that time if necessary. Counselors will be reaching out to schedule these meetings this week. **Senior students who are eligible for credit waivers will be notified between 5/20 and 5/27.**

- Senior Check Out at Kennedy is on Thursday **5/21 from 8 - 4PM**. You will drop off any library books, curriculum books, uniforms, etc., and pay cash for fees if you cannot pay through MySchoolBucks prior. See your Senior Check Out email from Gayla Power for the breakdown of what you need to check out.
- Caps and Gowns, senior announcements, and senior gifts + items from your lockers will be available at Senior Check out on 5/21.
- Virtual Graduation live stream will be on **5/28** at 11am.
- All seniors can pick up diplomas on **5/29** we will have a surprise in store to celebrate further.
- SENIORS! Please fill out this [Senior Exit Survey](#) from the Future Center! This is how we will determine if and how we can support you over the summer, this IS part of the requirements needed for Senior Check out, so get it done as soon as possible!
- Sign up [HERE](#) to receive your **FREE** customized website to commemorate your graduation. For more information, [see this site](#).

○ **We are HAVING A CAR PARADE on 5/30 from 11:00am to 1:00pm to honor our Seniors!!** If you are a Senior and want to participate in the parade sign up [here](#) by 5/25! If you need a car, we will do our best to get you one. This parade is limited to Seniors only, but all other Commanders are welcome to watch along the route described here: Right out of Student Parking, straight out of teachers' lot, east on W. Bates, right on Hobart, right on S. Golden Way, right on Dartmouth, right on Lamar, past the school, then all cars head home.

★ **Yearbooks will be available for pick up in early June**

★ **UPDATES FOR JUNIORS, SOPHOMORES, AND FRESHMEN:**

- Your last assignments are due Friday **5/22**
- Your grades will be posted in Infinite Campus by **5/26**
 - If you chose to receive CREDIT instead of a letter grade AND engaged in your classes by turning in assignments each week OR communicating with your teachers to create an alternative plan, you will receive a "P" for passing in the grade book by the end of the day on 5/26.
 - If you chose to receive CREDIT, but did not engage in your classes, you will receive an "I" for incomplete in the grade book by the end of the day on 5/26. You have an entire year to make up the credit through Edgenuity.
 - Summer homework will be available on the website by 5/25.

★ **New Classes added for next year:**

- CU SUCCEEDS Ethnic Studies (1 semester) , taught by a Professor at JFK
- CU SUCCEEDS Criminal Justice (1 semester), taught by a Professor at JFK
- PLTW Environmental Sustainability (full year), taught by Heather Randall
- Complete this [form](#) if you are interested in registering for one of these classes.

★ **Update from the Future Center:**

- **JUNIORS! Fill out the DSF Junior Survey on Naviance!** This survey allows the Future Center to know how best to support each individual student in the Fall for senior year. Here is the [LINK](#) to walk you through how to access the survey from Naviance.

- ★ If you have any items that are essential to meeting your basic needs over the next few months, please contact Ryan Aichele, our Dean of Operations, at ryan_aichele@dpsk12.org as he is beginning to plan how families can pick up these items. You will need to give him your student ID, name, locker number, and a description of the item(s). We are only planning to distribute items that are essential to meeting your basic needs at this time. If you are a Senior, you will receive your locker items at Senior Check Out.

DENVER YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY INFORMATION:

The Denver Youth Leadership Academy (DYLA), is a program of Young Invincibles and the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce's Denver Opportunity Youth Initiative. DYLA is a paid leadership development program that trains young adults to address issues in their communities and become civic leaders in Denver. Participants will learn about topics like mental health, voting, college affordability, and apprenticeships; receive training and hands-on experience in a variety of advocacy tools; and connect with local partners and campaigns working on issues they care about.

Participants in the program will meet on Wednesdays from 5:00-7:30 PM between June 17th-August 5th via Zoom. Participants will be paid a rate of \$15.00 per hour for about 20 hours of training and work on individual projects over the course of the program.

We are seeking applicants who have a passion for social justice and who are interested in building power among young adults to create positive change in our communities. **Preference will be given to applicants who have faced challenges in their education or careers**, including young adults who have previously left school or are not currently in school or a long-term career path.

If you are a young adult between the ages of 16-24 years old, located in the Denver Metro area and interested in becoming more engaged in your community, then the Denver Youth Leadership Academy program is for you and we invite you to [apply](#) by May 17th!

*Please note weekly meetings will be held virtually, therefore participants will need access to technology in order to participate (i.e. laptop or smartphone, Zoom accessibility, etc).

Important Upcoming Dates

Month of May -- Senior Month!

5/15 -- Last Day for **Seniors** to turn in assignments

5/20 - Senior Grade Check out over Meet with Counselors

5/21 - Senior Check out at Kennedy from 8 - 4

5/22 -- Last day for non-Senior students to turn in assignments

5/28 -- VIRTUAL Graduation Ceremony

5/29 -- Seniors pick up diplomas 10 - 2

5/30 -- Parade! Seniors participating should be in parking lots no later than 11:30. Parade begins promptly at 11:30am.

Summer Internships -- a message from Ms. Aragon

Due to the COVID-19 virus, our CareerConnect department has been working diligently to offer summer remote internships. We are hopeful there will be some opportunities, so please stay tuned!

The Aerospace Academy has been CANCELLED and we hope to offer it next summer. FYI- the Summer Internship program will be remote with a few in-person positions. Originally, the Internship program was scheduled to begin on June 8, but due to the COVID-19 virus, the program dates changed to July 6 to August 7, 2020.

Due to COVID-19, we are unsure of the number of positions that will be available, especially for the MedConnect students. Please note: If there are more student applicants than internship positions, the application process will be competitive. I sent a parent/guardian survey directly to those students who completed their application and who attended Part 1 of the Skills Training Young Professionals conference. If you did not receive my email please email anne_aragon@dpsk12.net, or call, text my Google number 720-460-9239. Thank you for your patience and understanding!

Summer Remote Internship Dates: If our summer remote internship program is approved our start date will be Monday, July 6, to Friday, August 7. We appreciate your patience as we work through this trying time. If you have any questions please feel free to email Mrs. Aragon at anne_aragon@dpsk12.org. My Google phone number is 720-460-9239. Thank you!

Grading Guidance

READ THE [DOCUMENT LINKED HERE](#) CAREFULLY FROM TOP TO BOTTOM.

JFK Relief Fund

Many of you have reached out regarding hardships you are overcoming as well as personal losses you have experienced during the pandemic. In order to be a support for our families in need, we have put together a Go Fund Me to pay for food baskets and other relief items. Follow this link to [donate](#) to Commander families who need the support of our community to make ends meet and stay healthy during this tough time. On the flip side, if you are in need, email Tiffany Almon at tiffany_almon@dpsk12.org to indicate your need and we will do whatever we can to help you out, while keeping your situation private.

Counseling Center Updates:

Counselors are available for appointments through Setmore: <https://jfkcounseling.setmore.com/>

Check out our School Counseling and Mental Health Team [website](#) for more information.

[JFK Counseling Resources Click Here](#)

[JFK Mental Health Resources Click Here](#)

REMINDERS and Celebrations:

- The Future Center is hosting Office Hours you can sign up on the Schoology group for Seniors, or [HERE](#) for Ms. Emily and [HERE](#) for Ms. Ambria.
 - The DSF application is STILL Open!! All [eligible](#) students still can apply!

- **Huge shout out to the following students who received scholarships (contact us if you earn a scholarship, we want to celebrate you!):**
 - Claudia Loya received the Inspired Leaders CORE scholarship from Regis, which is a full tuition scholarship!
 - Jaylantis London Brown received the 4 - year Denver Alumnae Chapter Scholarship. She was also recently recognized as a Sachs Foundation Scholar.
 - Brian Tran was accepted to Columbia, Georgetown and UCD BSMD program which provides a clear path to CU Denver Anschutz school of medicine from an undergrad degree.
 - Krist Tran was also accepted to Cal Berkeley in their Chemistry Program.
 - Tam Nguyen is a Daniels Scholar receiving a full ride for all 4 years to her choice of CSU
 - Jocelyn Gonzalez is a Boettcher Scholar also receiving a full ride to CU Boulder to study Architecture.
 - Thuy (Suzie) Pham received the Musical Scholarship from Regis, which gives her a monetary reward and offers her free lessons in any instrument of her choice while at school. She auditioned on drums.
- **Ways we will take attendance and build community during remote learning --**
 1. **Mondays** -- Google Meet Advisory meeting -- *your advisor will send you the meeting invite and times by the end of this week.*
 2. **Wednesdays** -- Commander Check In -- *JFK Staff and members of Student Council will create a Commander Check in video to update you on important information and on the #Anchor Fun Challenge for the week*
 3. **Fridays**-- Your teachers will grade your work and provide feedback, if you do not turn your work in at the end of each week (by Thursday 4PM), a member of the JFK staff will call you to make sure you are okay and have access to the learning the following Monday.
 4. **Mondays through Thursdays** -- your teachers will host office hours to answer your questions and provide instruction; our mental health providers and counselors will be available by appointment, and your Admin will be available by email or phone any weekday from 8am to 4pm.

Information about our JFK Remote Learning plan is found on our website (jfk.dpsk12.org), and you can find your student and family guidance document [here](#). Check your email and Schoology everyday!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND LINKS:

- **MEETING YOUR BASIC NEEDS**
 - Information for Grab and Go Meal Centers found [here](#)
 - **If you need immediate Mental Health support** please call 1-877-542-7233 or visit <https://safe2tell.org/> which will provide an anonymous way to help someone who is struggling or hurting.
 - If you are inquiring about DPS free medical clinics during the extended break: [Denver Health at Lincoln High School](#)
- **TECH NEEDS**
 - If you still need a Chromebook please contact rick_brewer@dpsk12.org
 - [Link to Comcast's offer for FREE INTERNET for two months to low income households](#)
 - Technology related problem? Call 720.423.3163 (English & Spanish)
- **CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION**
 - If you are reporting confirmed and presumptive positive cases of COVID-19 and/or have questions about COVID-19, please visit the [DPS Corona Virus](#) page.

ARCHIVED UPDATES and REMINDERS linked [HERE](#)

Commanders Show P.R.I.D.E.

P professionalism **R** respect **I** inclusion **D** dedication

E excellence

We are Stronger Together! ¡Somos más fuertes Unidos! ĐOÀN KẾT LÀ SỨC MẠNH