

Jackson Local School District 7984 Fulton Drive Massillon, OH 44646 NON-PROFIT ORG U.S. POSTAGE PAID CANTON, OH PERMIT NO. 1005

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JUNE 2023

# 

#### Jackson has prepared Class of 2023 for what comes next

Superintendent Chris DiLoreto delivered the following commencement address to the Jackson High School Class of 2023 and their loved ones in attendance.

ood evening parents, Jackson Local Board of Education members, faculty, support staff, and honored guests, our graduates. To the Class of 2023, it is my great honor to be among the first to formally congratulate you this evening on the completion of your high school career.

Graduation is a milestone, it is a time to celebrate, and a time to reflect on the accomplishments of your past and the promise of your future. Today, Class of 2023,

this point has defined who you will become. Some of you will start a new academic journey in college, some will defend our nation serving in the military, and some will go right into employment. There are more lessons to be learned, victories to be attained, defeats to be experienced, and friendships to be made.

But always remember the foundation of what you started to learn 13 years ago in kindergarten. Resiliency: when you experience defeat, you bounce back, rely on your

we celebrate you!

For the past 13 years, your experiences – in our classrooms, the arts or global academies, our career tech rooms, our athletic fields and venues, the band and choir rooms, lunch rooms, and school buses have served as practice round for the game of life. We have learned so much from those experiences. We have learned how to experience success.

Most recently, the Class of 2023 helped improve our U.S. News & World ranking as one of the best in Ohio and among the top 5.5 percent in the country. Our seniors have been a part of four of the 12 straight Federal League all-sports trophies. Our bands and choirs earned multiple state awards of excellence, and over the past 13 years, we have learned humility and perseverance from our defeats.

Many of you probably read the book "All I Really Need to Know, I Learned in Kindergarten." Our school district has provided our graduates with a sandbox in which to play for the last 13 years. In that sandbox, you learned lessons that will carry you throughout the rest of your life.

Since kindergarten we have, along with a great partnership from your parents, family and loved ones, been helping you learn things such as: resiliency, class, staying on the moral high ground, always remembering your purpose, sharing and negotiating, and perhaps most importantly, kindness.

Regardless of where you are right now in your life, nothing that you have done to

toughness, and move forward. Class is simply manners, it's humility, it's self-control.

Moral High Ground: this means being able to defend your actions and decisions without sacrificing what is good. Remembering your mission: never, ever lose sight of your purpose. Sharing: we all know this, there is a give-and-take to life. We learned in kindergarten there are two kinds of people: bucket-fillers and bucket-dippers. Be a bucket-filler. Give more of yourself than you take of others. And finally, kindness: be friendly, be generous, be considerate and stand up for others when they can't stand for themselves.

Learning is a life-long journey. Graduates, each day is an interview because you never know where your next opportunities will lie.

Families, we appreciate your support, trust, and partnership throughout the years. Together, I believe, we are sending students who are ready to discover their passion and purpose, and do so with the very things they have been learning and honing since kindergarten.

Graduates, it does not matter where you go from here. You leave here today Polar Bears forever. You have left your legacy. Today is closing just one chapter of your life. You control your own destiny. Believe in yourself. Follow your passion and purpose.

Class of 2023 today is your day, tomorrow is your future. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you, and our educational community as your superintendent. Thank you, good luck, and Go Bears!



The Jackson High School Marching Band is selling Hawaiian shirts with a unique Hawaiian and Polar Bear print to help fundraise for the band's trip to Hawaii in November. The Purple Army will perform at Pearl Harbor during its trip.

These unique shirts are just \$45 and can be purchased through any band member. Place your order before July 14! For more information, please email mnm2jc@jackson.sparcc.org.

Orders can NOT be placed through email but through contacting a band member.

	Jackson Local Schools		<		
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#### **Jackson Local Board of Education**

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The 2022-2023 Jackson Local Board of Education members have met four times this school year. The members are: Board President Christopher Goff, Esq., Vice President Tonya Wright, Lia Jones, Esq., Thomas Winkhart, Esq., and Scott Gindlesberger.



CHRISTOPHER GOFF began his first term in January 2008 and has been re-elected three times. He holds a bachelor of



**TONYA WRIGHT** was appointed to the Board of Education in June 2020 and was elected to the Board in November 2021.



LIA JONES was elected to the board in 2021. She graduated from Denison University with a bachelor of arts degree in



TOM WINKHART began his first term on the board in 2002 and has been re-elected to the board five times. He holds a



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SCOTT GINDLESBERGER was elected to the board in 2004 and has been re-elected four times. Mr. Gindlesberger

science degree in business administration, with a major in finance from Ohio Northern University, a master's degree in political science from The University of Akron, and a juris doctor from The University of Akron School of Law. He is CEO and General Counsel at Employers Health and is an Adjunct Professor of Law at The University of Akron School of Law. Mr. Goff and his wife have three adult children who have graduated from Jackson Local Schools.

She has a track record dedicated to servant leadership in Jackson and Stark County. Tonya graduated cum laude from the University of Akron with a bachelor of arts degree in business and organizational communications in 1992. She earned her master's degree in business administration from Kent State University in 2000, while working full-time. She has served in various corporate leadership roles, most recently product marketing manager at Diebold-Nixdorf. She also was an adjunct instructor at Stark State College in the business department. Mrs. Wright and her husband, Mark, have two daughters, Anna and Ava, both Jackson Local students.

communication. She earned her Juris Doctor from the University of Akron School of Law. Jones is senior vice president and senior fiduciary strategist for the Akron, Canton, and Mahoning Valley region at KeyBank. In addition to her work on the JLSD Board of Education, Jones is a member of the Akron Symphony Board of Directors. She was the 2018 recipient of the 30 for the Future Award, presented by the Greater Akron Chamber. Jones lives in Jackson Township with her husband, Caleb, and their young daughters, Elle and Olivia.

bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Toledo and a juris doctor degree from the University of Akron School of Law. He is president of the law firm of Winkhart & Minor and also of Cornerstone Real Estate Title Company. Tom and his wife, Janelle, have five children, who have graduated from Jackson High School. holds a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Mount Union and a master's degree in finance from the University of Akron. He is a Senior Vice President with Stifel Nicolaus. Mr. Gindlesberger and his wife Susie have four children.

The Board of Education meets monthly. Regularly scheduled meetings can be found on the district's website.

2



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### Football season tickets available for 2023 season



# The wait is finally over for football fans as Jackson football season tickets for reserved seating are officially on sale now!

Head coach Jay Rohr's second season with the Polar Bears is just around the corner, fans have the opportunity to secure great seats and be part of the exhilarating action at every game.

Whether you're a die-hard fan or new to the sport, experiencing the thrill and camaraderie of live football games is an unforgettable experience. And don't forget about the unmatched halftime performances by the Purple Army!

To claim their seats for the upcoming season, eager fans are encouraged to visit the official website of the Jackson Polar Bears at

#### jacksonpolarbears.org/event-tickets.

Despite the high demand, there is still an excellent availability of great seats for all the games throughout the season. From prime spots near the 50-yard line to cozy corners with a perfect view, there is something for every fan's preference and budget.





By purchasing season tickets, fans not only guarantee their place at each exhilarating matchup but also gain exclusive benefits and privileges.

SCAN THE QR CODE

or visit jacksonpolarbears.org/event-tickets

Let the countdown to kickoff begin!





## **Congratulations to our 2023 Graduating Class**

The Jackson Local Schools Foundation and the Jackson High School Alumni Association want to congratulate the Jackson High School graduating class of 2023. Your hard work and perseverance should be applauded, and you should be very proud of yourself for reaching this monumental accomplishment. We wish you all the best for a happy, healthy, and prosperous future wherever your career takes you. We know that you will go out and change the world but please never forget "Once a Polar Bear, always a Polar Bear!"



The Jackson Local Schools Foundation (JLSF) is an independent organization of

local volunteers that works to promote educational achievement, encourage instructional innovation and create excitement about learning. The JLSF is a non-profit, charitable organization that seeks tax-deductible donations from citizens, businesses and organizations to further the excellence in Jackson Local Schools.

JLSF runs two main fundraising events - The Polar Bear Plunge and The Jackson Polar Bear Chip-In. We have a classroom grant program that puts money directly back into our schools, The Polar Bear Pledge to grow our endowment, a partnership with Stark State College Foundation - The Polar Bear Promise - to award an annual scholarship to Stark State College students who are Jackson High School graduates, and we recently merged with the Jackson Alumni Association.























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Within the intent of the federal statutes (Rehabilitation Act of 1973-section 504 and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act IDEA-public law 105-17), the Jackson Local School District continues its effort to locate and identify children with disabilities from birth through age 21. Children with disabilities have physical, emotional, and/or mental impairments that may require special education. Public schools provide free and appropriate education regardless of a child's disability. However, before these children can be served, they must be found. Many of these children are not



#### Jackson Local seeks to serve students with disabilities

visible because they may not function in the community's mainstream, and many are preschoolers. Parents may not realize that programs and services are available through their school district or from agencies in their community.

If you are aware of a child who may need a special education program or services, contact Kathy Brand, Jackson Local School District's Special Programs Director, with any questions you may have regarding this notice at 330-830-8006

#### Jackson Rotary Club awards five scholarships



Five impressive Jackson High School seniors applied for and earned college scholarships through the Jackson Township Rotary Club. Those seniors awarded scholarships are: Chloe Clevenger, Hannah Kemper, Sophia Minor, Zack Nosky, and Luke Thiel.

Pictured are three of the five students who were at the June Rotary Club meeting. Also at that meeting was German exchange student, Luise Schroeter, who will be heading back home in July after spending time this past school year with three local families.





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#### **Student Wins Billboard Contest**



Let's give a big round of applause to Maria Azar, a talented fifth-grader and a winner of the "A Wish for a Fish is Not to Swim with Rubbish" coloring contest held by the Stark County Regional Planning Commission.

Out of numerous participants, Maria's exceptional artwork caught the eyes of the judges, earning her one of the four top spots. Her creative masterpiece delivers a powerful message about the importance of keeping our oceans clean and free from waste.

And that's not all! Maria's talent will be showcased on not one, but TWO billboards right here in Stark County. Her artwork will be proudly displayed for the entire community to see, making a positive impact and spreading awareness for a whole month!

Let's all celebrate Maria's incredible achievement and her dedication to making the world a better place.

Keep an eye out for those billboards. Together, we can inspire change and protect our beautiful marine life.



#### **Camp Invention**

In early June, more than 160 brilliant minds from Jackson Local Schools rocked Camp Invention at Strausser Elementary.

These future scientists, engineers, and creative geniuses spent the week unleashing their inner innovators, building cool, fun inventions, and mastering STEM skills that blew our minds! Can you imagine the epic discoveries and friendships made while bringing those imaginative ideas to life?

Ready for more mind-blowing adventures? Buckle up and mark your calendars because next year's Camp Invention is already on the horizon.

Don't miss out on the chance to pre-register your future inventor at invent.org/camp2024.

Trust us, it's an experience they won't want to miss!

#### Kindergarten Registration is Open for 2023-24 School Year

Online registration for kindergarten and new students for the 2023-2024 school year is open. Please scan the accompanying QR code to be taken to the registration page.

To be eligible for kindergarten for the 2023-2024 school year, your child MUST TURN 5 YEARS OLD ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2023.

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If you already have a student attending one of our Jackson schools, please use your username and password you created to fill out the *First Day Forms*.

After completing the registration forms online, the following



Please bring the documents to your child's school beginning August 2 from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Please bring your child to registration so the office can take a photo for the school ID badge.

support documents are needed to finalize your registration:

- Original Board of Health Birth Certificate
- Current proof of residency (rental/purchase agreement or current utility bill in your name.
- Immunization records (please visit jackson.stark.k12.oh.us/Page/54 for current immunization and TB requirements)
- Custody papers (if applicable)
- Parent/Guardian Photo ID

If you have any questions, please contact your home school:

Amherst Elementary: 330-830-8024 Lake Cable Elementary: 330-834-4673 Sauder Elementary: 330-830-8028 Strausser Elementary: 330-830-8056

REGISTRATION PAGE LINK >>>



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# THE SCOUL

### Music Stand Refurbishing Project Leads to Eagle Scout Rank

KARA SMITH'S EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT INVOLVED SANDING, CLEANING, REPAIRING, AND REPAINTING HUNDREDS OF MUSIC STANDS FOR THE JACKSON LOCAL SCHOOLS BAND PROGRAM. The Jackson band program spreads over eight grades at both the middle school and high school and requires heavy use of expensive music stands by almost a thousand students. As Kara began coming into her senior year of the band program, she noticed that a lot of these stands needed repairs and to be repainted. After speaking with Mrs. Monigold, the head director of the band program, she decided to dedicate her project to fixing up these stands so that they could be used again for years to come by music students. The project took place over a week in June 2022, accounting for moving the stands to the bus garage, then preparing and painting them. In the end, over





200 man-hours were put into this project and had help from fellow scouts, scouting adults, and band members. Kara is incredibly proud of how the project went, and thanks everyone for allowing her to complete a project that will have a lasting impact on a program she loves.

In February 2019, Kara joined scouting as a founding member of Troop 111, the first and largest all-girls Boy Scout troop in Buckeye Council. Throughout her journey of scouting, she held multiple leadership positions, learned survival skills, and attended long-term summer camps. In the summer of 2020 she was also elected into the Order of the Arrow, scouting's honors society. She ascended the ranks of scouting, earning her Eagle rank in the fall of 2022 after completing her project for the Jackson Local Schools band program. She had 33 merit badges by the time she earned her Eagle, accounting for 3 Eagle palms. As an adult in scouting, Kara still stays involved by serving as a Junior Assistant Scoutmaster in her troop, as well as staying active as a youth committee member in the Order of the Arrow and teaching aquatic merit badges through Venturing Crew 820.





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