



John F. Kennedy Magnet Middle School

An "IB" World School
1901 Ave S
Riviera Beach, FL 33404



Telephone: (561) 845-4525

Fax: (561) 845-4537

Website: <https://jfk.m.palmbeachschools.org/>

Ricky Clark, Principal

April 8, 2025

Rachelle Petit- Homme, Assistant Principal – 6th Grade

Timothy Nance, Assistant Principal – 7th Grade

Dr. Benita Derico -Owen, Assistant Principal -8th Grade

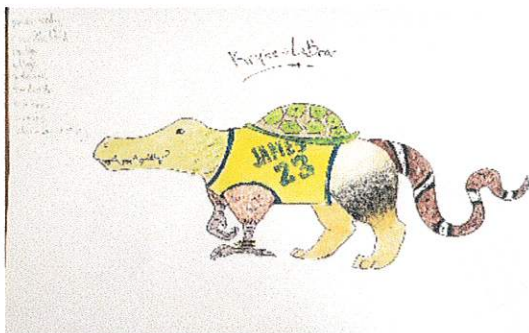
Monique Foushee-Starling, Assistant Principal – IB

To Whom It May concern,

Recently, we were fortunate to have author, and publisher, Stephen Kozan visit our 6th graders at *John F. Kennedy Middle School*. This visit was two days' shy of the annual *BAM (Books and Music Festival)* in West Palm Beach at *The Mandel Public Library*, where Mr. Kozan was a presenter. This made the visit extra special, as we were bringing some of our students to attend.

A big shout out and thank you to *Warden Asphalt Company*, for sponsoring this visit, through the 501c3 nonprofit, *Student Author Movement*. This means a lot to us, as we are a Title 1 school, and having donors help us in our literacy initiative to provide an author visit for our students is enormous.

Stephen shared a little history about himself and was very lively with the students. He then segued into engaging them to do an *InstART* creation of a fictional, mythical character. He rotated between both boys and girls having the chance to come up with ideas for the character's anatomical features. The group illustration was inspired by famous basketball player, LeBron James, with the head of a crocodile and sporting a Laker's basketball jersey. The illustration was created by Jain Falcon who was on a Zoom call with Mr. Kozan while he was engaged with our students. She listened to the students share their ideas and put the pen to paper and came up with this illustration below.



While we waited for Ms. Falcon to create the illustration, Mr. Kozan had the students do a *Flash Fiction* exercise to come up with a fictional story. At the end, he collected them to bring back to read and will send us a few finalists early next week. One student will be picked to continue their story and eventually become published by *ReadyAimWrite Kids, LLC*.

The students were very excited to hear that one of them has the chance to be published and become an author. We look forward to seeing who will be the finalists.

Thanks again, to *Warden Asphalt Company* for being the donor to help have Stephen Kozan visit, and to *Student Author Movement*, making it all come together in an engaging, and professional manner.

Sincerely,

Victoria Drescher

Media Specialist