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# Did You Know ...

Jackson Local is a 5-Star school, the highest ranking possible, in the latest Ohio Department of Education & Workforce Report Card rankings?



[www.jackson.stark.k12.oh.us](http://www.jackson.stark.k12.oh.us)

SUMMER 2025

# POLAR BEAR PRIDE

Your Connection to the Jackson Local School District

COMMUNITY • COLLABORATION • PARTNERSHIP





*Superintendent Chris DiLoreto delivered the following remarks during the commencement for the Class of 2025 on May 24 at Robert Fife Stadium. The Class of 2025 numbered more than 515 and we wish them the best in their future endeavors.*

Parents, Jackson Local Board of Education members, faculty, support staff, honored guests, and – most importantly – our graduates: To the Class of 2025, it is my great privilege to congratulate you this evening on completing your high school career. Graduation is a milestone. It is a time to celebrate the accomplishments of your past and the promise of your future. Today, Class of 2025, we celebrate you.

For the past 13 years, the memories you have created in our classrooms, on the athletic fields, performing in the arts, rehearsing in band and choir rooms, socializing in cafeterias, and riding our school buses have prepared you for the journey ahead. Each experience has shaped you, teaching you valuable lessons and helping you understand what it means to achieve success.

Most recently, the Class of 2025 has helped us maintain our national standing among the best high schools in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings.

In this graduating class, we have:

- FlameGuard, the Junior Achievement state, national, and international champions
- One student who scored a perfect 36 on the ACT and five others who scored a 35

- Four National Merit Finalists
- Ten students earning associate degrees
- JSA students heading to prestigious universities such as Boston University and New York University

Our bands and choirs have earned multiple state awards, and our student artwork has been displayed everywhere from the Canton Playhouse to the Ohio Statehouse.

More than 40 student-athletes will continue their athletic careers in college, including one runner heading to Yale and another student attending Harvard.

Speaking of student-athletes, this class has won 446 Federal League games, 40 league championships, four state titles, and 14 straight Federal League All-Sports trophies in the last four years.

This senior class contributed more than 1,600 hours of community service in a single day.

Over the past 13 years, we’ve learned valuable lessons from our victories, and humility and perseverance from our defeats. We’ve discovered the importance of integrity, kindness, and mental toughness – qualities that will serve you well throughout your life.

Regardless of what you’ve achieved in academics, the arts, or athletics, your legacy will always be defined by your integrity, kindness, character, and mental toughness. Remember, we’re all growing and evolving. As you pursue new goals and challenges, strive to be a lifelong learner. More importantly, never stop strengthening your character. Nothing you have accomplished so far defines who you are or can become.

Each of you is about to embark on a new journey. Some

of you will begin the next chapter in college. Others will courageously serve our nation in the military. Some will enter the workforce. Whichever path you choose, there are more lessons ahead, victories to celebrate, setbacks to overcome, and friendships yet to form.

How you handle these experiences – both the successes and the setbacks – will lay the foundation for your lifelong growth.

Thirteen years ago, when your school journey began, you learned that there are two kinds of people in this world: bucket-fillers and bucket-dippers. Strive always to be a bucket-filler. Give more to others than you take for yourself.

Class of 2025, let’s demonstrate that kindness and gratitude right now. Please stand and give your families a round of applause.

Families, thank you for your unwavering support, trust, and partnership throughout these important years. Together, we have prepared students who are ready to discover their passions and purposes in life.

Graduates, no matter where you go from here, you leave here as Polar Bears forever. You control your destiny. Believe in yourself. Class of 2025, 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!***





# Did You Know ...

Jackson Local Schools has consistently been recognized by the Ohio Auditor of State for having clean audits?



## Jackson Local Schools Student Calendar 2025-2026

AUGUST 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

13 Gr 6/New Student Orientation, 6-8:00 pm  
14 Gr 9/New Student Orientation 7-8:00 pm  
14 Open House - All Elementaries, 4:30-6:30 pm  
19 1st Day for Students (K-12)  
20 Open House - JMMS, Last Name A-M, 6:00-7:00 pm  
Last Name N-Z, 7:00-8:00 pm  
26 Open House - High School, 5:00-7:00 pm  
29 Professional Development Day - No School (K-12)

FEBRUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

SEPTEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1 Labor Day - No School (K-12)

MARCH 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

OCTOBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

7 Parent Conferences (K-5) 4:00-8:00 pm  
7 Parent Conferences (Gr 6-12) 4:00-7:00 pm  
9 Parent Conferences (K-5) 4:00-8:00 pm  
10 Professional Development Day - No School (K-12)  
13 Columbus Day - No School (K-12)  
15 Parent Conferences (K-5) 4:00-8:00 pm  
15 Parent Conferences (Gr 6-12) 4:00-7:00 pm  
24 End of 1st Marking Period - 45 Days

APRIL 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

NOVEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

26 Thanksgiving Break Begins  
26 K-12 Conference Exchange Day

MAY 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

DECEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

5 Classes Resume  
15 End of 2nd Marking Period - 45 Days  
16 Professional Development Day - No School (K-12)  
19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School (K-12)

JUNE 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

12 Parent Conferences (K-12) 4:00-7:00 pm  
13 Professional Development Day - No School (K-12)  
16 Presidents' Day - No School (K-12)  
18 Parent Conferences (K-12) 4:00-7:00 pm

JANUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

20 End of 3rd Marking Period - 42 Days  
30 Spring Break Begins

APRIL						

6 K-12 Conference Exchange Day - No School (K-12)  
7 Classes Resume

JUNE						

25 Memorial Day - No School (K-12)  
29 Last Day for Students & Staff  
29 End of 4th Marking Period - 43 Days

19 Juneteenth

## Kindergarten Registration is Open!

If your child turns 5 on or before August 1, 2025, it's time to register for kindergarten in Jackson Local Schools! Our elementary schools (rated Best Schools by U.S. News & World Report) provide a strong foundation in a supportive, community-driven environment. Two of our elementary schools – Sauder and Lake Cable elementaries – are recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as Blue Ribbon Schools.



From hands-on learning to building lifelong friendships, your child's education starts here. We look forward to partnering with your family on this journey and making these early years a time of growth, discovery, and success.

Register today at: [bit.ly/40izR2S](https://bit.ly/40izR2S) or scan the QR code.



Be sure to see the list of support documents needed to finalize your registration.

## Jackson Local Board of Education

The 2024-2025 Jackson Local Board of Education members meet monthly during the calendar year. The members are: Board President Lia Jones, Esq., Vice President Scott Gindlesberger, Christopher Goff, Esq., Tom Winkhart, Esq., Tonya Wright.



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



**SCOTT GINDLESBERGER** was elected to the board in 2004 and has been re-elected four times. Mr. Gindlesberger 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, all Jackson Local graduates.



**CHRISTOPHER GOFF** began his first term in January 2008 and has been re-elected three times. He holds a bachelor of 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 degree from The University of Akron School of Law. He is Chairman, President and CEO of Employers Health and spent ten years as an adjunct professor of law at The University of Akron School of Law and two years as an adjunct professor at Northeast Ohio Medical School. Mr. Goff and his wife have three adult children who graduated from Jackson Local Schools.



**TOM WINKHART** began his first term on the board in 2002 and has been re-elected to the board five times. He holds a 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 Law Group and also of Cornerstone Real Estate Title Company. Tom and his wife, Janelle, have five children, who have graduated from Jackson High School.



**TONYA WRIGHT** was appointed to the Board of Education in June 2020 and was elected to the Board in November 2021. 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, a Jackson High School graduate, and Ava, a Jackson Local student.

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





## Did You Know ...

Jackson High School houses 7 career and technical programs, including auto technology, CISCO networking, culinary arts, horticulture and more?



# JACKSON

## Local Schools Foundation

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### Congratulations to our 2025 Alumni Scholarship recipients!

Robert Eberhardt - John Carroll University studying Psychology and Neuroscience

Addison Konovsky - University of Akron studying Actuarial Science and Statistics

Kate Sanders - University of Tampa studying Health Sciences

Nina Shulik - Allegheny College studying Economics

Nathan Weiler - The Ohio State University studying Biochemistry

The JHSAA scholarship is a merit based scholarship focused on academic excellence, student involvement in high school clubs, sports, and other extracurricular activities, and an active interest in supporting the community. Applicants must be a legacy JHS alumni.

Join us for our 2025 Polar Bear  
Chip-In Golf Outing! Monday  
Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at Glenmoor  
Country Club.



1:00 PM Shotgun Start, Registration, Lunch, Range and Putting  
Contest at 11:30 A.M. To register, donate or sponsor please visit  
[jacksonlocalschoolsfoundation/chip-in](http://jacksonlocalschoolsfoundation/chip-in)

Interested in volunteering with the Jackson Local Schools  
Foundation or the Jackson Alumni Association? We would love to  
help get you plugged in! Please contact us at  
[info@jacksonlocalschoolsfoundation.org](mailto:info@jacksonlocalschoolsfoundation.org)





## Did You Know ...

Jackson Local scores in the top 10% of Ohio schools' academic achievement?



### Student Digital Art Exhibit Opens at Stark Library



Jackson Local students are putting their creativity on full display – literally – at the Jackson branch of the Stark Library.

On exhibit now is a striking collection of digital art created by students in a food-themed project that challenged them to blend artistic technique with modern technology. Some pieces took up to **30 hours** to complete, showing not only artistic talent, but patience, focus, and attention to detail.

This project is one of many ways Jackson Local Schools provides hands-on

learning opportunities that stretch beyond the traditional classroom. Students explored digital art tools and learned to turn creative ideas into polished visual works. It's a clear example of how academic excellence in our district includes both innovation and expression.

We invite all residents to stop by the library, see the exhibit, and take pride in the amazing work being done by our local students. It's a reminder of what is possible when a community invests in its schools – and why Jackson continues to be a place where students thrive.

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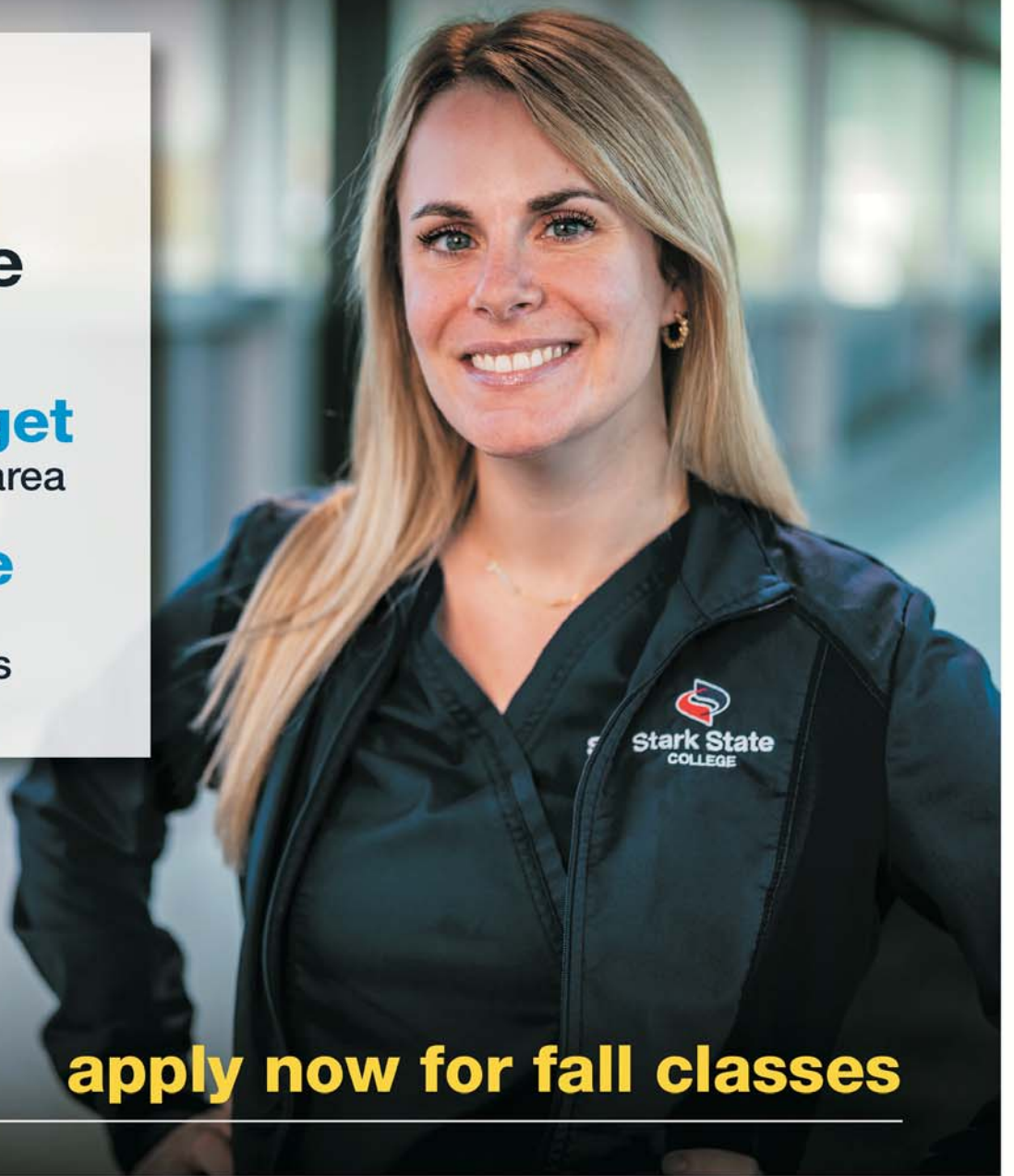
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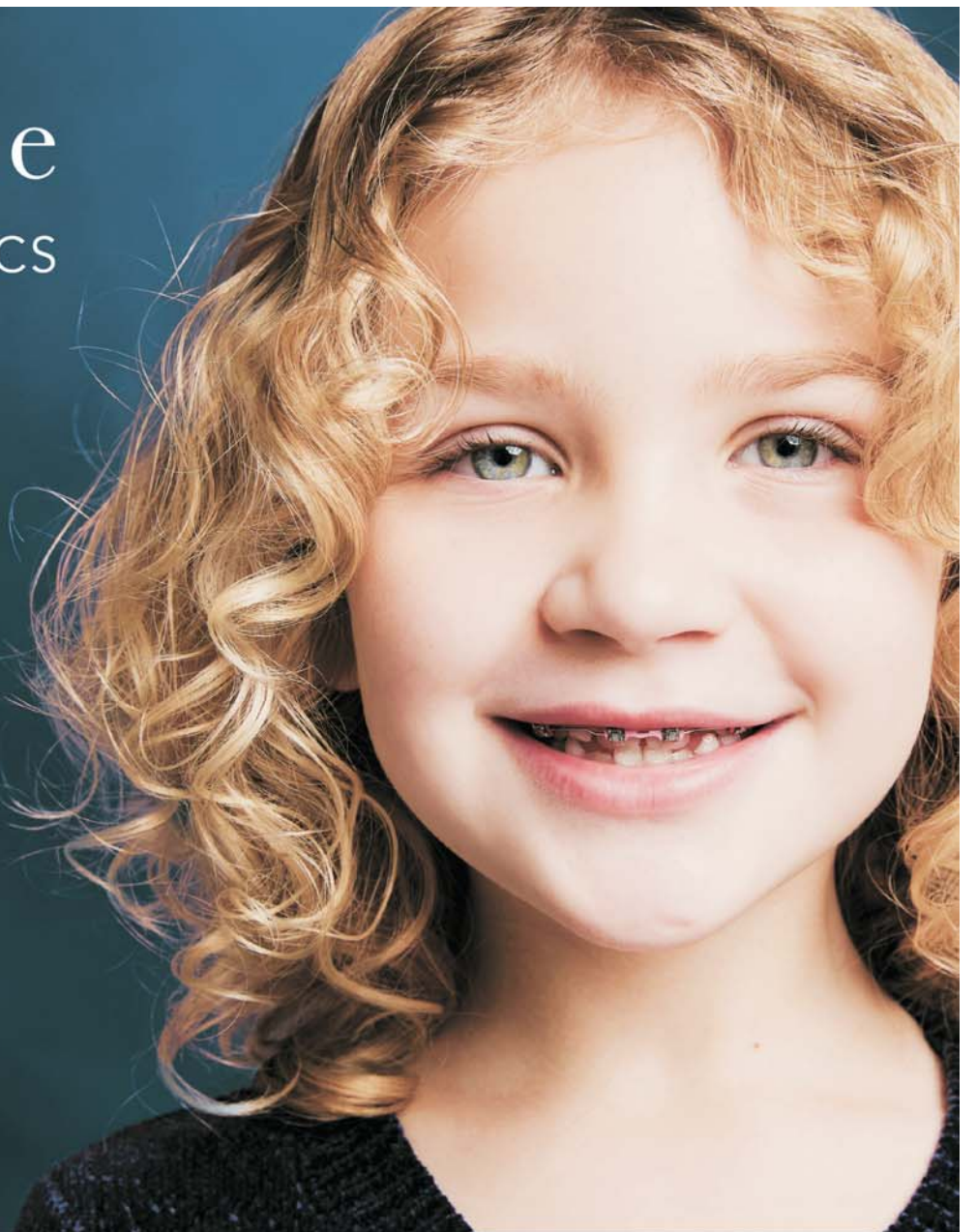
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# Abbey & Katie: The Debevec Sisters

By Dan Mucci

This story is being reprinted with permission from Jackson Living Magazine as it appears in the latest edition of the publication.

The Debevec sisters have a shared experience playing lacrosse for Jackson High School. At the center of the team’s success has been senior Katie, who had the unique experience of playing with her older sister Chelsea and is now playing with her twin sister, Abbey.

When Chelsea was a senior at Jackson, three years ago, Katie played on varsity as a freshman. As her career has progressed as a Polar Bear, she has played with Abbey for the past few years. Katie and Abbey shared their thoughts on playing together.

“Every practice, game, team feed and bus ride with Abbey has been a blessing,” wrote Katie, who enjoys running, hanging out with friends and playing pickleball. “Lacrosse has had a huge impact on us creating a bonding experience like no other.”

Abbey echoed those sentiments. “It is an amazing experience that not many people can say they have (playing on the same team with your twin),” wrote Abbey, who enjoys hanging out with friends, playing pickleball and going on a walk/run in her spare time. “Being together, challenging each other and ultimately making each better not just physically but also mentally. It’s super fun every day and the day the season ends, and we won’t get the opportunity to play together again, that will be the hardest thing to say goodbye to.”

However, Abbey shared that twin intuition and being together never gets old. “I never need a break from Katie,” wrote Abbey. “We share the same friends, and we have since elementary school. We may argue because we are sisters, but five minutes later, we ae acting like it never happened. We are together 24/7 and when we are a part, it is the hardest thing. I came home from a volleyball tournament one time and Katie told me, ‘never leave me again.’ She’s not only my sister but my

best friend and we rely on each other every day for support.”

## THE DEBEVEC SISTERS’ LEGACY

Katie described what it was like to play with her sister Chelsea on the varsity team. “It was a pleasure



to play with my sister and learn from a great role model,” wrote Katie, who is a member of Varsity J, student council and cheerleading at Jackson. “I’ve learned to focus on my own journey and not the comparisons to her though it can be tough living up to her achievements. I am so proud of all her success here at Jackson.”

Abbey, like Katie, respects the groundwork laid by Chelsea, but she is looking to establish her own identity as well.

“I am beyond proud of both of my sisters for leaving such a legacy here at Jackson,” wrote Abbey, who

is a member of Varsity J, student council and volleyball at Jackson. “The challenge for me is to be myself rather than being compared to both of my sisters’ success. I obviously want to represent my family’s name well but there is no higher expectation than to represent Jackson as a team when we all have that jersey on.”

## PLAYING DIFFERENT POSITIONS

One area that does separate the twins on the field is Katie, a midfielder and Abbey is a defender.

Katie describes her role as midfielder, who will try out for cheering at Kent State University, where she will major in nursing. “I am listed as a midfielder/attacker because of taking the draw but primarily play attack. I relish the chance for creating offensive opportunities, making an impact on the game and executing plays with my team.”

As a defender, Abbey’s role is different. Abbey must use her voice to communicate with her teammates.

“Communication from the defensive side is crucial because we can give feedback to the attack to help them score more goals but also communicate with my teammates on defense to prevent teams from scoring on us,” wrote Abbey, who will play volleyball at Kent State University and major in special education. “It is also a good way for us to be on the same page with midfielders as they are coming down to defense and need to know where to go. Being vocal builds trust within each of us and helps control the game.

“Being a defender is fun, but I have to stay super focused and always be ready to react to the other team’s moves. What I really relish about the role is the chance to be a key part of the team. I love making those big defensive plays and shutting down an opponent’s attack or driving attempt.”

Continued on page 12

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## Did You Know ...

Jackson High School has won state championships in boys basketball (2010, 2017), baseball (2014, 2017), and boys cross country (2023)



# Commencement 2025!



*Some photos on these pages are courtesy of Rylie Fuline Photography.*





## Did You Know ...

Niche.com ranks Jackson High School as one of the best schools in Ohio for student-athletes because of the success on the field and in the classroom.







## Did You Know ...

Jackson Local offers 27 AP courses, and nearly 8 out of 10 students score a 3 or higher in those AP classes to earn transferable college credit?



# Attention Parents

Do you have a graduating senior? Do they need money for school?

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# Four Jackson High School Seniors Named National Merit Finalists



ERIC WASCO



ISHA NAGAJOTHI



NOAH SCHRADER



MAX WEBER



Jackson High School is proud to announce that four of our outstanding seniors – Isha Nagajothi, Noah Schrader, Eric Wasco, and Max Weber – have been recognized as National Merit Finalists, placing them among the top academic high school students in the country. This prestigious designation reflects years of hard work, academic excellence, and commitment to learning. Collectively, these students were eligible for scholarships totaling more than \$700,000, offered by universities across the nation.

Their achievements are a testament to the power of hard-working students, dedicated educators, and a community that values education. These seniors exemplify the best of what it means to be a Polar Bear – focused, driven, and prepared to lead. We celebrate Isha, Noah, Eric, and Max for this incredible honor and look forward to the bright futures they are building.



## Meet Our Newest Polar Pups

Jackson High School is getting a little friendlier – and a lot furrier – with the upcoming arrival of two new Polar Pups: **Clifton and Bandit!**

These lovable pups are joining our Polar Pups team, a growing animal support program and are already spreading smiles during early visits to the high school. Their calm presence and warm personalities make them a welcome addition for students and staff alike.

Starting in August, Clifton and Bandit will become regular fixtures in our school community, helping support student well-being and contributing to a positive school climate.

Welcome Clifton and Bandit to the Polar Bear family – and we can’t wait for everyone to meet them this fall!

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## Did You Know ...

All six Jackson Local school buildings are Purple Star-certified for the district's commitment to serving military-connected families?



### The Debevec Sisters

(Continued from page 6)

#### UPHOLDING A TRADITION

The Jackson girls' lacrosse team is successful year in and year out. With success comes pressure to uphold the school tradition. For the Debevec girls, practicing is a little easier with three players in the household.

"We love to get reps on the field together, even if it is just playing wall ball," wrote Katie, who started playing lacrosse at nine-years-old. "It is fun because we are all bonding and hanging out."

In every sport at Jackson, North Canton Hoover is their rival, lacrosse is no exception, where every year the Bears and Vikings battle for the top spot in the league.

"We are a close team, and we can count on one another to their part," wrote Abbey. "Our dynamic has grown so close, and we find the pressure of a successful program as a privilege to have played at Jackson."

On the playing field, both girls indicated they are each other's biggest cheerleaders even if they play on opposite sides of the field. They are extremely

proud of each other's successes, and they build their confidence off of that.

The Debevec name is well known in Jackson, and not just because of the three girls' success on the lacrosse field. Their dad, Tim, is the Polar Bears head boys' basketball coach. But is he just a dad watching his kids play or does the coach in him come out?

#### COACHING A LACROSSE FAMILY

Kayla Miller, who is in her second year as head coach, has coached all three Debevec girls. "Yes, I had the incredible opportunity to coach Chelsea through summer travel lacrosse when she was going from eighth to ninth grade," said Miller. "Chelsea always played with such intensity and poise, but what stood out to me was that she played attack and told me she was happy to play low defense because she did not want to take away from the girls on the team and she was just there to help."

"It is amazing being able to coach Abbey and Katie together the past two years. It was a surprise to many when Abbey decided to come back and play, and I am so glad she did. They bring such a fun dynamic to the team where they know when to be goofy and lighten the mood, but then they also both know when it is ready to focus and get to work. Katie brings intensity, drive and offensive skills and IQ to our program while Abbey contributes vocal

leadership, communication and great sports mentality that rubs off on the rest of the girls." Being a coach and having the kids of a coach on the team could be challenging, but Miller is handling it in stride and sees both sides of the Debevec family.

"Coach Debevec has been one of the biggest supporters of the lacrosse program from both a parent and coaching perspective," wrote Miller. "He is well known and respected in the community. He has built such a strong basketball program. I know that if I ever needed any sort of coaching advice that I can ask him, and he will do his best to help. Because he is a coach, he knows what it is like to be in my shoes, so he is there if I need coaching help, or he is there just to be a supportive parent to do anything behind the scenes to support the girls. Coach and his wife Chris have been amazing, and I will definitely miss having a Debevec daughter on the lacrosse turf, but I am so grateful for the time I did have to coach them all."

And the girls added their two cents to the topic as well. "The best part of our dad is he is a parent first," said Katie and Abbey. "He will always be there at the end of our game to give us a hug and tell us he is proud of us whether we win or lose. We are beyond grateful to have our dad be a coach and so proud of him every day. When he is not on the court, he's an even better dad than he is coach."

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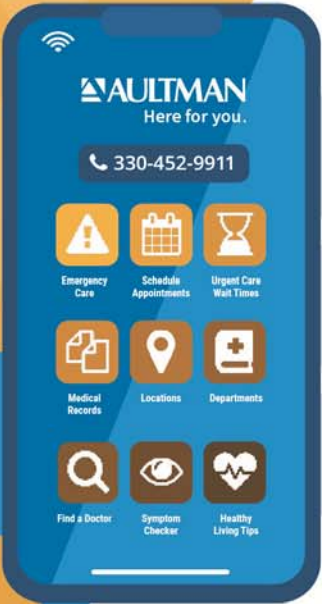
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# Did You Know ...



Jackson Local is a 5-Star school, the highest ranking possible, in the latest Ohio Department of Education & Workforce Report Card rankings?

## A Quarterback and his Coach look forward to next season By Dan Mucci

*This story is being reprinted with permission from Jackson Living Magazine as it appears in the latest edition of the publication.*

It is always football season in Stark County. Warmer days and longer nights are signaling summer is here, but high school football coaches and players are working on spring/summer practices to prepare for the start of two-a-days in August.

This year, the Polar Bears offense is looking for a reset. Under the direction of second year offense coordinator Badre Bardawil and the return of quarterback Lucas Ecrement, who is fully recovered from knee surgery, Jackson is looking to be a powerhouse on the offensive side of the field.

Lucas, the son of Randy Ecrement and Jill Schoonover, injured his knee at the end of his sophomore season on a play in the red zone against rival North Canton Hoover.

Bardawil, who graduated from St. Thomas Aquinas High School and later coached at his alma mater, described what he is looking for with this year's offense.

"I came in last season and implemented some new things into the offense while keeping a lot of core concepts and principles from the previous season," wrote Bardawil, who graduated from Kent State University. "Lucas came back last year from knee surgery and worked extremely hard to get himself ready to play. He was able to compete in a normal off-season this year and he has taken full advantage. He has put on 20 pounds and regained a lot of the speed he showcased as a sophomore.

My expectations for him are extremely high. He needs to build on all the experience he has gained over the last three seasons and put together a special senior season. I'm excited to watch him play at full strength."



Lucas Ecrement scrambling for positive yardage

Ecrement described how tough last season was for him to sit out last season... "It was tough, especially not being able to play with the seniors one last time," wrote Ecrement, who has a sister, McKenzie. "My rehab is over and I'm finally back at 100%. One way I stayed involved with the team last season was coming to the liftings even if I could not participate."

Bardawil described Ecrement's style of play: "As a freshman/sophomore, he was definitely a dual threat showing speed that made him a difference-maker when he ran the ball," wrote the purple and white's play caller, who is married to Megan. They have a daughter, Maya, and son, Rocco. "Coming off his knee injury, he molded himself into more of a pocket passer expanding his football IQ and showing confidence sitting in the pocket and having a good understanding of what he's reading and how to get the ball out versus pressure. I think he's ready now to put all that together and be a true dual-threat QB."

Ecrement is looking forward to returning to the field. He believes he aligns with what his coach is implementing.

"(I feel like) me and coach think very alike in terms of the offense," wrote Ecrement, who also plays baseball at Jackson, is involved in student council, and enjoys hanging out with family and friends in his spare time.

The coach described Lucas's strengths and areas to grow.

"Lucas's strengths are his toughness, coachability and poise," wrote Bardawil. "This kid has shown his ability to perform at a high level while taking big hits and playing through injuries. He never wants to take plays or reps off no matter how hurt he may be.

*Continued on next page*

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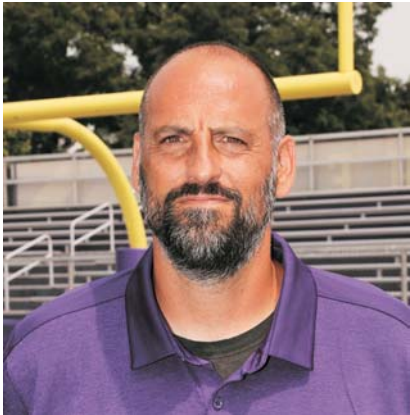
Quarterback and his Coach cont'd

"He is also a great listener. He is open to coaching every day and wants to get better with every rep. He handles criticism well and always just plays the next play. He is fun to coach everyday even though he is not much of a talker. Plus, the moment doesn't get too big for him. He plays with a calmness and poise that is required in high pressure situations."

Ecrement describes what he feels are his strengths on the field.

"My strengths of being a quarterback I feel is knowing and trusting every single person on and off the field," he wrote.

A concern is Ecrement needs to keep building his body and continue to get stronger in the weight room, which Ecrement agreed to as well. Ecrement also feels he needs to polish his foot work.

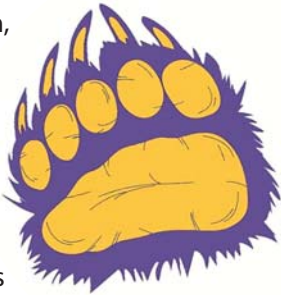


Head Coach Badre Bardawil

This spring/summer practices will be extremely important to the Polar Bears, who compete in the competitive Federal League. "It is extremely important because we have four new starters on the offensive line and we must replace an All-Ohio running back and two veteran wide receivers who had a lot of production," wrote Bardawil.

Ecrement is looking to make a strong statement this year. And that starts with the relationship he has with his teammates.

"Ever since I came into the program as a freshman, everyone has been super supportive and I've made relationships I feel will last a lifetime. This is my senior year, but from last year, I think the most important thing that I learned was to take every opportunity and utilize it the most you can."



As a new season sits on the horizon, the Polar Bears offense looks to make an explosive impact.

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