



POLAR BEAR PRIDE

POLAR: Josh Tsai, Avery Ellis, Zach McKinley, Alexa Durkin, Ben Mostov

BEAR: Alex Mahoney, Jason Sykes, Isabella Sykes, Amara Lane

PRIDE: Matthew Fish, Zach McClain, Brook McClain, Malia Marinos, Gabe Madrigal

APRIL 2015 Vol. 21, Issue 3

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FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Keeping the Main Thing, the Main Thing

Student Achievement • Resource Management • Communication & Collaboration

CHRIS DILORETO

Spring brings the success of winter's hard work

Spring has finally arrived, and with it comes great news about the many athletic and academic accomplishments our students made during the long, snowy winter.

Student Achievement

Numerous music students at the high school, middle school and elementary levels performed in esteemed honors ensembles throughout the state. Medical, automotive, carpentry and culinary students competed at state, and JMMS had many first, second and third place victories in the Stark County Math Tournament.

Two JMMS athletic teams and almost half of our high school teams won Federal League titles. Girls' Golf and Volleyball finished second in the state, and we had 11 regional qualifying teams. Girls' Basketball advanced to Regional competition for the first time in 37 years and also earned the 5th highest academic ranking in the state (all schools/all divisions) with a team GPA of 3.925.

It's not always about the academic award or athletic trophy. Jackson students know that achievements are important but hard work pays off no matter where you land on the ladder of success. We teach students that a strong work ethic and a determination to succeed will lead to many great opportunities in life.

Jackson would not succeed without its outstanding teaching staff, recently exemplified by foreign language teacher Parthena Draggett who was named Ohio World Language Teacher of the Year. Elected by her peers in the Ohio Foreign

Language Association, Mrs. Draggett represented our state at the 17-state, Central States Conference in Minnesota. This award is well deserved, as you will see in the article about her on page 4.



Resource Management

Throughout this relentless winter, Jackson Local Schools remained solid in its resolve to be a leader in energy conservation. When we instituted the energy management program in 2010, our goal was to reduce consumption by 25%. We surpassed that goal and are now using 31.5% less energy. This ongoing effort has saved taxpayers more than \$1.85 million to date.

Jackson Local is also diligent about managing its financial resources, making us one of the state's lowest spending, highest achieving districts. Our outstanding Treasurer's Office earned the Auditor of State Award for a fourth consecutive year. Hats off to treasurer, Linda Paris and her team for their accurate record keeping.

Communication and Collaboration

Not only do we appreciate the partnerships with local business and government agencies, but also with parents. Jackson's status of 19th of over 600 Ohio districts is achieved with help from the entire community. We appreciate the way each of you partners with us to craft success in this fine group of young people.



Photo by Lora Finn

The singers: Hana Ahmed, Jacksen Austin, Audrey Baker, Kaden Biles, Carson Burns, Avery Caldwell, Chloe Christensen, Ben Clarke, Adriann Cobbs, Justin Cole, Sam Conner, Lauren Downing, Mikayla Fowler, Isabella Gagliardi, Molly Gialluca, Conner Griffiths, Ryan Griffiths, Halle Ignacio, Mia Ignacio, Abigail Klapper, Taylor Leonard, Tegan McCray Colin Mungo, Logan Mytinger, Jason Ruppert, Lydia Schmidt, Sarah Sisson, Ethan Smith, Alex Snyder, Noah Sommers, Sarah Spencer, Amaiya Stone, Emma Walker, Olivia Webster and Crystal Zhu.

Amherst choir goes center court

On Wednesday March 18, thirty-five Amherst choir students and their director, Mrs. Cindy Grove, had the honor of singing our National Anthem at the Cleveland Cavaliers basketball game inside the Quicken Loans Arena. Four years ago, the young singers were the first children's choir to ever sing at

a Cavs game, and now they were invited to sing it again. This time, with LeBron James back on the court, excitement was running high, and it climbed even higher when the choir was asked to form the high five tunnel on the court, in place of a high school team that was caught in traffic.

"We were given Cavs T-shirts and sent to the floor to form the tunnel (the one players pass through as they enter the arena). To be on that floor while 20,000 fans cheer for the players was an amazing experience," said Mrs. Grove.

See AMHERST CHOIR, page 8

Treasurer receives fourth consecutive Auditor of State Award

For the fourth consecutive year, Jackson Local Schools earned the Auditor of State Award based on its recently completed, clean and accurate financial audit.

A clean report means that the recent, annual financial audit did not contain findings for recovery, material citations, material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, Single Audit findings, or any questioned costs.

"Clean and accurate record-keeping are the foundation for good government,



"This award belongs to the women in the Treasurer's Office who pay careful attention to the details of spending, and to the entire staff who are very good stewards of our limited and valuable public resources."

— Linda Paris, Treasurer JLSJ

and the taxpayers can take pride in our commitment to accountability," Auditor of State, Dave Yost, wrote to Jackson Local Schools Treasurer Linda Paris.

Humbly receiving the honor, Mrs. Paris



commented, "This award belongs to the women in the Treasurer's Office who pay careful attention to the details of spending, and to the entire staff who are very good stewards of our limited and valuable public resources."

Performer in the All-State Band

Jordin Andrews represented Jackson High School, performing in this year's the Ohio Music Education Association's All-State Honor Band in Cleveland along with other top Ohio high school musicians. Jordin was selected for the honor after submitting an audition recording.



Students inducted into Tri-M Music Honor Society

These JHS students were inducted into the Jackson chapter of Tri-M Music Honor Society.

Tri-M is an international music honor society designed to recognize students for their academic and musical achievements, reward them for their accomplishments and service activities, and inspire other students to excel at music and leadership.

President - Kevin Walters
Vice President - Alex Starkey
Secretary - Zayna Dayeh
Treasurer - Kristina Jackson
Historian - Melanie Stoll

NEW MEMBERS

Jordin Andrews, Margaret Ash, Amari Baker, Ellie Camerato, Rachel Chapman, Matthew Class, Jared Crum, Peter Dent, Madeline Geiser, Hayley Landers, Natalie

Maley, Carter McDaniel, Kerrie Perez, Sameed Pervaiz, Mackenzie Peterson, Bailey Richterman, Elizabeth Russ, Zak Shreve, Hannah Specogna, Moriah Sprit, Mitchell Walker, Nathaniel Webb, Daniel Wilmer, Kayla Worrell, and Caleb Yoder.

RETURNING MEMBERS

Jillian Eckroate, Tyrus Jones, Kaitlin Kulich, Karris McCollum, Adrian Muica, Casey Murray, Mitchell Wendt, and Wan Xing.

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Honor Band

This group of JHS band members participated in the District 8 Honor Band on January 31 at Mount Union under the direction of Dr. Otis French. Pictured are Melanie Stoll, Daniel Collins, Alex Starkey, Caleb Yoder, Jared Crum, Mitchell Walker, Karris McCollum, and Wan Xing.



Students perform at Percussion Ensemble Festival

Seventeen Jackson High School percussion students participated in the 11th annual Ohio State University Percussion Ensemble Festival in February. The students performed for

world-renowned clinicians and enjoyed clinics by Dr. Joseph Krygier, professor of percussion at OSU, Scott Herring, professor of percussion at The University of South Carolina, and Dr. Susan Powell, head of the percussion department at OSU. Three selected students, Alex Starkey, Justin Long, and Nathan Webb, had the opportunity to perform in honors ensembles directed by Dr. Krygier, Scott Herring, and Dr. Powell.

"Thank you to the boosters who paid the entrance fee and the supportive staff, administration, and parents who make these fun and educational events possible. It was a day filled with outstanding performances and great music-making," said Tyler Carpenter, assistant band director and percussion coordinator at JHS.

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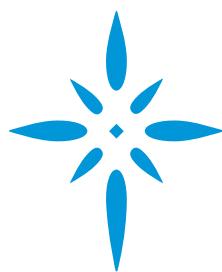
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Did You Know?

We have a new Jackson Academy for Global Studies (JAGS) for students interested in becoming more globally proficient in multiple languages, cultures, community service, leadership and worldwide business.

JAGS teachers and some students have traveled 225,000 miles, circling the globe nine times.



High School

JHS teacher is Ohio World Language Teacher of the Year

Parthena Draggett teaches Spanish at Jackson High School in Massillon, where she is the World Language Department Head and has taught all levels of Spanish and French. Parthena also serves as a Project Management Team Leader for Stark County World Language Lead Teachers since 2004, and has created model curriculum for the Ohio Department of Education, both for Ohio's New Learning Standards (2012) and our previous standards. She has participated in various OFLA committees over the years, including: Technology, Awards, and Teacher Education and Licensure. A recipient of the OFLA Distinguished Service Award in 2006 and the Technology Award in 2012, her most recent service is as a member of the ODE Network of Regional Leaders, collaborating with teachers across the state.



Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, and Regional Coordinator for the National Spanish Exam. Parthena has been an AP Spanish Reader since 2006, currently as Table Leader. Parthena regularly contributes to the OFLA Listserv, the AP Community, and FL Teach, making connections with teachers near and far, sharing materials and collaborating.

Parthena earned her B.A. in Spanish and French from Mount Union College and her M.A. in Spanish and French Pedagogy and Applied Linguistics from Kent State University. Among the first National Board Certified Teachers in World Languages Other than English (2002), Parthena currently holds the highest Ohio teaching credentials: Lead Professional Educator License.

In March, she represented Ohio as the state's nominee for the 2015 Central States Conference's regional Teacher of the Year competition in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Parthena is a talented and respected colleague whose accomplishments are outstanding, and whose dedication to teaching is unsurpassed.

From the Ohio Department of Education Web site <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-s-New-Learning-Standards/Foreign-Language/Ohio-World-Language-Teacher-of-the-Year>

has contributed as a writer and editor of materials for the AP Community Online Annotated Resource Guide, and is co-author of the new College Board Thematic Curriculum Module, *El arte – ventana y espejo*, to be used in AP Spanish Language and Culture AP Summer Institutes. She also participated in preparing sample syllabi for the new AP Spanish Language and Culture Course Audit. A passionate AP teacher, Parthena has been a reviewer and author of several AP Spanish publications, including the AP SPANISH LANGUAGE Quick Study Guide for Bar Charts, Inc.

Moreover, Parthena serves as Treasurer of AATSP Ohio, State Director for the



JHS students teach Spanish to Jackson elementary students

Jackson High School Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica members have been spending their Tuesday evenings teaching Spanish to children from all four Jackson elementary schools. More than 155 children in grades 1-5 come to JHS on Tuesdays from 6-7 to receive Spanish lessons from their teenage teachers supervised by Parthena Draggett, SHH Advisor and World Language Department Head. "It is just amazing to witness the great energy in the classrooms and hear the children speaking Spanish. Our third floor at JHS is hopping with excited learning," said Mrs. Draggett.

Did You Know?

Jackson Local finances are audited every year

Jackson Local Schools has consistently clean audits. It takes a team of six state auditors over 600 hours to review our books. That's six sets of eyes making sure your funds are properly handled.

POLAR BEAR PRIDE is published four times each year under the auspices of the Jackson Local Board of Education with advertising support from area businesses. It is printed and mailed to Jackson homes and businesses at no cost to the school district. Polar Bear Pride is not a public forum. Its purpose is to keep the community informed of life and learning in the Jackson Local Schools.

Community Service Club hits the ceiling



The JHS Community Service Club, under the direction of Jason Converse, JHS industrial technology teacher, made repairs to a local home in collaboration with Hammer and Nails. The team of girls learned to hang and finish drywall. The club volunteers regularly in similar capacities throughout the community.



Career & Tech headed to state

In February, Jackson High School Career & Technical students participated in the regional SkillsUSA competition. The following students placed in their individual competitions and will advance to state competition in Columbus in April.

Peter Marshal - Senior - 3rd place in Medical Math. Contestants demonstrate their knowledge of math concepts used in the healthcare fields by completing a test that may include the use of ratio/proportion, dosage calculation, metric and household equivalents, Roman numerals, abbreviations, and general math.

Alexis Hrabovsky - Senior - 2nd place in Medical Terminology. Contestants evaluate the knowledge of medical terminology and abbreviations of an individual preparing for employment in the health fields.

Tyler Weaver - Junior - 3rd place in Automotive. Contestants demonstrate the ability to perform jobs and skills based on the task list outlined by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) and the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF). Workstations consisted of on-vehicle, simulations, bench and component testing and a written test.

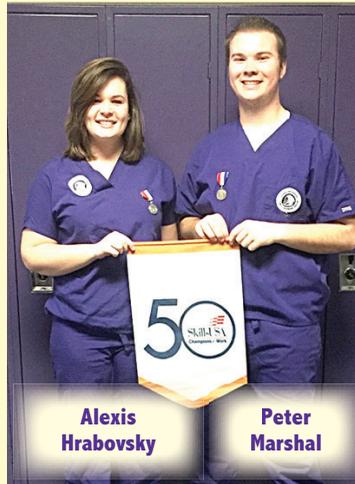
Mitch Quartz - Junior - 3rd place in Carpentry. Contestants framed walls using wood and metal steel studs, cut and installed rafters, installed sheathing, and demonstrated knowledge of stair construction. Contestants were judged on accuracy, ability to interpret blueprints, workmanship, safety and the proper use of tools and materials.



Mitch Quartz



Tyler Weaver



Alexis Hrabovsky

Peter Marshal



Cooks to compete at the state level

The Jackson Culinary Competition Team of Savannah Brown, Octavia Stokes, Cody McDaniel and Emily Spuhler is going to state! They won gold at the regional competition and qualified to compete at the state level in late April.

"They worked very hard the past few months to get ready for the event. I expect great things from this team," said their instructor Stephanie Kunkel.



The Jackson Wall of Fame is located inside Jackson High School. It is a wall of plaques bearing the outstanding achievements of JHS alumni.

Nominate a distinguished alum to the Wall of Fame

The JHS Alumni Association holds an annual celebration for alumni who have distinguished themselves in one or more of the following areas: athletics, community contributions, professional accomplishments, political leadership, humanitarian contributions, or education. Nominee must be a five-year graduate.

For a nomination form, email Paula Blangger at pmb1jc@jackson.sparcc.org



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Eighth Grade Purple

Front from left: Drew Feucht, Domenic Frabotta, Christian Tomak, Ryan Rogers, Michael Stefan, Ethan Kulich. Back row: Assistant Coach Josh Yanke, Spencer Stanton, Brian Walker, Yianni Skeriotis, Keanton Hildreth, Trey Wright, Jake Johnston, Head Coach John Telloni.



Seventh Grade Gold

Front row: Grant Maggiore, Jake Aleman, Ethan Druckenbrod, Spencer Rea, Andrew Dauk, Heath Rea.

Back row: Head coach Evan Elliott, Jake Byers, Nick Flory, Jake Ryan, Randy Torrence, Ethan Adkins, Luke Murphy, Assistant Coach Boyd Elliott.

Two JMMS teams win Federal League

Coach John Telloni and Coach Josh Yanke led their 8th Grade basketball team to a Federal League championship. The 8th Grade Gold team beat Crenshaw in the final 53-50 to win the title. This was a superb effort on their part, as Crenshaw was the defending 7th grade league champion, riding a 35-game winning streak over two years.

Coach Evan Elliott led the 7th grade team to a Federal League Basketball Championship. Coach Elliott and his Gold team beat our own Coach Johnson and his Purple team 45-41 in the championship.

"The future of Jackson Boys basketball is very bright," said Athletic Director Dan Michel.

Career Day at JMMS

Jackson Memorial Middle School held its annual Career Day to introduce nearly 500 eighth grade students to a wide variety of careers, giving them the opportunity to inquire, interact, and learn from over 60 local professionals who volunteered their time to inspire the students. This exposure motivates students to think about possible career options and begin planning for the high school coursework needed to reach their goals. Prior to the Career Day event, students used the Ohio Career Information System to explore potential careers. They also used a computer based tool called "Reality Check," which allowed them to choose an imagined lifestyle then calculate whether or not they could achieve their desired lifestyle based on their career of interest.



JMMS musicians perform in honors band

Four outstanding seventh grade musicians performed in the OMEA District VIII Honors Band on January 31. Garon Carpenter, Nathan Gilham, Nathan Snyder and Minji Kim joined students from school districts throughout Stark County who were selected to represent their band programs. The day concluded with an excellent concert under the direction of Tom Holliday, retired Jackson band director.

"We are extremely proud of their excellent musicianship and how well they represented the Jackson band program," said Jackson's Assistant Director of Bands, Joseph F. Carlson.



Jackson Seeks Substitute Custodians



Substitute custodians work on an as-needed basis, assisting the head custodian with cleaning and maintenance of buildings and grounds. Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Experience in industrial cleaning is desired but not necessary. Must pass a BCI/FBI background check. \$10 per hour.

Apply online at www.jackson.stark.k12.oh.us.

Click on JOB OPPORTUNITIES in the purple left-hand column. Then click on SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAN.



JMMS Heritage Day

Students in Community 6A, under the direction of Mrs. Haas, Mrs. Fultz and Mrs. Raddish, participated in the 2nd Annual Heritage Day celebration. As part of their Language Arts class, students studied each other's culture and heritage to learn about America, the Melting Pot.

As a culminating activity, students made and shared food that symbolized part of their culture, heritage or family tradition. They also wrote a piece about what that dish means to their families and themselves.

Students enjoyed the foods while listening to guest speakers representing various cultures: Indian, German, Scottish, Native American, Cuban, Greek, Italian and Irish.



DO YOU RECYCLE ALUMINUM CANS?

If you take them to the Jackson Recycling Center and ask them to put the cans in the Jackson Middle School bin, you will be helping the eighth graders' year-long initiative to support a variety of local non-profits. Go Bears!



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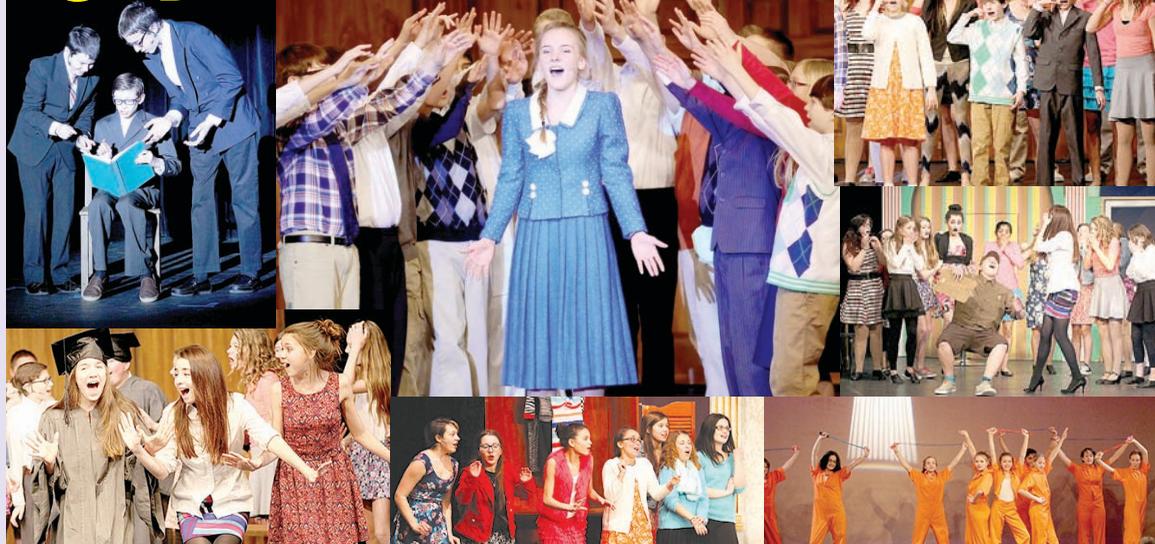
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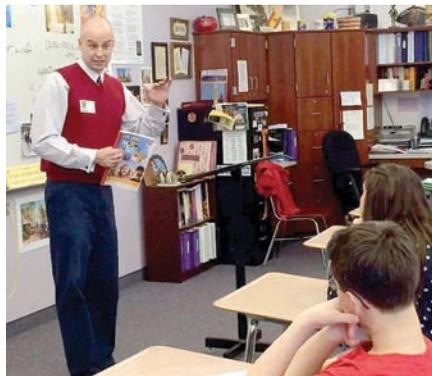


- MAY** 9 Prom
 25 Memorial Day - No School (K-12)
 26 GRADUATION
 27 Last Day for Students & Staff
 27 End of 4th 9 Weeks

ALUM NOTES

Grad speaks on global competency

Brad Ayers, a 1994 graduate of Jackson High School, spent a day sharing his experiences in international trade with JHS Spanish students. He urged students to make the connection between their foreign language study and their future success. Mr. Ayers said, "Today's students will compete in a flat world that will be hyper competitive. Developing global competency now with world language skills, intercultural understanding and a genuine curiosity about how things work outside of the classroom is very important for our national security and future economic development. It is always an honor for me to get the opportunity to share my experiences in international trade, using the Spanish language and my interests in having a global mind-set with students."



Grad is president of Ohio CAR

Anastasia Demor, a 2012 graduate of Jackson High School, is serving as president of the Ohio Society Children of the American Revolution (OSCAR), a subset of the National Society of the Children of the American Revolution. Founded in 1895, it is the oldest patriotic youth organization in the US. Membership in this leadership organization is open to descendants of patriots of the American Revolution.



"Through this organization, my love of patriotism, and love of country has grown. I am proud to be able to say I have at least 12 ancestors that fought in the American Revolution and be able to give the names of those patriots," Anastasia said. "The organization has helped me understand the importance of family and heritage, to grow as a leader and be truly be proud of where I came from."

As president of the Ohio chapter, Anastasia travels the state, raising funds for the Make-A-Wish Foundation®. She also leads her Ohio members in raising funds to help support the 2014-2015 National President's project—the restoration of the 10 flags that fly outside the Star-Spangled Flag House in Baltimore, Maryland. The Flag House, now a museum, began as the home of Mary Pickersgill, the woman who sewed the Star-Spangled Banner.

Anastasia is a junior at Notre Dame College of Ohio, studying elementary education. She will graduate with a double major as an intervention specialist and as an early childhood education teacher.

Just as she is proud of her patriotic roots, she is proud of her JHS roots. "My education at Jackson High School was a good one. I had experiences I may not have gotten at any other school. I participated in the Career Tech Program, and by doing that, it helped me to skip my freshman level teaching class and jump right into my sophomore level classes," she said.

Here are some thoughts from a few Amherst singers:

"I'm never gonna' wash my hand!" **Sarah Sisson** who got to high five LeBron James.

"It was awesome to be out on the court and high five the players." **Logan Mytinger** and **Chloe Christensen**

"When we went on the court I was standing by Tristan Thompson and Jr. Smith, which will never happen again. Thank you (Mrs. Grove) for everything that you did to get us there. It means a lot!" **Lydia Schmidt**

"My experience there was fun because I got to high five the players." **Benjamin Clarke**

"Most of the time I thought it was a dream." **Avery Caldwell**

Then it was off to center court to sing the National Anthem. Following the performance, the young singers commented:

"It was so exciting! Just that feeling you get when everyone cheers and claps. Ohh, it's amazing! Just sheer exhilaration." **Carson Burns**

"It was a wonderful night for my friends and me, especially since some of us are thinking about a career in singing." **Bella Gagliardi**

"I was so surprised to be singing the National Anthem at the Cavs on my birthday!" **Molly Gialluca**

"The seats were amazing! Such a view!" **Conner Griffiths**

"I loved singing in front of all those people. One day I hope to do it again." **Lauren Downing**

"I had an amazing time and I was grateful for that opportunity! Thank you Mrs. Grove." **Collin Mungo**

"Walking on that court made me feel so special! And being on the Jumbotron was exhilarating!" **Adriann Cobbs**

"I loved it because...free food is amazing and so was being with my family!" **Sam Conner**

"I'm so glad I got to be a part of this." **Ethan Smith**

"This was a once in a lifetime experience." **Taylor Leonard**

"... the best night of my life!" **Olivia Webster** and **Noah Sommers**

"I think we made some memories and brought the Cavs some luck," said Mrs. Grove smiling, as the Cavs beat the Nets 117-92.



Photos by Lora Finn

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Board Meeting Schedule

February 16	Middle School.....	6:00 p.m.
March 18	High School.....	6:00 p.m.
April 21	High School.....	6:00 p.m.
May 19	High School.....	6:00 p.m.
June 23	High School.....	6:00 p.m.
July 21	High School.....	6:00 p.m.
August 25	High School.....	6:00 p.m.
September 22.....	High School.....	6:00 p.m.
October 27	Sauder Elementary	6:00 p.m.
November 17	Lake Cable Elementary	6:00 p.m.
December 15	Amherst Elementary	6:00 p.m.

MEETING DATES AND TIMES CAN CHANGE. CALL 330-830-8000 TO CONFIRM.



Alysha Matronia, Jeff Floyd, Tina Floyd, Riley Floyd, Olivia Hauritz and Avery McCauley.

Jackson Cheerleaders design shopping spree fundraiser

Jackson cheerleaders sold tickets for a 90-second shopping spree at Buehler's. Jackson mom, Tina Floyd, won the prize and made her recent sweep through Buehler's grocery store. Proceeds from the fundraiser will pay for the girls' trip to compete in a national competition in Indianapolis in April. This is the first time in the past five years that the squad earned a national bid.

Stark County Math Tournament

More than 650 students in grades 5-7 from 17 districts participated in the Stark County Math Tournament sponsored by the Greater Canton Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the Stark County Educational Service Center. Jackson competed against Green Local, Lake Local, North Canton City, Perry Local and Plain Local. Here are the coaches and winners from Jackson.

5th Grade Coaches: Mrs. Summer Fritz, Mrs. Colleen Scolaro, Mrs. Mary Kate Agona, Mrs. Amanda Hunsicker and Mr. Matt Denham.

Middle School Coaches: Mr. Tim Cavanaugh, Mrs. Libbi Davis, Mrs. Sharon Coyle, Mrs. Seana Carter and Mrs. Laura Laverick

5th Grade Algebra, Data & Probability
Evan Adkins (placed 2nd), Alexa Yockey (placed 1st)

5th Grade Geometry & Measurement
Crystal Zhu (placed 6th), Isabella Gagliardi (placed 2nd), Carson Burns (placed 1st)

5th Grade Number Sense
Blaise Dawson (placed 4th), Snehal Choudhury (placed 3rd), Tanner Crawford (placed 2nd)

5th Grade Team Problem Solving (placed 2nd as a team)
Ella Mahoney, Jace Lutz, Ally Stalnaker

6th Grade Algebra, Data & Probability
Matt Kachur (placed 5th), Zach Charlick (placed 3rd), Allan Cao (placed 2nd)

6th Grade Geometry & Measurement
Ryan Farneth (placed 5th), Samuel Degenhard (placed 3rd), Krish Parikh (placed 1st)

6th Grade Mental Computation
Grace Sykes (placed 8th), Matt Visco (placed 3rd), Pranav Nagajothi (placed 2nd)

6th Grade Number Sense
Emily Stone (placed 8th), Makayla Chandler (placed 2nd), Andrew Deffenbaugh (placed 1st)

6th Grade Team Problem Solving (placed 1st as a team)
Jonah Russ, Jackson Milkanin, Lauren Hall

7th Grade Algebra, Data & Probability
Edward Dan (placed 6th), Divya Patibandla (placed 5th), Abby Lawrence (placed 2nd)

7th Grade Geometry & Measurement
Clare Abboud (placed 7th), Kaitlyn Woolbert (placed 4th), Shreyaa Nagajothi (placed 1st)

7th Grade Mental Computation
Evan Tormasi (placed 7th), Victor Berni (placed 4th), Spencer Rea (placed 2nd),

7th Grade Number Sense
Patrick Tawil (placed 7th), Bradley Tonges (placed 5th) Koby Siglock

7th Grade Team Problem Solving (placed 1st as a team)
Ishita Mathur, Megan Westphal, Grace Rank

5th Grade Mental Computation
Benny Iraheta (placed 8th), Carter Dockery, Maggie Hoffner

Technology shared at conference

Jackson's technology director, Janet Thompson, and network specialist, Keith Obermeier, recently presented at the Ohio Educational Technology Conference (OETC) in Columbus.

OETC is Ohio's premier kindergarten-through-college educational technology conference. Each year, more than 4,000 educational technology professionals gather to explore the forefront of best practices and innovation.

Mrs. Thompson and Mr. Obermeier showed conference attendees the network technology adjustments made at Jackson to prepare for students' online testing. In addition, they demonstrated Purview, the network optimization software that captures network data and analyzes the ways in which Jackson students are using the district network. The analysis allows our tech team to see bottlenecks and improve in-house network performance as well as efficiently identify problems outside the Jackson network. All of this is to create the best possible learning and testing experience for Jackson students.



2015-16 School Calendar

August

- 12 Gr 6/New Student Orientation, 6-8:00 pm
- 12 Gr 9/New Student Orientation A-L, 7-8:00 pm
- 13 Gr 9/New Student Orientation M-Z, 7-8:00 pm
- 17 Open House - All Elementaries, 4:30-6:30 pm
- 18 1st Day for Students (K-12)
- 25 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, 6:30-8:30 pm

September

- 4 Teacher In-Service - No School (K-12)
- 7 Labor Day - No School (K-12)

October

- 9 Teacher In-Service - No School (K-12)
- 12 Columbus Day - No School (K-12)
- 13 Parent Conferences (K-5) 4:00-8:00 pm
- 13 Parent Conferences (Gr 6-12) 4:30-7:30 pm
- 15 Parent Conferences (K-5) 4:00-8:00 pm
- 16 **End of 1st Marking Period - 40 Days**
- 21 Parent Conferences (K-5) 4:00-8:00 pm
- 21 Parent Conferences (Gr 6-12) 4:30-7:30 pm

November

- 25 Thanksgiving Break Begins

December

- 1 Classes Resume
- 18 **End of 2nd Marking Period - 41 Days**
- 21 Winter Break Begins

January

- 4 Classes Resume
- 15 Teacher In-Service - No School (K-12)
- 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School (K-12)

February

- 10 Parent Conferences (K-12) 4:30-7:30 pm
- 12 Teacher In-Service - No School (K-12)
- 15 Presidents' Day - No School (K-12)
- 18 Parent Conferences (K-12) 4:30-7:30 pm

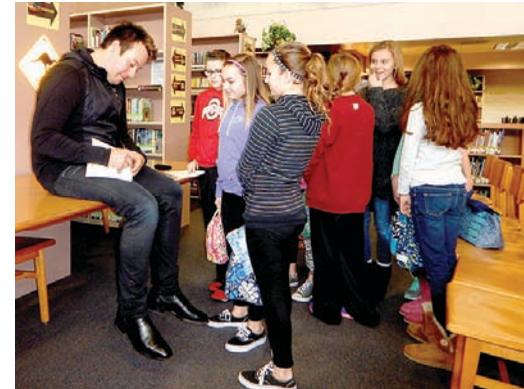
March

- 18 **End of 3rd Marking Period - 51 Days**
- 21 Spring Break Begins
- 28 Classes Resume

April

May

- 25 Last Day for Students & Staff
- 25 **End of 4th Marking Period - 43 Days**



Author visits JMMS

James Phelan, Australian author of 21 novels, spoke to JMMS students about how he became a professional writer at age 25. He spoke of the need for an active imagination backed by solid research. He encouraged students to keep reading, writing and honing the research skills they are learning in school. His work includes both non-fiction and fiction for young readers and adults with themes that revolve around friendship, redemption, love, loss, survival and coming-of-age.



JMMS Power of the Pen

Since September, the Power of the Pen Team, advised by teachers Rachel Stien and Kathryn White has met weekly after school to practice writing, and hold group discussions on how to improve their writing pieces.

"We have some wonderful writers who have crafted creative stories to match the challenging prompts that Power of the Pen chooses," said Mrs. White.

After months of preparation, six seventh graders and six eighth graders competed in the District Tournament at the University of Mount Union. There, Megan Bee, an eighth grader, received third place for her writings.

After Districts, three seventh graders and four eighth graders advance to the Regional Tournament at Malone University. Madeline Evans, a seventh grader, placed in the top 15 seventh graders.

Four writers, May Li, Ian Byrne, Deema Jihad, and Madeline Evans, will advance to the State Tournament, May 22 at Wooster College.

When asked why they write, Deema Jihad responded, "I've lived a thousand lives by reading books, and it makes me want to write."

"I like looking at a blank piece of paper and knowing that I can make it into a world that inspires or moves people," said Meagan Gama.

"A piece of blank paper is a best friend to whom I can tell everything with no fear of being judged," said Raylee Smith.

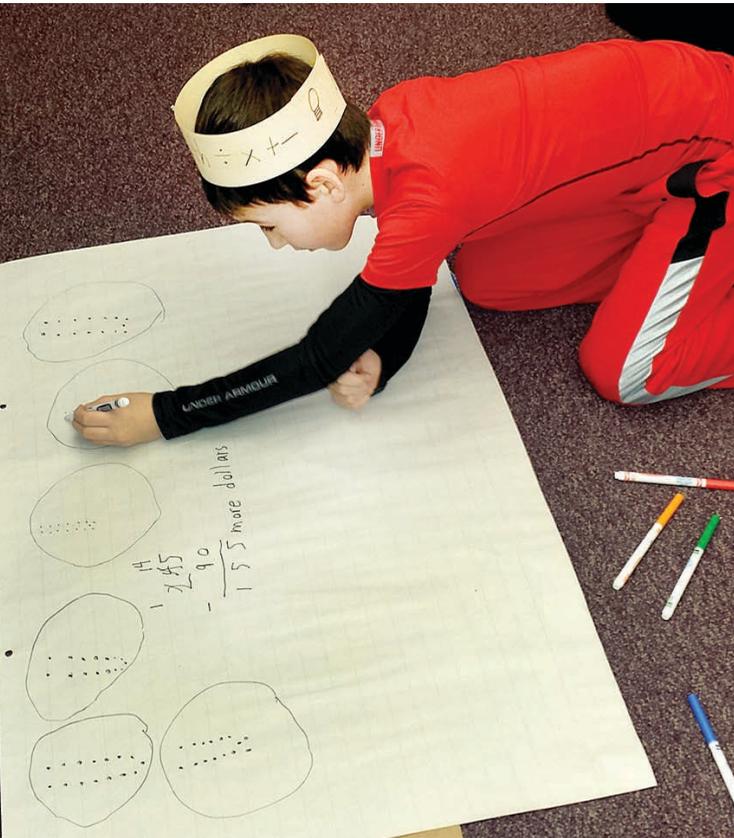


Military Academy Bound

Jackson seniors Tyrus Jones and Johnny Heropoulos recently met with Congressman Jim Renacci. The congressman nominated Tyrus to the United States Military Academy and Johnny to the United States Naval Academy.

Presidents and first ladies at Lake Cable

Mrs. Taylor's third grade class at Lake Cable created a President and First Lady Museum. Students dressed up as the characters they researched and shared their research with other classes and their families who came to visit the exhibit.



Students illustrate the math in their minds

Lake Cable 3rd graders worked on illustrative math questions to prepare for PARCC testing. Illustrative math helps students not only arrive at the correct answer but also to draw pictures of how they got there. They no longer learn rote algorithms for computing numbers, but actually understand the meaning of various math processes and can easily explain their reasoning. It is a higher level thinking process that can lead to problem solving in many areas of life. Students made and wore "math thinking caps" which added a bit of fun and reminded them that they possess big, capable brains.



Battle of the Books

Lake Cable's Battle of the Books had three teams with perfect scores. After the tiebreaker, the winning team was *The Literary Legends*, Stella Camp, Averi Hawkins, Hannah Knight and Emma Reindel, pictured.

The battle took place after students read these books: *Number The Stars*, *Behind Rebel Lines*, *My Side of the Mountain*, *Bud Not Buddy*, *From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, and *The Sign of the Beaver*.



No Trash Challenge

Lake Cable 3rd graders learned about conserving resources by reducing the amount of trash they make daily, then they took the "No Trash Lunch Challenge" by packing their lunches using reusable containers. "Kids said it took an hour to pack their lunches because it took a lot of thought to do it without creating waste," said their teacher, Kristine Geisberger.



Register for Kindergarten

Details on back page of this Polar Bear Pride.

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Budding Biographers

Sauder third graders learned to write informational paragraphs and comprehend nonfiction through the study of biographies. They researched historical figures and created presentations for their classmates.



Porcupine Paintings

Michelle Nehlen's Sauder first graders complete porcupine paintings with Mrs. Ann Marie Hochstetler, a Sauder parent who visits once a month to make art with the children. Students wore special rings with rubber spikes to paint their images.



Sauder students make a hero museum

Sauder second graders created their first ever Hero Museum. They researched an historical figure of their choice, wrote an opinion piece, created a timeline, and discussed the characteristics of what makes a good hero. They then dressed as their heroes to share their findings with students from kindergarten, first, and third grades. One student remarked, "It's such a fun way to learn about all of the heroes that changed our world history."



Bottle Tree puts creative twist on a novel idea

Mrs. Duffy, Mrs. Gonzalez-Abreu and Mrs. Podnar's Sauder fourth graders read, *Because of Winn-Dixie* and then designed a 'bottle tree' based on an idea from the book. One of the book's characters, Gloria Dump, had a big, gnarly tree onto which she hung glass bottles, one for each thing she had done wrong in her life. The fourth grade teachers asked their students to reverse the idea in their minds and create a paper bottle tree hung with their own positive accomplishments.



Book Buddies

Sauder kindergarten and third grade students meet once a week to read to each other and discuss books together, as part of the Daily Five reading techniques.

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Strausser choir honored to perform at OMEA conference

In February, the Strausser Choir performed at the Ohio Music Education Association Professional Development Conference at the Cleveland Convention Center. They were selected for this performance through a blind audition, which is a panel of judges who listened to submitted audition tapes with no knowledge of the choir's name. The Strausser Choir was selected as one of 25 groups to perform from the approximately 65 groups that submitted recordings. "It was a great honor and a huge achievement for the choir," said Mrs. Suzanne Walters, the choir's director.



Strausser students hope to make a difference for others

Strausser third graders in Mrs. Osburn, Mrs. Platt, Mrs. Vesely and Mrs. Walker's classrooms put their knowledge of citizenship to work outside their classroom walls. After learning about government and what it means to be a good citizen, they read stories about students their age who volunteered and made differences in their communities. That was the spark that motivated them to collect 182 non-perishable food items for Hope Outreach on Mahoning Road in Canton.

Strausser students get a sound education



Mrs. Scolaro's Strausser fifth graders learned that sound is caused by vibrations. They experimented by plucking rubber bands, using tuning forks, listening to ping pong balls bounce off desks, listening and feeling air escaping from a balloon to make sound, and using cup and string telephones.



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The Jackson Local Schools Foundation is an independent, non-profit organization and is tax-exempt under 501(c)(3).

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Fifth at State

JHS Senior, Garret Poling, placed 5th at 160 pounds, in the Division I State Wrestling Tournament.



Lady Bears make historic progress

The Girls Basketball Team won the District title and advanced to the Regional championship game (one game from making it to the State Final Four) for the first time in 37 years.

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The JHS Girls' and Boys' Swimming and Diving Teams clinched the Federal League Championship on January 31.

Fall/Winter Sports Accomplishments

7 Federal League Championships (out of 16)

Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Girls Golf, Volleyball, Boys Basketball, Boys Swimming, Girls Swimming

2 Second Place Finishes in the Federal League

Girls Tennis, Girls Bowling

2 Teams - Second Place Finish in the State

Girls Golf, Volleyball

11 Team Regional Qualifiers

Girls Soccer, Boys Soccer, Girls Golf, Boys Golf, Volleyball, Girls Tennis, Girls Cross Country, Boys Cross Country, Girls Basketball, Girls Bowling, Boys Bowling

71-22-1 head-to-head record vs. Federal League competition (76.3%)

156-56-7 (73.6%) vs. all competition



Cheerleaders win in U.S. Finals

JHS cheerleaders are US Finals champions. They defeated West Holmes H.S. and won the Varsity Advanced Non Mount Division. The team entered the competition with a 3-1 season record and 4-0 Federal League record. Their achievements include:

North Canton Fall Classic - 1st place Large Varsity Non Mount, WOW award and qualified for U.S. Finals.

Lake High School Cheerleading Competition - 2nd place Varsity Non Mount.

Mineral Ridge High School Cheerleading Competition -1st place Large Varsity Non Mount, Grand Champion (highest point total of all 20 schools).

Chardon High School Cheerleading Competition -1st place Large Varsity Non Mount and Best Cheer Choreography.

Fall/Winter Federal League Athletes of the Year

- Girls' Golf: Landrie Grace (12)
- Girls' Tennis: Tessa Hill (12)
- Girls' Soccer: Miah Wilson (11)
- Boys' Soccer: Qynton Peterson (12)
- Volleyball: Brooke Bailey (11)
- Boys' Basketball: Kyle Young (10)

Individual State Qualifiers

Wrestling: Justyn Bostic (grade 12), Joey Misleh (12) Garrett Poling (12), and Victor Marcelli (9)

Boys Swimming: Sam Kinney (grade 12), Ian Harty (11) Michael Biclowski (11), Franklin Shew (10) and Zach Werstler (10)

Girls Swimming: Haley Locke (grade 12), Victoria Addis (11), Kaitlyn Daiger (11), Michaela Ruddock (11), and GiGi Kinney (10)

Girls Bowling: Hannah Suter (grade12)



Second Place State Finishers

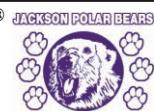


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Noah Dehnke signed a Letter of Intent to play football at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio. He is a 6'1" 215 pound defensive end and a two-year letterman who led the team in sacks and TFL. Noah received Honorable Mention All Federal League and the Stark County Sportsmanship Award.

Noah is pictured with Head Coach Beau Balderson, his sister Annie, his father Jim, his mother Leisa, and Assistant Coach Jon Mazur.



CJ Davis signed to play football for Denison University. The 2014 captain is 5'10" - 215 lbs. #42 LB/TE. He is a 3-year letter winner and a 2-year, two-way starter. Other credits: 2014 leading tackler, 2014 2nd Team All Federal League.

CJ is pictured with Head Coach Beau Balderson, his brother Cody, Assistant Coach Joe Knopick, his father Eric Davis, and his mother Christina Davis.



Michael Ross signed to play football at Dayton. The 2014 captain is 6'3" 310 lbs #78 OL/DL. He is a 3-year starter and letterwinner as well as leader of the offensive line that set every offensive record in school history. Other credits: 2013 2nd Team All Federal League, 2014 1st Team All Federal League, special mention All Ohio.

Michael is pictured with Head Coach Beau Balderson, his mother Linda, his father John, and Assistant Coach Jon Mazur.



Cody Eder signed a National Letter of Intent to attend Lakeland Community College. He is a two-year letterman 3B/RHP who helped the Polar Bears win the 2014 State Div I Baseball Championship. Cody is pictured with his mother Julie, his father Todd and Head Coach Bill Gamble.



Jake Kempt signed to play football for Dayton. The 2014 captain is 6'1" 185 lbs #10 DB/WR/Returner. He is a 3-year starter/letterwinner who led the team in K.O. returns and yards. Other credits: 2013 1st Team All Federal League, 2014 2nd Team All Federal League, and selected to the Ohio North-South All-Star Game.

Jake is pictured with his mother Marlene, Head Coach Beau Balderson, Assistant Coach Kacy Carter, and his father Mychal.



Haleigh Guerra signed a National Letter of Intent to continue her soccer career at the University of Texas. Haleigh was an impact player for both Jackson High School and the International Soccer Club. During her two-year campaign with the Polar Bears, Haleigh was a full-time varsity starter who attained All Stark County and All Federal League honors. From the forward position, she notched 15 goals and 11 assists, 5 of them being game winners.

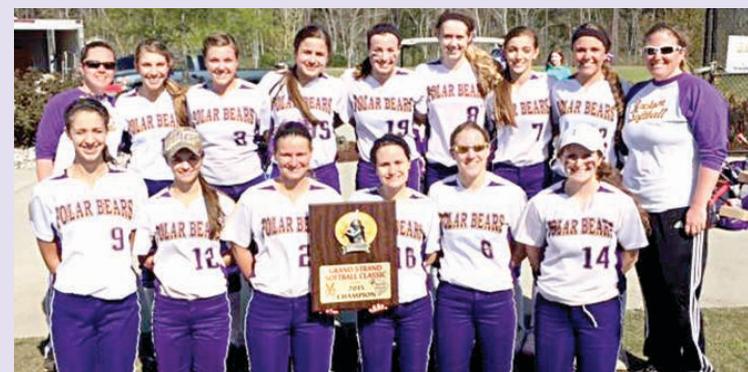
Haleigh is pictured with her parents Paul and Robin Guerra.

FOLLOW THE BEARS
 For Polar Bear fans who are interested in JHS athletic events, follow Jackson High School Athletic Director Terry Peterson.
 Twitter @PolarBearAD

Coaches of the Year

Four Jackson coaches were recently named Stark County Coaches of the Year, based on last school year's spring season and this school year's fall and winter seasons.

- Bill Gamble - Baseball, Teal Harvey - Girls Golf,
- Matt Ziders - Girls and Boys Swimming,
- Tim Debevec - Boys Basketball, Jeff Walck - Girls Volleyball.
- Jeff Walck was also named the Ohio Volleyball Coaches Association State Coach of the Year.



Back row from left: Asst. Coach Natalie Voytek, Abbey Dulik, Natalie MEEK, Lindsey Clemson, Victoria Addis, Kayla Marburger, Miah Wilson, Brooklyn Hellman, and Head Coach Jackie Pitzo. Front from left: Carrie Perez, Kesley Putman, Erin Duncan, Jenna Shatrich, Annie Dehnke, and Marissa Marcelli.

Lady Bears are Grand Strand Champs

The Jackson Girls' Softball Team headed to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina over spring break, where they won the Grand Strand Softball Classic. After a fierce battle led by the relentless pitching of junior, Kayla Marburger, the Lady Bears beat James Madison High School from Virginia 4-3 in extra innings. The Bears lit the scoreboard with an in-the-park home run by Annie Dehnke. Then Brooklyn Hellman started the eighth inning off with a triple, bringing Abby Dulik in from second base for an international tiebreaker. Lindsey Clemson bunted for another RBI. Then, Victoria Addis sacrifice bunted to bring in Clemson for the win.



Zach Meese signed his National Letter of Intent with Coach Howie Krause at Lakeland Community College. Zach is a two-year letterman OF/LHP for the Polar Bears. He played a key role in helping the Polar Bears win the 2014 State Div I Baseball Championship.

Keep learning at Jackson's Online Instruction Center

Join the growing number of Jackson residents who access our wide range of highly interactive courses that are completed entirely over the Internet. All courses take approximately six weeks to complete. They include expert instructors, many of whom are nationally known authors. Our courses are affordable, fun, and conveniently completed from the comfort of your home. Some courses even offer graduate credit. Start by visiting the Web site below to choose from over 200 course offerings.

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JHS students spend spring break in Spain and France

Foreign language teachers, Parthena Draggett, Humphrey Fradl, and Stella Muñoz along with two parent chaperones, took 25 students to Spain and France for 10 days of cultural and language enrichment from March 27 to April 5. They visited Madrid, Segovia, Toledo, Bilbao, San Sebastián, Biarritz, and Paris. They ate churros and chocolate at a chocolateria, had a cooking lesson and attended a flamenco show. During the trip, the students journaled, daily, their thoughts and impressions of the adventure. Student Christina Grubb remarked, "Traveling has made me yearn to visit more places to fully immerse myself in other cultures."

Ali Metzger added, "I never realized how much Spanish I knew. This has made me want to continue learning the language so that when I return I will be able to communicate more easily."

Molly McNulty noted, "This trip has motivated me to travel more in my life. I only have one word to describe the Spanish and French cultures; beautiful."



JACKSON TOWNSHIP BICENTENNIAL Open House at JHS

Sunday, May 3
1:00pm-4:00pm



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- Guest Speakers
- Student work on display
- Historical Exhibits
- Agricultural Exhibit
- Bog Tours
- Story Corps Recordings
- Time Capsule



EXHIBITS AND FUN ACTIVITIES IN THE JHS COMMONS

Opening performance by the JHS Band.....	1:00
Tour the Jackson Bog	1:30-2:30 and 2:45-3:45
Make an oral history recording with StoryCorps	1:00-4:00
Lecture: <i>Ohio's Role in the War of 1812</i> by Sharon Myers, president of the Daughters of the War of 1812.....	2:30-4:00
War of 1812 reenactment/encampment on the JHS campus	3:00-4:00
<i>Jackson Township Through Time</i> , photography exhibit.....	1:00-4:00
Tour the One Room School House.....	1:00-4:00
Tour Jackson High School	1:00-4:00

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION

To be eligible for kindergarten in the fall of 2015, your child must be 5 on or before Sept. 30.

FOR DETAILS AND FORMS, CLICK THE NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION LINK ON THE HOME PAGE OF THE SCHOOL WEB SITE AT JACKSON.STARK.K12.OH.US

Where to Register:

You can register at your school building **NOW**. Please call for an appointment.
 Amherst 330-830-8024 Sauder 330-830-8028 Lake Cable 330-834-4673 Strausser 330-830-8056

Important Summer Dates:

June 23 - July 29: Register at the Administration Office, 7602 Fulton Dr. NW (DOOR 5N)
 Registrations accepted from 8-10 AM and 1-3 PM on Tuesday and Wednesday. For inquiries, or to schedule an appointment, call 330-830-8000.

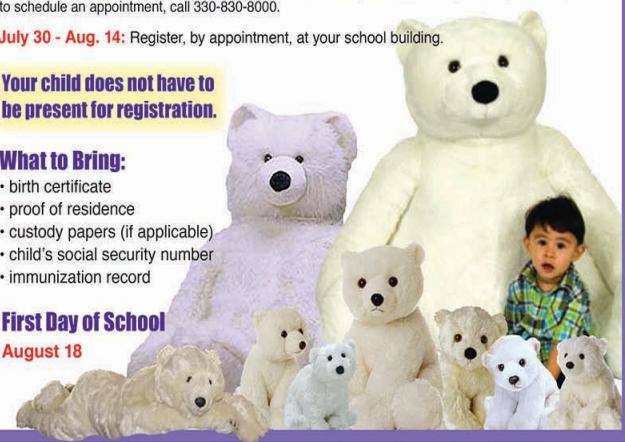
July 30 - Aug. 14: Register, by appointment, at your school building.

Your child does not have to be present for registration.

What to Bring:

- birth certificate
- proof of residence
- custody papers (if applicable)
- child's social security number
- immunization record

First Day of School
August 18



Mrs. Evanchan's Lake Cable second grade class celebrated Dr. Seuss Week by sharing these old favorites each day during *Read to Self*, one of the *Daily Five* reading techniques.

Dr. Seuss makes reading fun

To help Lake Cable kindergartners celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday, Superintendent Chris DiLoreto read *Green Eggs and Ham*.

"The kids absolutely loved seeing their superintendent in the Dr. Seuss hat and hearing him read the story," said teacher Rae Russell.



Need money for college?

The Jackson Student Loan Association was established to provide low-interest student loans to JHS graduates who have been accepted by a post-secondary school (vocational, two-year or four-year).

Graduates may request up to \$5,000. The loan accrues no interest until a student's education is complete or he/she withdraws. Upon graduation or withdrawal, the note will bear interest on the unpaid balance at the rate commensurate with the Stafford Loan rate on the date the loan agreement was signed.

Students can pick up an application in the high school guidance office or access it through the Jackson Local Web site jackson.stark.k12.oh.us/jhs/guidance/links.html.

The Loan Association has always been run by a board of local citizens who understand the importance of higher education. It was started in 1955 by the PTA and Mrs. John Hyde, a former JHS teacher. It's first president was John Weisgarber, longtime member of the Jackson Board of Education. Other charter members included Andy Steve, Joseph Stephan, Dr. Howard Smith, Ralph Darragh, Helen Hessin, Ralph Goodman, Kenneth Loessler, and Mrs. Gearald Iceman with legal advisor Willis Grant. Donations from the PTA, graduating classes, and community friends grew the original fund which is currently self-sufficient.

Current board members are: Gail Small, Cynthia Jacobs, Cynthia Harty, Chris Adolph, Janelle Winkhart, Val Heban, Christy Harp, Pam Kakos, Kristy Caples, Gary Jacobs, Paula Blangger, Marian Beresh, Matt Gillette, Rhea Rieger, and Bruce Soares attorney.

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