



**Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District**  
[www.portchesterschools.org](http://www.portchesterschools.org)

## *Port Chester Public Schools*

113 Bowman Avenue  
Rye Brook, New York 10573  
914.934.7900

Caryn Furst, Public Information  
914.819.0895

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 8, 2010

### **Port Chester's John F. Kennedy School to Celebrate Blue Ribbon Award Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. is Keynote Speaker**

The John F. Kennedy Magnet School – the only public school in Westchester to be named a 2010 National Blue Ribbon School – will salute its faculty, students and parents at a celebration on November 17 at Port Chester's Capitol Theater.

**10:00 – 11:00 a.m. on November 17  
The Capitol Theatre  
149 Westchester Avenue, Port Chester NY**

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., will be the keynote speaker. Others scheduled to speak include the Honorable Nita M. Lowey, State Assemblyman George Latimer, State Senator Suzi Oppenheimer, Westchester County Legislator Martin Rogowsky, and Port Chester Mayor Dennis Pilla. The celebrated Port Chester High School Marching Band will entertain the crowd of parents, faculty members, students and special guests.

Also present will be Superintendent of Schools Donald K. Carlisle, Ed.D. and other District administrators, members of the Port Chester Board of Education, and guests from the Washington, DC, Blue Ribbon Commission.

"This event will celebrate our community's determination to improve our school," said Lou Cuglietto, JFK principal and the leader of this effort. "Earning a National Blue Ribbon represents ten years of commitment, methodical planning, teamwork, excellent teaching, and support from our entire school community. Without the dedication of our teachers, our parents and our central administrative team, we would not have achieved this honor."

JFK students in grades 3 through 5 will be attending the event along with the entire JFK faculty. The students in lower grades will have a delayed opening that day.

The National Blue Ribbon Award honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools whose students achieve at very high levels or have made significant progress and helped close gaps in achievement, especially among disadvantaged and minority students. JFK was nominated for the National Blue Ribbon designation by the NY State Education Department based on five years' data on the English Language Arts and Mathematics assessments. JFK is in the category

of highest need schools in New York State and was nominated as a “dramatically improved school”. It is the second Port Chester school to achieve this prestigious national recognition. In 2005, Port Chester Middle School was named a National Blue Ribbon School.

JFK, along with the 303 other winning schools will be honored at an award ceremony November 15-16, 2010, in Washington, DC.