

January 17, 2017

Dear Kennedy Families:

The 2017-18 Course Registration Process is underway! This week, all students will view an Opportunities Video and learn more about the Kennedy Exploration Cruise, which will take place next week (January 23, 25 & 26). The Exploration Cruise will give students a unique opportunity to learn more about specific course offerings to help them make decisions on core and elective courses. On Monday, January 30, students will view the Registration presentation and receive course registration forms and registration guides. Students will seek advice of parents, teachers, counselors and administrators regarding their course plans for their future. Teachers in core areas will provide recommendations which can be found in PowerSchool or on their course registration form.

**This year, all grade-levels will register on PowerSchool during one week** (see the timeline below).

**February 2-5** – Power School window open for all 9-11<sup>th</sup> grade students to complete online registration. Registrations in Power School must reflect recommendations on the signed pre-registration forms that students will turn in.

**February 6-13** - Students will review online registration with Counselors and Administrators during assigned class time in computer labs. Sessions will be held throughout the week during assigned class times for Earth Science, LA 10, and US History. Completed forms will be collected at this time.

**February 14-17** – Make-up Registration Sessions – students who missed during their scheduled time will review online registrations individually with Counselors.

Want more information? Please visit Registration Central on the Kennedy homepage at <http://kenn.cr.k12.ia.us/>. You will find it under the “Academics” tab. All information pertaining to registration is available here including: the Registration Guide, Registration videos and presentations, course descriptions (in the Program of Studies) and all pertinent forms (available for download).

In addition, if your student will be a junior or senior, you can find information about the Linn County Regional Center Academies, including program offerings, curriculum descriptions, the Guide to Kirkwood Academy Programs, etc.

Kennedy has an excellent selection of AP courses. With 29+ courses to choose from, students have a unique opportunity to place rigor into their schedule and get a jump on college preparation. Many of Kennedy’s recognitions and awards are centered on the AP program. Not only is AP great for college preparation, it can also be a great resume builder.

Another way to increase rigor and put your child’s interests and creative talents to work is through Iowa BIG. In Iowa BIG, students can earn *elective or required* credit within an entirely project-based environment. Iowa BIG offers unique opportunities to develop personal portfolios, as well as employability, communication, and networking skills. If your student is interested in working on community projects off campus and gain some real-world skills, they should consider Iowa BIG.

Careful and thoughtful planning is a critical component of the registration process and to student success. The resources on Registration Central can help make the most of academic planning. We encourage you to take advantage of the outstanding programming choices that are available at Kennedy. Best wishes with your journey.

-Kennedy Counseling and Administrative Teams