



POLAR BEAR PRIDE

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Turf Committee

Jean Furbay - Co-Chair
Bryan Hartong - Co-Chair
Mark Prosize - Project Management/Construction
Greg Kauth - Project Management/Construction
Patrick Sirpilla - Fundraising

Citizens blanket Fife Stadium with synthetic turf

Jackson athletic families, school officials, teachers, and coaches gathered at Robert Fife Stadium to thank the private donors who made the \$700,000 turf dream a

reality at no cost to the school district. This gift of turf not only reduces the stadium's operating costs, but also opens the field for use by more athletes than ever before.

Because the former grass field required such careful maintenance, it was only used by the football program on Friday nights. Now the field is also used by our

middle school physical education program, the Lacrosse Team, and some youth teams. Jackson Local thanks all those who contributed time, talent, funds & materials.

Fife Turf Major Donors

Jen & Mark Morena, Gary & Candace Parsons, The Steve & Julie Miller Family, Chad Bailey & the Akron Auto Auction, Michael & Christine Connors, Dr. & Mrs. Steven Kelly, Dr. Jerry & Carole Klimo, John & Vicki Kroah, Tom & Anna Marie Locke, Mark & Beverly Belgya, George & Dee Merrill, Dave & Sandra Shew, Dr. Jeffrey Dulik, Chris & Michelle Goff, Tim & Debbie Bentivegna, Scott & Susie Gindlesberger, Tim & Jean Furbay, John & Terri Dillon, Tom and Janelle Winkhart, Patrick & Missy Sirpilla, The Fenstemaker Family in memory of Stephen Fenstemaker.

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Jackson Lacrosse



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

CHRIS DILORETO

Keeping the Main Thing, the Main Thing

The school year is off to a great start, and we sure have plenty to be proud of. Jackson Local is ranked 18th of over 600 school districts in the state. We have logged our 11th consecutive year of EXCELLENCE, and this year earned the title of *Excellence with Distinction*, the state's highest possible rating. This success is attributed to outstanding teachers who arrive each day to provide the highest quality education to the hard-working students of Jackson Township. Credit also goes to parents who expect the best from their children and a school board and community who provide the tools needed to offer this level of learning.

We're proud of the excellence displayed by JHS athletes who brought home 7 Federal League trophies, 5 District championships, a 14th place state finish by the Boys' Cross Country Team, and a 2nd place state finish by the Girls' Golf Team. JMMS athletes also made us proud with two Federal League wins.

The Jackson community expects excellence from its school system, but excellence, by its very nature, is an ever-moving target because the world is getting smaller and competition is now global. Jackson needs a sharp focus and its whole team pulling in the same direction. Perhaps you have seen a Jackson Local administrator, teacher, custodian, cook, or bus driver wearing a purple t-shirt that says, "Keep the Main Thing the Main Thing." This is our districtwide reminder to keep pulling together toward our following three goals.

Continued on page 2

Jackson is 11 years EXCELLENT

After a decade of excellent ratings from the state, this year your school district was rated Excellent with Distinction and ranks 18th of Ohio's 600+ school districts, based on Performance Index Score. That is up from 20th place last year. Excellence with Distinction is the state's highest possible rating. The designation is achieved by having a rating of excellence and continuing to produce above-expected academic growth for at least two consecutive years. The state expects growth even when a district is at the top, and Jackson is delivering consistently.

To mark the achievement, Jackson Local received banners from the Ohio Department of Education, to be hung in each building. The presentation was made by Deborah Cain of the Ohio Department of Education at a recent school board meeting. Ms. Cain said the rating "doesn't happen easily" and that she had visited five districts this year who had received their very first banner while Jackson is receiving its 11th. **You can see a video of this presentation on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/jacksonschools.**

Board of Education member Scott Gindlesberger acknowledged and thanked the JHS seniors who have been on the journey with us for all 11 years. "Without all of your hard work, this would not be possible," Mr. Gindlesberger said.



GO AHEAD...
BE PROUD OF
YOUR SCHOOLS

From left are: Assistant Superintendent Barry Mason, Board Members Ken Douglas, Chris Goff (president), and Scott Gindlesberger, Deborah Cain from ODE, Board Member Kathryn Knowles, Treasurer Linda Paris, Superintendent Chris DiLoreto, and Board Member Tom Winkhart.

Unity Pancake Day now a strong Jackson tradition

October begins with football and ends with pumpkins – two strong fall traditions. Well now there is a hearty addition to the list. October in Jackson now includes stacks and stacks of fluffy pancakes that bring thousands of neighbors and friends to the high school for a morning of syrupy smiles as everyone's tummy is filled with flapjacks.

For the past four years, Janelle Winkhart, Susie Gindlesberger and Jen Herold have led a team of 400+ volunteers to create a morning of unity in our community where over 4,000* pancakes are flipped and served.

Alongside the breakfast is the ever-growing health fair where neighbors and friends can have a variety of free health screenings and meet over 40 health care and beauty providers from our community.

This year's event raised over \$8,000 to be used by Jackson Local school teachers and counselors to aid needy students and families within our school district.

This event just keeps getting better," said Superintendent Chris DiLoreto. "It's great to see the our staff and students interacting with our community members in the spirit of unity. The three women who lead the effort, Mrs. Winkhart, Mrs. Gindlesberger, and Mrs. Herold, have started something that our students, staff, and community now look forward to. We are very grateful to them and hope

they understand the miracle they have become for our families in need."

The event's success is also due to our community partners who donate everything needed for the breakfast. Buehler's Fresh Foods, Berardi's French Roast Coffee, Chick-Fil-A, Dairy Enterprises, Gordon Food Service, Gourmet Coffee Stations, Jackson-Belden Chamber of Commerce, JHS Library, J.M. Smucker Co., Jojutlas Mexican Grill, M-Creative Media, Massillon Cable, McDonalds, Siegfried Enterprises Inc., Miday's Nursery, Nickles Bakery, Omni Orthopaedics, The Shack, Sheetz Inc., Sonic Americas Drive-In, Tri-M Music Honor Society.

**The left-over pancakes were given to the Refuge of Hope men's shelter in Canton.*



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Continued from page 1

- 1. Student Achievement**
 Jackson will raise its state standing as measured by the performance index on the state report card. We are using a variety of proven strategies to give students the academic foundation that will serve them throughout their lives.
- 2. Resource Management**
 Jackson will reduce its overall energy consumption. All employees practice daily energy conservation and continue to stretch the tax dollar.
- 3. Communication and Collaboration**
 Jackson will improve its communication with the community through the expansion of Facebook, a tool that allows us to

give you nearly instantaneous news about the great things happening in our schools. If you would like to have a daily report from your school district, join the 3,600 people who LIKE us at www.facebook.com/jacksonschools.

We just completed our 4th annual pancake breakfast and health fair that many of our community members attend. Twice each year, we invite hundreds of senior citizens to watch the dress rehearsals of the JHS musical and the Jacks-N-Jills Showcase. Finally, over 500 people attended our first International Night that exposed the many career options available to students who gain a global perspective.

In conclusion, we will do our best to prepare our community's students for the best life possible with gratitude and respect

Jackson student boradens horizons for Rotarians

Pooja Podugu, a JHS senior and member of the school's Interact Club*, spoke to the Jackson Township Rotary Club on the importance of India to the future of a strong global economy. Through extensive travel in India, Pooja has deduced that the country of her heritage has a lot to offer. A country of 1.1 billion people (second only to China), and the largest democracy in the world, modeled after the USA, Pooja believes that India's entrenchment in poverty as a lifestyle is its major obstacle to becoming a global power. She showed photos of the living conditions and warned that just pushing money at it would not solve the problem. In Pooja's opinion, the country would benefit from lifestyle changes created by infrastructure development and community organizational changes. Her goal is to raise awareness of India's treasures.



Pooja giving her presentation to Jackson Township Rotarians.

* Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12 to 18. Jackson High School has an Interact Club that works with the Jackson Township Rotary Club.

JHS senior earns spot as Vice President of Repository Teen Board

Monica Komer, a JHS senior, will serve as vice president on the 55th Repository Teen Board with student representatives from 20 other area high schools. Members of the Board, chosen by high school administrators, will be responsible for selecting the 18 Teens of the Month which will be featured in the repository for their accomplishments and community

service. The board will review applications from students county-wide to make their selections. They will also select the Teens



Monica Komer

of The Year, who each receive \$1,000 scholarships.

The September Repository Teen of the Month winners are both from Jackson. Pooja Podugu and Karl Xia were featured in the Repository (9/25). You can see the post on the school's Facebook page at Jacksonschools/facebook.com

Jackson's National Honor Society leads county collection effort

The Jackson High School National Honor Society (NHS) is sponsoring a toiletry drive through mid November. The students' objective is to obtain items such as toothpaste, soaps, shampoos, feminine products, toilet paper, Kleenex to benefit the needy of Stark County through Samaritan's Table.

Samaritan's Table feeds 400-500 needy Starkcountians with hot meals prepared by volunteers and served in the social hall of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church at 717 McKinley Avenue N.W. in Canton every Thursday from 11 AM—1 PM.

The Jackson High NHS has sent a challenge out to all Stark County districts to participate in this worthwhile cause. Even if a family is granted food stamps, they cannot be used to purchase toiletries. Last year, JHS collected a van



Katie Deagan (left) and Michelle McCann, with their teacher Dan Michel on Pastor Berry Carter and Rick Mirenzi's radio show, The Akron Canton Connection, News-Talk 1480 WHBC, promoting the toiletry drive which they are leading to benefit Samaritan's Table.

load of toiletries for the cause. This year, Pastor Berry Carter and Rick Mirenzi of The Akron Canton Connection, News-Talk 1480 WHBC, have challenged the students to fill a tractor tailor truck.

Two very active Jackson students have taken up the challenge to lead the county effort. They are: Katie Deagan who serves as secretary of NHS, is a Cross Country athlete, a Lacrosse athlete, and Habitat for Humanity volunteer, and Michelle McCann who serves as Sargent at Arms of NHS, a member of FACES and a member of Interact Club.

"We not only want to help our community's needy but also give kids an opportunity to raise awareness to this problem and discover that they can make a difference," said Mr. Mirenzi.

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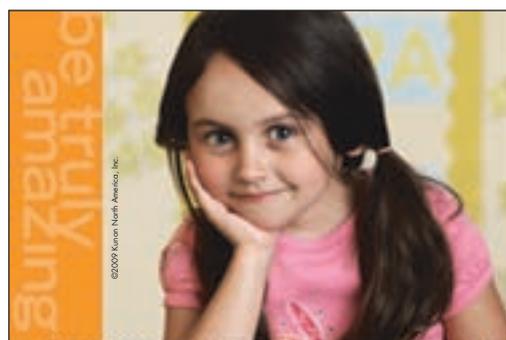
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YOUR INPUT IS WELCOMED: Send comments to Paula Blangger, pblangger@neo.rr.com.

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Jackson and China compare teaching philosophies

For the past four years, Jackson has been developing a sister school relationship with educators in China who want to learn more about the innovative teaching styles in the USA. The process has included exchanges of teachers and students as well as Chinese-speaking teachers on staff at JHS.

In July, JHS welcomed 20 students from its sister school, Jiao Zhou #1 High School, Shandong Province, China. Chaperoning the students were Mrs. Zhou Zhao Xia, Vice Principal/Director of the International Department, and teacher Zhai Huijuan. The group was hosted by Jackson families for several days before the group toured parts of the USA.

In October, three Jackson educators visited Jiao Zhou #1 High School in China. They were JHS Principal Monica Myres, Jackson School for the Arts Director Susan Gardner, and Director of Special Programs Kathy Brand.

"Our team was able to spend time with the 20 students who visited Jackson in July. They talked to us about their favorite part of the visit which included Philadelphia, Boston, Washington D.C. and New York," said Mrs. Myres. "Many said that their home stays with our students, learning to play baseball, going shopping, and the bonfire at the Taylor's home were their favorite parts of the trip."

While in China, our teachers also met with English teachers who asked how to teach creativity and problem solving skills to their students. The current Chinese teaching style relies heavily on the memorization of information. Mrs. Brand and Mrs. Gardner taught them a vocabulary strategy from the Content Literacy Continuum that we use at JMMS. It relates vocabulary directly to the student by making a personal connection with the word so they remember it and know how to use it.

Mrs. Myres made a presentation to a panel of high-ranking Chinese educators and government officials on what makes Jackson High School unique, with details about how the American educators teach students to be innovators. She co-presented with the president of Arcadia University in Philadelphia and the president of Pukyong National University in South Korea.



JHS Chinese Teacher Steve Hyatt, Mrs. Zhou Zhao Xia, JHS Principal Monica Myers, Miss Zhai Huijuan at JHS during a summer visit to the USA.



Mrs. Brand and Mrs. Gardner are introduced to students in an English class.



Mrs. Myres is part of a panel of distinguished guests. She makes a presentation on education in the Jackson Local Schools.

Rotary presidents bet their shirts on the home team

Each fall, the Rotary Clubs of Jackson and North Canton hold a joint high school football rivalry meeting. The clubs invite varsity players, coaches, cheerleaders, cheerleading coaches, superintendents and athletic directors (of both schools) to speak, cheer and rib the opponents in a spirit of fun. Both head coaches addressed the crowd about the importance of good sportsmanship. The presidents-elect of both Rotary groups faced off in a game of paper triangle football (Hoover won). Finally, the presidents of both Rotary groups agreed to the annual challenge—If the Polar Bear's had won the Friday night game, the North Canton Rotary president would wear the purple spirit shirt to the next Rotary meeting. The opposite would have held true for Jackson's Rotary president if the Vikings had won. Well, we all know who wore the orange and



In the spirit of fun and rivalry, North Canton Rotary President Jeannine Shambaugh holds a Jackson shirt, and Jackson Rotary President Ron Van Horn holds a Hoover shirt.

black to Rotary. There's always next year, Bears! "Unfortunately Jackson Township Rotary Club lost the wager with the North Canton club, and I had to wear the Viking shirt at our club meeting. Although it wasn't fun to lose, it's great to be a part of a community with excellent school systems like Jackson and North Canton," said Jackson's Rotary president, Ron Van Horn.

"We are truly blessed to have these two schools in our community, and the annual rivalry is always fun. Both teams gave the fans an exciting game. As an alumni of Hoover, I am very grateful I did not have to wear purple and gold. I hope the Hoover- Jackson Rotary continues this tradition," said North Canton Rotary president, Jeannine Shambaugh.

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Students explore multilingual global career possibilities

Approximately 500 people attended the 21st Century Global Opportunity Night hosted at the high school by the JHS World Languages Community Advisory Board (WLCAB). The event was held to show students (8-12th graders) the real-world relevancy of learning multiple foreign languages through exposure to potential career options. It was an opportunity to engage in robust dialogue and interaction with the professional, multi-lingual community.

The evening opened with a keynote speech by Dr. Frank Triplett, Director of International Programs at the University of Mount Union. Dr. Triplett was followed by a panel discussion that included representatives from academia, the local professional community, and recent JHS graduates who are using foreign language in their careers (Brad Ayres, Shelly McAlister, Mark Fleiner, and John Neidert). Finally, attendees visited 26 stations manned by various companies and organizations representing some of the many possible career paths available to those with advanced world language skills.

American school districts, we would be better served by comparing ourselves to schools around the globe and to prepare our students for the changing



economy through programs that develop the same or better high-level skills being developed in other countries.

AP Spanish student Mara Zonfa said of the event, "I was able to see just how many jobs are out there for people who know another language. I was already planning to obtain a minor in Spanish to accompany my nursing degree when I go to college next fall. After attending this event, I am more inspired than ever to do so."



"This kind of interaction serves as a powerful tool in preparing students for higher education, for careers, and for active civic participation," said WLCAB member and Director/CRS of ERICO International, Steve Marrero.

JHS World Language Department Head, Parthena Draggett, added, "It was inspiring to see our students so engaged and interested in the conversations they had with our distinguished guests. We are very fortunate to have a caring community of professionals who donated their time and efforts to tell our students of the value and relevance of world languages for success in their future careers. I am pleased to say that Jackson Local Schools prepares its students not only to be citizens of Jackson township and the U.S., but also citizens of the world."

"I am pleased to say that Jackson Local Schools prepares its students not only to be citizens of Jackson township and the U.S., but also citizens of the world."
Parthena Draggett
JHS World Language Department Head

Dr. Triplett said, "We Americans are no longer the biggest player in town. We have competitors in nearly every field, in other countries who can manufacture goods and provide services in highly technical fields as well or better than we can, often for less money." Dr. Triplett advised that although we have long compared ourselves with other



School Spirit, Family Fun
Each year, the Jackson High School staff and their families gather near the stadium before a JHS football game for a cook-out and a show of unity for the band and Football Team. This year, Jackson cheerleaders and the Polar Bear were on hand to join the fun and to teach the little ones what team spirit is all about.



Scholarship Surprise
JHS senior, Carly Chetton, won a \$10,000 scholarship from Nordstrom's after submitting two essays and having an interview with the review board. The Nordstrom Prize Patrol surprised Carly, at school, with a check and a MacBook Air computer. Also on hand for the surprise were Carly's parents, brother, friends, the school superintendent, and her favorite teacher, Mr. Matt Gilette.

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Sixth graders visit Camp Muskingum, nature's classroom

For more than two decades, JMMS sixth graders and their teachers have spent three days in nature's classroom at Camp Muskingum.

The program helps young people gain confidence and self-esteem, improves communication, and offers a greater appreciation for our awe-inspiring natural world through outdoor classes, interpretive nature hikes, living history reenactments, night hikes, campfires, and large group cooperative activities.

Camp Muskingum gives students a new perspective on learning and living through two main philosophies *I am Loving and Caring* (IALAC) and *Challenge by Choice*. IALAC is the camp's philosophy of respect for one another and the natural world. Challenge by Choice is a philosophy that allows the campers to participate in the camp activities where they feel comfortable. These philosophies, along with sensory awareness, conservation and responsibility are woven into the activities.

Students also traveled back to 1851 for an experience of the Underground Railroad. Led by a conductor, students become runaway slaves who escape from the south toward Canada. Throughout their journey they encounter many historical people and situations, including abolitionists and slave hunters. This program brings to life the history of the Underground Railroad and respect for all others.



MORE PICTURES AT www.facebook.com/jacksonschools

Google Docs keeps kids' heads in the cloud

This year, students in grades 6-12 will be introduced to Google Apps, a collection of online applications similar to Word, Excell, and Power Point, that allow students to create documents, slide shows and spreadsheets in **the cloud** instead of on the hard drive of a single computer. The cloud takes programs that were tied to a single computer and puts them on the Web, where they can be instantly shared with collaborators and accessed from any location. Our students can now begin a project at school and finish it at home from any computer, phone, or electronic notebook that has Internet access.

The cloud is also stretching the taxpayer dollar. Instead of purchasing and loading multiple software programs onto the thousands of computers owned by Jackson Local Schools, we merely had to load one application that allows students and teachers to log into a Web-based service which hosts all the programs.

Students are often required to collaborate on projects. Google Apps allows multiple students from different classes and different neighborhoods to work together from different locations. The collaborators can see changes made to



JMMS teacher, Andrew Robitaille, will teach every 7th grader to use Google Apps.

documents in real time. If someone goes too far, there is a revision button that allows users to revert to earlier versions of the document.

“Chalk and talk is sometimes boring for today’s student. Cloud computing is more interactive. It’s meeting kids where they are familiar and confident. It’s the future,” said JMMS technology teacher Andrew

Robitaille.

More than half of the top 100 colleges are using Google Apps. Jackson is constantly striving to prepare students for the way the world will do business. Google Apps allows the district to impart cutting edge technology to its students while economizing on the costly demands of technology.

JMMS Cross Country Teams finish in 1st place



From left: Sam Craig, Seth Whitehead, Ryan Flanagan, Nate Mallue, Dimitri Djuric, and Drake Dennis.

At the Wadsworth Invitational, the girls brought home the 1st place team trophy and the boys team brought home the trophy for a strong 2nd place finish in the 15-team event. **Both the Girls' and Boys' Cross Country Teams took 1st place in the Federal League meet.**



Front from left: Gigi Kinney, Julia Hartnett, and Elena Cornelius. Back from left: Britny Dennis, Greta Taylor, Olivia Sirpilla, and Lauren Bailey.

8th Grade Volleyball Team wins Federal League Tournament

“The team worked hard all season and finished strong,” said Head Coach Judy Christine.



Brilliant Athletes

JMMS had 203 student athletes in the fall sports. Of them, 171 received a 3.0 or higher GPA. There were 51 athletes who had a perfect 4.0. The total combined GPA of the 203 athletes was 3.41.

- Cheerleading- 3.63
- Cross Country- 3.61
- Volleyball- 3.39
- Football- 3.1

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New superintendent rides school buses for 30 days

Superintendent DiLoreto wanted to see the district from a different perspective, so he spent a month riding buses with the students and greeting parents.

"Students are our customers," Mr. DiLoreto said, "and we need to be sure we are serving them across all spectrums of school life."

Riding the buses also gave Mr. DiLoreto an opportunity to show our bus drivers a bit of appreciation for safely delivering what he calls "our most precious commodity" to and from their daily destinations.

Although the district is performing well, in fact, **excellent with distinction**, Mr. DiLoreto has set the bar even higher. He will look at every aspect of the district to find places that can be improved in three target areas, which he calls **The Main Thing – (1) student achievement (2) resource management (3) communication and collaboration.**

Busing Facts

Jackson Local transportation, under the direction of Harley Neftzer, is a smooth operation that transports nearly 4,000 students and logs about 8,000 miles per day. That's equal to four round trips to Disney every day. In a school year, the total reaches 1.4 million miles. By law, your district also buses non-public students to 22 locations. If a ticket were taken each time a rider boarded, about 720,000 tickets would be collected each year.



Riders happily pose with their district superintendent.



"What's a superintendent?"



Greeting students.



"What grade is he in?"



Saying "good morning" to Mrs. Zito.



Greeting parents.



"Aren't you too tall elementary school?"



The voice as instrument

The JACKSON FOUR, Scot Eversdyke, Bruce Lautzenheiser, Steve Dye, and Fred Locker sing *The Star Spangled Banner* at the Hall of Fame Game Day Roundtable. These four Jackson High School teachers sing acapella to the delight of the JHS students and the staff who have the pleasure of occasionally hearing them perform.



Canton Garden Center Flower Show at JHS

The Canton Garden Center held its annual flower show at Jackson High School inviting 34 area clubs and our students to compete. This year's theme was technology, and competitors created designs around that theme. JHS student Seth Pantelis won first place in his category and best in show for his arrangement *Lord of the Rings*. The show's coordinator, Deanna Stearns (pictured above with Seth), enjoyed working with our students, saying, "They are polite, interested, and ask good questions. This school has treated us fabulously. It has been a pleasure to be a guest in your home."

Students remembered Sept. 11, 2001



All Jackson students remembered survivors, heroes, & those who perished on Sept. 11, 2001, by holding a moment of silence. In addition, JHS students viewed a video clip of the tragedy unfolding, then held a moment of silence, followed by a reading of excerpts from President Obama's Patriot's Day National Day of

Service & Remembrance proclamation. JHS students in Mrs. Reeces' graphic design classes created Patriot's Day projects in Photoshop. Amherst students made cards & cookies for our community's heroes (police & fire) thanking them for keeping us safe every day. During the home football game, the flag was flown at half mast and there will be a moment of silence before the band played God Bless America. We also honored local safety forces that were in attendance.

Kids on the Cover

P Damon Handley
O Eli Miller
L Logan Cooper
A Kennedy Frazze
R Noah Jackson

B Dylan Winn
E Britanee Hamilton
A Kayla Rose
R David Smith

P Dylan Mazon
R Jack Dial
I Emily Ransbottom
D Scott Wishop
E Logan Gehring

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Board Member • 330-833-7284

Board Meeting Schedule

Oct. 18	Sauder	6:30 PM
Nov. 15	Lake Cable	6:30 PM
Dec. 20	Amherst	6:30 PM

Meeting dates and times can change. Call 330-830-8000 to confirm.

Get involved with the new Jackson Local Schools Foundation

After nearly a year of planning and organizing, the Jackson Local Schools Foundation has been established to fund activities, programs, and learning environments that provide academic, artistic and athletic excellence for the students of Jackson Local Schools and to support and enhance opportunities for individual student development through scholarships, grants, and awards.



by an independent Board of Directors: John Batcho, Mark Belgya, Paula Blangger, Greg Brokaw, Chris Holding, Jennifer Jones, Paul Malesick, Jeff Moloney, Marian Manns, Steven Meeks, Jim Williamson, and Mark Wright.

The group believes that students, parents, businesses, and the citizens of Jackson Township all benefit from a high-quality school system that can provide enriching student experiences.

The Foundation is an independent non-profit organization and is tax-exempt under 501(c)(3). It is managed

The Foundation relies entirely on the generosity of donors, raising



Board President Chris Holding presents Karen Miday with the iPad she won in a raffle held by the Foundation at the Pancake Breakfast.

funds primarily through private donations, gifts, bequests, and memorials.

To get involved, call any board member or Paula Blangger at 330-830-8075.

Nov.	23 Thanksgiving Break Begins 29 Classes Resume
Dec.	22 Christmas Break Begins
Jan.	3 Classes Resume 13 End 2nd 9 weeks 16 Martin Luther King Day - No School (K-12)
Feb.	2 Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12) 4:30-7:30 P 8 Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12) 4:30-7:30 P 17 Teacher In-service No School - (K-12) 20 Presidents' Day - No School (K-12)
March	2 Speech Debate State Tournament-No School (K-12) 23 End 3rd 9 weeks 26 Spring Break Begins
April	2 Classes Resume 6 No School - (K-12)
May	28 Memorial Day-No School (K-12)
June	6 Last Day for Students & Staff

Visit Jackson Local at <http://jackson.stark.k12.oh.us>



Get your holiday decorations fresh from the JHS greenhouse

The Turf and Greenhouse Management Class is working hard and already in the Holiday Spirit.

The public is invited to stop by the greenhouse at Jackson High School to purchase holiday poinsettias, wreaths, decorations, and live arrangements. All live arrangements can be custom ordered to satisfy our customers' needs.

Holiday Show
Mon. Nov. 21
8 AM to 4 PM
and from
6 PM to 8 PM

Public participation provides a unique learning opportunity for students who operate the greenhouse and create the holiday designs.



From left are Turf & Greengouse Management students: David Lamothe, Nick Elsass, Todd Gaines, Bobby Snyder, Alex Blogna, and Zack Hughes.

Need money for college or trade school?

The Jackson Student Loan Association was established 51 years ago to provide low-interest student loans to JHS graduates who have been accepted by a post-secondary school (vocational, two-year or four-year). In the early years, students could only borrow \$500, but today's 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 Guaranteed Student Loan established by the U. S. Government on the date the student made application.

Students may pick up an application in the high school guidance office or access it through the Jackson Local Web site <http://www.myschoolpages.com/schools/jacksonls/files/filesystem/jacksonloanassociation.pdf>.

History of the Student Loan Association

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 local 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.

The current board members are: president Gail Small, vice president Mike Freeland, treasurer Valerie Heban, secretary Lee Fortner, attorney Bruce Soares, Pam Kakos, Chris Adolph, Joe Bergen, Cynthia Harty, Christy Harp, Kim McBride, Julie Prato, and Paula Blangger.

It's not too late to buy a brick

The Jackson Mama Bears are still selling bricks to be installed in the new entrance at Fife Stadium. Visit www.jacksonturf.org for more information.



ALUMNI NOTES

Leadership in Action

Kathleen Paola, a 2006 grad, recently graduated from the Krannert School of Management at Purdue University, receiving a Bachelor of Science with a major in management and a double minor in International Business and Spanish. While at Purdue, she was honored with the Betty A. Arnaman and Inez Canaan Leadership awards and nominated to the Barbara G. Doster Leadership Forum (Women in Leadership Conference in Indianapolis). Kathleen also coordinated 300 volunteers in the Wesley Winterization Project, helping 100 elderly community members in the University area.



Kathleen Paola

Art in Action

Kaitlyn Gutshall, a 2009 grad, is a featured artist in the Massillon Museum's annual Stark County Artists Exhibition. From 230 entries by 85 artists, jurors chose 62 pieces of artwork by 41 individuals. A ceramic cup that Katie created will also appear in the current issue of *About Magazine*. Katie is a student at the Cleveland Institute of Art, majoring in ceramics. She plans to pursue a masters from Kent State University or Alfred University upon graduation in June 2012.



Katie Gutshall

Service in Action

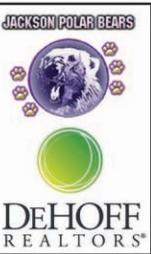
Elizabeth Kolberg, a 2005 grad, received the Graduate Assistant of the Year Award for her work in the Student Affairs Office at Texas A&M University where she did her graduate work. Liz is now employed as Coordinator of New Student Programs at Florida Gulf Coast University.



Elizabeth Kolberg receiving the award from Texas A&M VP of Student Affairs, Lt. General Joe Weber



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JACKSON LOCAL SCHOOLS

Striving for Excellence!

Amherst Elementary



Apple Day

Amherst 1st graders enjoyed Apple Day activities which included: apple predictions, apple experiments, apple pattern blocks, apple finger painting, apple taste testing and graphing, apple words. The annual event brings parent volunteers to the classrooms to help with the multitude of exciting activities going on at once.



Studying Plants

Miss Ryan's 4th grade class has been studying plants, their parts and functions, and their life cycles. The students dissected flowers then planted a spider plant.



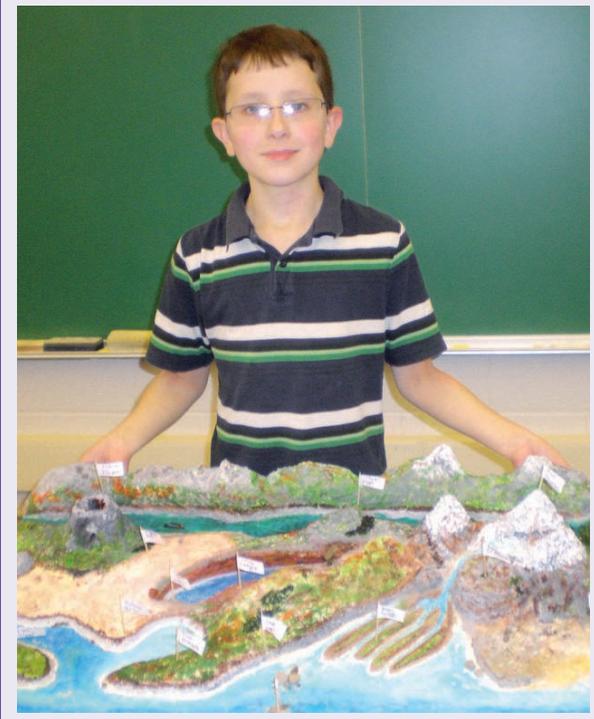
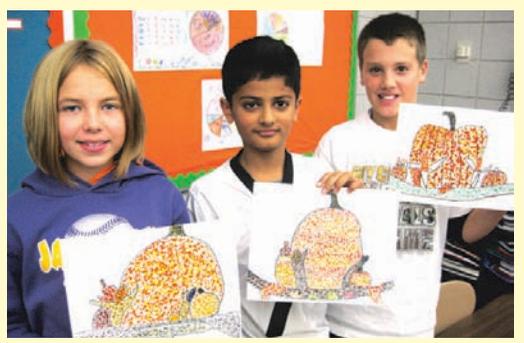
Creating Fantasy Islands

Miss Ryan's students also designed imaginary islands using a theme of their choice to model the geographic features they have been studying. The islands were displayed in the school's library for everyone to enjoy.



Pointillists

Miss Gonzalez's 5th grade students studied George Seurat then sketched a still life using the pointillism technique to add color.



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The Wonders of Fall

Mrs. Evanchan's 2nd grade students at Lake Cable studied the wonders of fall, and to celebrate they conducted a hands-on, joy-filled experiment with fall leaves and the amazing power of gravity.



Stuffed Animal Day

Ms. Erika Logan's 1st graders celebrated the fun of learning with furry friends by bringing stuffed animals to school.



Talk to the Animals

Kindergartners and their parent chaperones spent a morning of learning at Rolling Ridge Farms.



Scientists at Work

Mrs. Geisberger's 3rd grade Lake Cable scientists crafted foil boats and tested to see how many ceramic tiles each boat could hold before it sank. Another day, the students experimented with whirlybirds, trying to find the best way to get the arm to make the most revolutions.



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JACKSON LOCAL SCHOOLS

*Quality Education is a
 Community Commitment*

Sauder Elementary

A leaf as big as a boy



Big Leaf

Sauder 3rd grader, Austin Cordi, has a green thumb. For the past three summers, he has grown Elephant Ear (*Colocasia Esculenta*), a large-leaved tropical plant. In Florida it typically grows leaves that are three feet long and two feet wide. Although the northern growing season does not usually produce such results, Austin is achieving the tropical-size result right here in Ohio. The plant is grown from a bulb that Austin said is "as big as two baseballs put together." Next summer he will try his luck at growing a deep purple variety called Black Magic.

Learning Literature and Latitude



Mr. Blackstock and Mrs. Disman's Sauder 4th graders are learning about latitude and longitude. They are also conducting a Reader's Theater by adapting a piece of literature to script format and sharing the reading parts aloud. This helps the students analyze the piece's structure, characterization, and descriptive qualities, making them better readers through the creativity of basic costuming and hearing the words through repeated practice.



Bullying Awareness

Sauder hosted a bullying awareness assembly for all students as a way to address the serious issue of bullying. The children were able to interact and participate.



Animal Awareness

Camryn Wilson and Erin Zupp are surrounded by animals at Rolling Ridge Farm where their kindergarten class took a field trip.

Photo by parent Erin Wilson

MORE PICTURES AT www.facebook.com/jacksonschools

Kinder Garden grows green

Miss Joanne Young's kindergarten class of 2010-2011 planted and cared for a garden in the schoolyard. They worked diligently, even over the summer, to keep it weeded and watered. Upon return to school in the fall, they enjoyed the benefits by tasting tomatoes, looking at the huge sunflowers, and decorating gourds. Miss Young's new students picked the rest of the veggies, had their own tasting party, and used the gourds in classroom projects. Next spring, they will plant a new garden and watch as their plants grow and change, just like children do.



Filled with pride, first graders stand in the kinder-garden they planted at the end of last school year. From left are: Olivia Abrams, Taylor Mizeur, Sammy Harold, Madi Porter, and Sofia Theado.

Strausser students race for education

The Strausser PTG held its annual Race for Education fundraiser that encourages students to walk in the gym for 45 minutes to fulfill their promise to family and friends who made pledges.



This year's event was organized by Jada Weiler with her committee: Jennifer Arnold, Jennifer Clark, Lori Martino, Fran Mizeur, Lisa Murray, Lori Ripple, Lisa Schneider, and Marc and Beth Schreffler. Sponsors included: Imagine This, DJ Mike's Mobile Music, and Wendy's.

"The committee worked so hard to make this event a success. Strausser has amazing parents who step up to help all the time, and we could not be as successful as we are without the support of the Strausser staff," said Mrs. Weiler.

"The PTG is an integral part of the educational process at Strausser. The parents work diligently on a daily basis to enrich our students' school experience through their fundraising efforts, event planning, and volunteer support. I am so thankful to have such a great group of parents who work for the best interest of the students and staff," said Principal Susanne Waltman.

More than \$26,000 was raised to sustain school programs such as: **(1)** Art room supplies. **(2)** School assemblies. This year students had a school-wide assembly on bullying and a *Draw your Destiny* assembly to pump up 3rd grade students for the fall OAA reading assessment. Others assemblies

are planned for later in the school year. **(3)** Spring Enrichment Clusters. **(4)** Special events such as Grandparent/Special Friend Day; Strausser Kinder-Garden (see photo above); Math Box for 4th graders in which a local artist designs a box that incorporates math and art standards. **(5)** Sheet music for the choir. **(6)** 5th grade Battle of the Books. **(7)** Special programs such as: Project More reading tutor program for grades 2-5; Special Education Respite Night where staff volunteer to stay at school for three hours so that parents of special education students can go Christmas shopping; Spring Transitional Program to assist parents with special needs students to transition to the next grade level; Good Character Lunch with the principal grades 3-5 and Good Character Breakfast; Purchasing items for sensory and calming rooms; **(8)** Snacks and incentives for testing. **(9)** 5th grade year-end celebration.



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Diaper Science

Strausser 4th graders followed the six steps of the Scientific Method to help answer the question, **How many cups of water will a size four Huggies diaper hold?** In case you are wondering, the diapers held 7-9 cups of water.



Hometown Heroes

Mrs. Herncanes 3rd graders met Jackson Firefighter Captain Kai Reiger as a way to remind students about Sept. 11 and the importance of honoring our hometown heroes. The class talked with Captain Reiger about heroes, reading, and school.



JACKSON LOCAL SCHOOLS

Striving for Excellence!

Fall athletes win 7, count 'em, 7 Federal League Trophies

The overall head-to-head record of all the fall sports was 98 wins, 14 losses and 7 ties. The head-to-head Federal League record was an amazing 59-6-1. Nine teams combined for 7 Federal League championships, 5 District championships, four Regional qualifiers, two teams at the state level competition, and one state runner-up.



Athletic Director Terry Peterson can't remember a time when this many Federal League Trophies lined a season's counter top.

Boys' Golf

The team finished the regular season with an 11-1 record and a Federal League championship. The Bears also won the Sectional title and finished 5th at Districts, just missing a state berth. Junior Nick Colangelo qualified to the Division 1 State Boys' Golf Tournament as an individual. Senior John Tidenberg was named Federal League Player of the Year, and Coach Jim Kish was named Federal League Coach of the Year.

the second consecutive year. Sophomore Cassis Pantelas was named 2nd team All-Ohio. Freshman Landrie Grace was named Federal League Player of the Year and Coach Teal Harvey was named Federal League Coach of the Year.

their 19th Federal League championship in the past 20 years and finished the season with a 14-1-5 record overall. The Lady Bears were Sectional champions, District champions, and the Regional runners-up.

the Sectional championship, the District championship, and were the Regional runners-up. The Lady Bears ended with a 27-1 record. Senior Katie Zito was named Federal League Player of the Year and Coach Walck was named Federal League Coach of the Year.

Football

Coach Beau Balderson and the football team finished the season with a 6-4 record capturing the Polar Bears' first winning season since 2006.

Girls' Tennis

Coach Keith Kohmann and the Girls' Tennis Team completed their season with a 15-2 overall record and 11-1 in the Federal League, earning a co-Federal League championship. The tennis doubles' pair of Kelsey Thomas and Hannah Fedorka qualified for the Division 1 state doubles tournament.

Boys' Soccer

Coach Mike Biros and the Boys' Soccer Team won their 5th straight Federal League championship with a 5-0-1 League record and finished with a 13-5-2 overall record. The Bears were also Sectional champions, District champions, and Regional qualifiers.

Cross Country

The Girls' Cross Country Team finished 2nd in the Federal League meet and in the District meet. The boys were the champions of both the Federal League meet and the District meet. The boys were also 4th at the Regional meet which qualified them for the Division 1 State Cross Country Meet where they finished 14th. Junior Alex Wind was named Stark County Runner of the Year and Coach Walsh was named the Boys' Federal League Coach of the Year.

Girls' Golf

The team finished the regular season with a perfect 12-0 record, a Federal League championship, 2nd in the Sectional tournament, set a school record shooting a 302 in winning the District tournament, and were the Division 1 state runners-up for

Girls' Soccer

Coach Frank Gagliardi and the Girls' Soccer Team swept through the league season with a 6-0 record to earn

Girls' Volleyball

Coach Jeff Walck and the Girls' Volleyball Team swept through the Federal League with a perfect 12-0 record, won the Federal League title,

Girls Golf 2nd at state

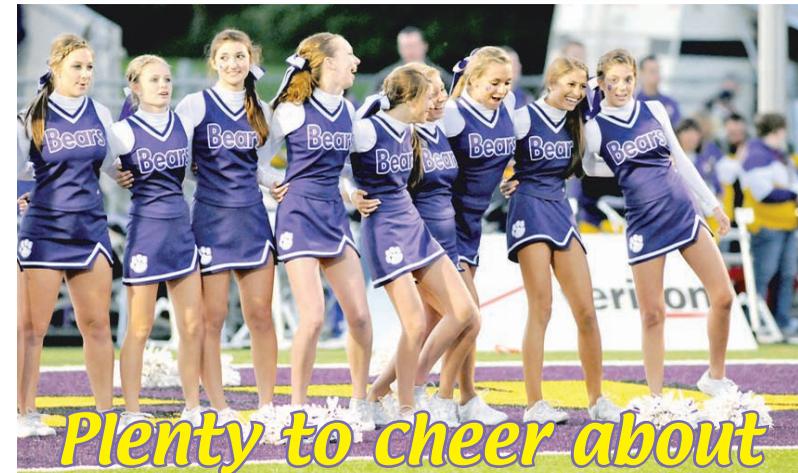
The JHS Girls Golf Team finished 2nd at state for 2nd consecutive year, shooting a 2-day total of 641. Dublin-Jerome won it with a 627. Medina Highlands placed 3rd with 642. Jackson's Cassie Pantelas was named to the All-Ohio Team.

From left are: Head Coach Teal Harvey, Cassie Pantelas, Louisa Engelhardt, Kaitlyn Cherniuk, Landrie Grace, Kelsey Schutt, Meghan Hatfield, and Assistant Coach Gary Jones.



10/22/2011

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Hot, healthy lunches served districtwide

Jackson Local Schools cafeterias are serving more lunches than ever, and food Services Director, Marsha Escola is working hard to make the lunches even healthier under the new government guidelines that require more whole grains, no trans fat, only skim or 1% milk, and more fruits and vegetables to be served. Mrs. Escola continually researches ways to create lunches that appeal to children while staying within the strict but healthy guidelines. Those guidelines are continually changing. By school year 2012-13, even stricter federal standards are expected. This year, Mrs. Escola is pro-actively adding more whole grains and colorful vegetables before the law takes effect. The cooks at each school add to the lunch experience by preparing the foods with great care and serving it with a smile.

LUNCH PRICES: Elementary \$2.35 • Middle School \$2.50 • High School \$2.50

Beyond the School Day

Cory Irwin earns Eagle Scout Award

Corrigan M. Irwin has earned the highest advancement award the Boy Scouts of America offers to Scouts, the Eagle Scout Award. He will be recognized in ceremonies on Sunday, October 23rd, 2011 at 1 p.m. at the MAPS Air Museum. A member of Troop 935 at the McDonaldsville St. Paul United Methodist Church, Cory is one of approximately 4 percent of all Boy Scouts who attain the Eagle rank. According to Scoutmaster Kevin Irwin, his son Cory is the 51st scout from Troop 935 to earn the Eagle rank since the troop was founded in 1967.



Museum in North Canton. He also created an on-line inventory, applied custom labels and created case covers for the

new DVD collection. Cory has served as Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Chaplain Aide and Scribe in his troop and has earned a Polar Bear Camping Award. He joins other outstanding American citizens who have become Eagle Scouts, among them former President Gerald R. Ford, Jr., astronaut Neil A. Armstrong, and cinematographer Steven Spielberg.

In June of 2011, Cory was sponsored by the Massillon American Legion Post #221 as a delegate to the 75th Annual Buckeye Boys State Conference. Cory is a member of the Academic Challenge team and has participated in a number of theatrical productions at Jackson High School, where he is a senior. He is the son of Kevin and Stephanie Irwin of Jackson Township.

Each candidate must earn 21 merit badges and successfully complete a community, church, or synagogue-related service project to earn his Eagle; for his Eagle project, Cory transferred more than 200 videotapes to DVD for the MAPS Air

Annual asbestos notification to public and staff

In compliance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act passed by Congress in 1986, the Jackson Local School District has an AHERA Management Plan on file in the Administrative Office at 7602 Fulton Dr. NW. Anyone interested in viewing the plan can stop by at these locations and ask to see a copy. Our district's Asbestos Management Plan has been kept current through inspections in the school buildings every six months, and major re-evaluations which are completed periodically. Jackson Local School District will continue to maintain a clean and safe environment in all district buildings for its students and our employees.

MORE PICTURES AT www.facebook.com/jacksonschools



THE PAUL & CAROL DAVID YMCA STRIVES TO MEET THE CHALLENGES AND NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY

DID YOU KNOW....

- In 2011, 400 individual kids and families FROM OUR COMMUNITY were financially-assisted for childcare, programs and/or membership based on their financial need.
- 98% of all adult (age 13 and above) land and water exercise classes are FREE with no signups or registration and are on-going.
- We are open 97 hours a week in the summer with Sunday hours, too!
- We provide a 3 month youth or teen membership to over 25 local school and community organizations for their fundraising events.
- All of the part and full-time staff receive member service training, child abuse and Listen First training
- All lifeguards and swim instructors receive training above and beyond what is required as state minimums.
- All Childcare staff receive training above and beyond what is required for state licensing.
- A membership at our YMCA can be used at not only all of our branches but also at all of the Akron YMCA's free of charge.
- Our YMCA Association has been present continuously in Stark County for 145 years.



National Merit Semi Finalists and Commended Students

These students are among the 1.5 million who are the highest-scorers on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Qualifying Test. Commended students are honored for exceptional academic promise. Semifinalists continue on in the competition for one of 8,300 National Merit scholarships and the Merit Scholar title. This year's National Merit semifinalists (pictured left) are: Derrick James, Jonas Jin, Pooja Podugu (not pictured), Aaron Sutherland, Alex Wasdahl and Karissa Schroeter. The commended students (right) are: Brandon Libeau, Alex Lowers, Perry Billett, Sam Johnson, Jayasai Rajagopal, Karl Xia, April McPherson, Jenna Kelly, and Joy Sobawale who is also a candidate for a National Achievement Scholarship.



A day in the life of your JHS principal

Let's walk through a day with JHS principal, Monica Myers.

It's Monday, 5:30 AM at Mrs. Myers' home, and her cell phone is ringing. A teacher is ill and requesting the day off. Mrs. Myers takes the call(s) and wishes the teacher(s) a speedy recovery before securing a substitute teacher and alerting her secretary to start the necessary paperwork.

6:30 AM... Mrs. Myers arrives at school and begins answering her daily 50-100 emails from parents, staff, community members, and fellow educators. Her personal standard is to respond during the workday if possible, otherwise in the evening, and always within 24 hours. Once per week, she receives 40 emails filled with lesson plans from the teachers she directly supervises. She reviews each of these and makes plans to observe in the classrooms.

6:55 AM... The school bell rings. Zero-period students and their teachers assemble in their classrooms. Zero-period is reserved for students in the Jackson School for the Arts who begin their day 45 minutes earlier than the regular school day.

7 AM... Faculty arrive. Several drop by Mrs. Myers' office to consult with her about a student, a teaching method, or a project before the day roars off into a frenzy of learning. This is just the beginning of a long line of staffers who will stop by her office today.

"My door is always open. I want staff to feel welcome to stop and say hello or run something by me without the feeling that they are interrupting me. A large part of my job is to support staff so they can support the students," Mrs. Myers said.

7:25 AM... The school floods with students disembarking from buses and cars to begin the regular school day. Mrs. Myers and all teachers take to the hallways to greet students and to cast a watchful eye of safety/security over the student procession. This process will occur 11 times today as students change classes. Throughout the week, Mrs. Myers strategically positions herself in various parts

of the 450,000 square foot building in order to interact with a variety of students, teachers, and support staff. She aims to be approachable and accessible to all people in her building.

8:00 AM... She's off to the first of perhaps three meetings of the day. First, she meets with guidance counselors, then with her administrative team. Other days, she meets with our new assistant principal, Jeff Kracker, to mentor his growth into the role.

9:30 AM... Time for a classroom evaluation. Several times a week, Mrs. Myers steps into a classroom to observe teacher interactions with students and student engagement with the teacher. With 110 teachers, the process and its paperwork are time-intensive for her and her administrative team, but important for curriculum consistency.

"Formal and informal observations with teachers is the only true way to know what teachers are teaching and how students are learning. Having first-hand knowledge of the classroom helps administrators provide quality professional development and support. By being present in classrooms, we can observe posted learning goals that are from the common core standards, observe materials and resources that teachers are using, and observe student engagement and types of learning activities teachers provide to students," Mrs. Myers said.

10 AM... A bit of time in her office to catch up on more emails, paperwork, and phone calls that need to be made to parents. This is done between the near-constant trail of staffers who beat a path to her door for consultation.

10:20 AM... Lunchtime. Mrs. Myers stands in the lunch line with the students, again, so that she can



JHS Principal Monica Myers

interact with them and send the message that she is there to meet their needs. Most days, she carries her lunch back to her desk and eats while continuing to answer email.

11 AM... Another meeting. This time she attends a Principal's Round Table off campus. Other days it might be her Local Professional Development Committee, a monthly Parent Advisory Council meeting, a Value Added Specialist meeting,

Teacher Evaluation Committee, Leadership Team, International Baccalaureate, Asian Society Grant, Principal's Evaluation, or a Faculty Council Meeting.

1:00 PM... Today there is a fire drill scheduled. Another day it could be a tornado drill, or a lock-down drill. All are designed to keep students safe. All are state required. In the space of three minutes, 2000 students and the entire staff exit the building and wait for the all-clear before returning to class.

2:30 PM... The academic part of the school day ends and the extracurricular school day begins. As students board buses to go home or head to athletic practice, Mrs. Myers is back on hall duty, seeing that students board their buses and get into their cars in a safe and orderly manner.

2:45 PM... Back in her office to finish up the day's phone calls and paperwork before organizing her calendar for the next day.

5 PM... Some days she goes home to have dinner with her family, but two to five evenings per week, Mrs. Myers attends athletic events, school plays, or perhaps an evening fund-raiser to support students, teachers and the adult volunteers working

toward Polar Bear victories. Jackson High School offers students 28 athletic programs and over 30 extracurricular clubs. Annually, for Mrs. Myers, that means 120 after-school commitments.

"Participating in athletics, clubs, and programs such as JSA, theatre, Aultman Academy, Key Club, Student Council, National Honor Society, Freshman Mentor, and other activities helps students build social skills, identifies their strengths and weaknesses, builds self-esteem, develops leadership skills, allows them to experience volunteerism in their school and community, and creates a sense of belonging. Also, as students complete college applications, participation in extracurricular activities indicate a well rounded individual who may be more successful at college than a student who focuses solely on academics," Mrs. Myers said.

Other evenings might find her attending a School Board meeting or taking a college class. Principals are required to take six college credits every five years in order to keep their license. Most of this is paid for with the principal's personal funds. Mrs. Myers holds a B.S. in Education from Kent State University, a Masters in Secondary Education and Administration from Ashland University, and Superintendent's Licensure through Ashland University Cohort. Currently, she is earning a second masters in educational leadership through Wilkes University. Something many people do not know about Mrs. Myers is that she spent six years as an Ohio State Trooper in the 1980s before entering the field of education.

10 PM... Mrs. Myers drops into dreamland so that she can arise with the sun and begin again.

"During my entire career as an educator, there has never been a day that I awakened not wanting to go to work. I hesitate to even call it work; it is much more than a job to me; it is my career—a career that affords me the opportunity to interact with great students and professional educators every day," Mrs. Myers said.

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