

JFK Weekly Newsletter

Friday October 29, 2021 Sara Raabe, JFK Principal

Drop Off and Pick Up

Our drop off and pick up procedures have started to become routine for people. The car lines are moving faster each day. It is vital that:

1. If you need to get out of your car at drop off or pick up to help your student, please park in the lot and have your student walk from there. People that are in the car loop should be able to let students out without assistance.
2. When you pull in for drop off and pick up, please pull as far forward as possible. When cars stop at the turn into the car line (by the bus) to let students out in the morning, it backs the car line up onto Main Street
3. At pick up, when you tell the school staff member who you are there to pick up, please tell us your student's full name and grade level.

Thank you for all of you help in making things work for everyone!

Identity

During pre service, the JFK staff worked together to explore our own identities. We spent time articulating our social and personal identities and how they intersect to impact our work with others, students and staff. Identity is simply defined as who we are. Beverly Daniel Tatum states, "The concept of identity is a complex one, shaped by individual characteristics, family dynamics, historical factors, and social and political contexts. Who am I? The answer depends in large part on who the world around me says I am. Who do my parents say I am? Who do my peers say I am? What message is reflected back to me in the faces and voices of my teachers, my neighbors, store clerks? What do I learn from the media about myself? How am I represented in the cultural images around me? Or am I missing from the picture altogether? As social scientist Charles Cooley pointed out long ago, other people are the mirror in which we see ourselves."

The staff has taken that work, and is working with our student on their identities. Third graders drew self portraits and shared important information about what makes them who they are. In 5th grade, students completed an identity wheel, and used that to create an I Am... poem. Identity work is happening in different forms in all of our classrooms. All of this work is based on the Social Justice Anchor Standard: Identity 3: Individuals will recognize that people's multiple identities interact and

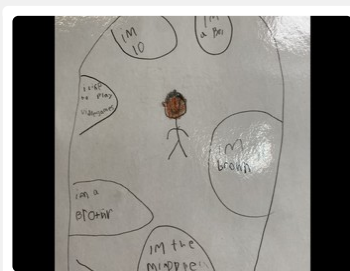
create unique and complex individuals. For grades K-2 this is: I know that all my group identities are part of me—but that I am always ALL me. For grades 3-5 this is: I know that all my group identities are part of who I am, but none of them fully describes me and this is true for other people too.

All of this work, for our students and staff, is vital work. We all need to understand who we are and make sense of our individual experiences in order to develop knowledge. These understandings are the basis for students and staff to feel valued and safe. That then allows for individuals to stretch and grow as thinkers and learners.

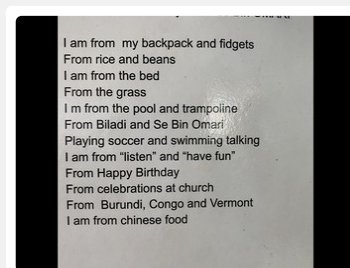
If you or your family have any interest in exploring your identities together, google Social Identity Wheel and Personal Identity wheel. Each person would fill out the wheels as independently as possible, and then talk about what you wrote down with each other. It is amazing what everyone writes down!



3rd Grade's Self Portraits and Identity Words



A 5th grader's identity wheel



A different 5th grader's I Am... poem

COVID 19 Guidelines

Our top priority is keeping our students and staff safe, healthy and learning together in-person. To make sure our schools remain safe for everyone, our Leadership Team and COVID-19 Coordinators have created specific procedures. In summary:

WSD requires that everyone wears masks, regardless of vaccination status. Except when people are outside and/or eating.

Masks should be required indoors for students younger than 12, who are not eligible to be vaccinated at this time. Masks, when required, may be removed when needed for instructional or operational purposes. Masks are currently required for all passengers on buses per federal regulation, regardless of age or vaccination status. Masks should not be required outdoors. Guidance will be updated when vaccine eligibility expands. (AOE memo October 2021)

Keeping individuals with COVID symptoms out of our schools is an important part of keeping everyone safe and healthy. Students will be isolated and sent home immediately if they exhibit COVID symptoms while at school.

Students and staff who are sick should stay home. All students and staff should stay home if they:

- Show symptoms of COVID-19;
- Have a fever (temperature greater than 100.4°F);
- Are currently in quarantine due to close contact with an individual with COVID-19
- Are currently in isolation due to testing positive for COVID-19.

If symptoms begin while at school, the student or staff member should be sent home as soon as possible, and the individual should be isolated from other staff and students until they can go home. (Strong and Healthy Year April 2021)

Our district will follow Vermont Department of Health contact tracing guidelines. Sign in sheets and seating assignments will be required.

Cohorts and Pods Based on Vermont's experience to date, all students may mix classes for educational purposes, as needed; schools should ensure careful attendance records are kept. (Strong and Healthy Year April 2021)

Picture Retake

The photographer for picture retake was sick on Thursday! Picture retakes are canceled and will be rescheduled. We will let families know the new retake date once it is scheduled.

Important Dates

Thursday, November 18, 2021

11:00am Early Dismissal

JFK Parent Teacher Conferences via Zoom

Friday, November 19, 2021

11:00am Early Dismissal

JFK Parent Teacher Conferences via Zoom

Monday, November 22, 2021

No School

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

No School

Wednesday, November 24, 2021

No School

Thursday, November 25, 2021

No School

Friday, November 26, 2021

No School

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

12:15 Early Dismissal




JFK Elementary

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