



KINGSWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Committed to Excellence

Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Jason Schimpf
School Business Administrator

**If you have questions or concerns about COVID-19 and resources,
Call 2-1-1 or text "NJCOVID" to 898-211 or go to our or click the link provided [HERE](#).**

May 22, 2020

Dear Students, Parents and Faculty & Staff,

This weekend we take time to remember the men and women who have died while serving in the U.S. military as we prepare to observe Memorial Day. While I hope you all find the time to grill a few hot dogs or go on a long bike ride, I encourage our students to remember that the purpose of this holiday is to salute all the troops who have paid the ultimate price. Remember their bravery and the many families who have suffered the loss of a loved one in uniform. We are blessed to live in the United States of America and among patriotic men and women who are willing to sacrifice themselves so that *we the people* can live free.

Students, take a moment to view this short [Memorial Day Tribute](#) and reflect on what President Ronald Reagan said during a speech honoring an unknown soldier who died during the Vietnam War. President Reagan said, "Throughout America today, we honor the dead of our wars. We recall their valor and their sacrifices. We remember that they gave their lives so that others might live."

I am providing our school community with a brief update and a few reminders as we prepare to shut down for the three-day weekend.

Board Briefs

The Board of Education met on Thursday, May 21st and acted on a number of items. You can review Board actions by clicking the [May Board Brief](#) link. Also, on behalf of our Board of Education, administration, faculty and staff, congratulations to the following ***Seniors of the Month***.

March

Sean Barr, Anastasia Manes

April

Davion Jimenez, Kimberly Liquori

Home of the Dragons

Yearbooks

Due to production hurdles generated by the pandemic, we anticipate the arrival of this year’s publication to be pushed to the middle of June and we will plan for you to pick up yearbooks as soon as possible. However, we are excited to share with our seniors, for the first time in school history, a sneak peek of the Lancer by clicking [2020 Vision: Unprecedented Times, Unforgettable Memories](#). Enjoy!

Senior Updates

- **End-of-Year Instructional Calendar.** In response to a number of inquiries, please be advised that the academic year for seniors continues through June 17th. I want to clarify this because I understand that some of you may be confused since the preceding individual graduation ceremonies naturally signal the end of the academic year. However, this is not so and school continues in accordance with the instructional calendar below. Those seniors who need to retain borrowed technology to continue with school work may do so. Mr. Allen will follow up with individual students to confirm technology needs.
- **Graduation Plans.** Kingsway’s plan was sent out earlier this week but I am providing it here again for your convenience. [Class of 2020 Graduation Plan](#).
- **Scheduling 436 Individual Graduation Ceremonies.** High School Principal Melvin Allen will communicate to all of our seniors no later than Tuesday of next week to inform you of the date and time of your ceremony.
- **Advocacy for Live, In-Person Ceremony.** Kingsway continues to be a leading voice in advocating for a live, in-person graduation ceremony, provided that measures recommended by the CDC are followed. Joining Kingsway are all 14 high schools from Gloucester County as well as a number of other high schools from Atlantic, Salem, Ocean and Bergen Counties. Strengthening our cause, Senate President Sweeney petitioned Governor Murphy on Thursday to consider our request.
 - [Sweeney Fires Off A Letter to Murphy Seeking In-Person Graduations](#). Insider NJ, May 21, 2020
 - [Legislators call on Murphy to Allow in-person high school graduation ceremonies](#). The Press of Atlantic City, May 21, 2020.
 - [I think it’s unfair to take these opportunities away](#). The Sun Newspapers, May 20, 2020
 - [Gloucester County Superintendents Advocate with One Voice](#), May 12, 2020

End-of-Year Instructional Calendar

The end-of-year instructional calendar was sent out on May 10th but is being provided again as a reminder for all students, Grades 7-12. The following instructional calendar will take our students through to the end of the school year.

Monday, May 25 th	Memorial Day: School Closed
Monday, June 1 st – Friday, June 5 th	AP Exams: Makeups



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Monday, June 15 th – Friday, June 19 th	Makeup work completion begins for all underclassmen. Note: work will not require the use of books as they would have been collected pursuant to our student locker cleanout schedule below.
Wednesday, June 17 th	All grades due by 2:30 pm – Seniors only
Friday, June 19 th	All grades due by 2:30 pm – All Underclassmen Last school day/Graduation

Thank you for your prompt attention to this communication. As a reminder, you can continue to monitor updates on our website by clicking the link [HERE](#). Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Very truly yours,



Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools

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