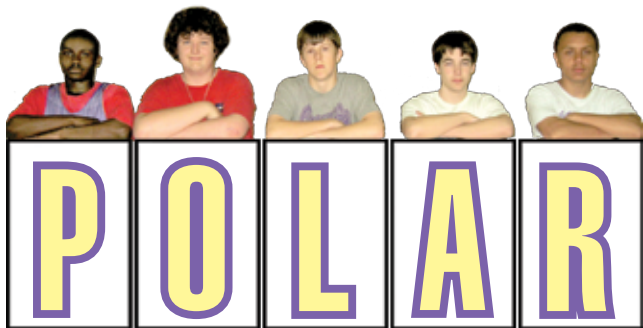


Striving for Excellence



August 2008 Vol 15, Issue 6

A Periodical of the Jackson Local Schools, a District You Can be Proud of

Circulation 22,000

Attend Jackson's 1st annual Community Health Fair

To celebrate the start of the school year and to promote wellness and unity in our community, Jackson Local Schools has partnered with the following agencies to host its First Annual Health Fair: the Jackson Belden Chamber of Commerce, Mercy Hospital, Paul & Carol David YMCA, Aultman Hospital and Prime Time for Seniors, Great 2 Inflate, Jackson Restaurants, Akron Children's Hospital, Jackson Lions Club, Stark County Health Department, NAMI Mental Health Agency, Alzheimer's Association, Juvenile Diabetes Association, American Heart Association, American Dental Association, Aids Awareness of Stark County, Stark County Children's Services.

**Saturday, August 23
9 AM to 2 PM**

**Jackson High School
In the NEW Student Commons**



Health Activities

Try Yoga, Pilates, Strength Training
Get a Massage
Give Blood
Learn Alternative Health Strategies
STOP Smoking
Check Your Bone Density
Get Your Vision Screened
Check Your Blood Pressure

Children's Health Fun

Inflatables
Exercise Clinics
Martial Arts
Dance Dance Revolution

Health Risk Assessment

Fasting glucose and cholesterol - \$25. Bring a self addressed stamped envelope for the return of your confidential results.

Healthy Foods to Sample

Jackson restaurants will provide samples of healthy fare, including chocolate and pizza.

HEALTHY LIVING IS FUN

Senior Citizens' Fall Fling

Mark your calendar for Fall Fling to be held Thursday, Nov. 6. See the dress rehearsal of *Beauty & the Beast*, then have dinner in the high school Student Commons for only \$10 per person. To be among the first notified about ticket sales and other school-related information, send your e-mail address to pblangger@neo.rr.com. Tickets to be sold from 9 AM to 2 PM, Oct. 13-24 at JHS.

Varsity Sports Schedules

Come out and see our kids play.
Varsity sports schedules begin on page 13.

Boys/Girls State produces passion for people and politics

American Legion Post 221 and the Auxiliary in Massillon sent 10 Jackson juniors (now entering their senior year) to Buckeye Boys / Girls State in June. The summer leadership and citizenship program occurs annually in all U.S. states except Hawaii. Brennan Hamilton, Steve Winick, Colin Szeles, Aric Augustine, and Kenny Freda traveled to Bowling Green State University where 1,276 young men gathered for 10 days to form a mock city, county, and state government. Jackson's female participants Abby Wahl, Katelyn Levengood, Ari Eleftrin, Elizabeth Harter, and Rachel Anderson traveled to Ashland University to do the same with a team of 900 young women.

Participants became citizens of mock cities and campaigned to become elected officials at all levels of government. The legislature met to pass bills, and mock trials were held with participants acting as lawyers, criminals, and juries. Some participants joined choirs and bands to call attention to the value of art in a community. Jackson's Abby Wahl exemplified this by playing her acoustic guitar and singing *Where are You Going* by the Dave Matthews band before the entire crowd. Although she was elected mayor of her city, she said, "I don't want to get into politics, but I do want to work with people. Abby believes the arts can be used to "bring out the best in people."

Jackson's Elizabeth Harter earned the Girls State top spot when she was elected governor. After using her oratory and organizational skills

See **BOYS / GIRLS STATE**, page 6



Seated from left: Elizabeth Harter (state governor - highest office), Steve Winick (state representative), Ari Eleftrin (state senator), Colin Szeles (city law director). Standing from left: Rachel Anderson (cabinet member), Abby Wahl (city mayor), Katelyn Levengood (city treasurer), Aric Augustine (county engineer), Brennan Hamilton (city prosecutor). Not pictured is Kenny Freda (state representative).

This, I know for sure...

At the end of each school year, in the spirit of fun, Polar Bear Pride asks students to respond to a statement. This Year's statement, "This I know for sure..." drew the varied responses that pepper the pages of this issue. We hope you enjoy the wit and wisdom of community's children.

I haven't lost any teeth yet. I probably won't lose one till second grade. I want to so I can get money from my pillow. I will put the money in my bank account and buy jewelry someday.



Emmy Baumol, Kindergarten

I'll be successful because I went to Jackson High School. It's a fantastic school that offers a variety of classes that enable you to find what you enjoy. I'll be very prepared for college (electrical engineering).



I will always like to play basketball. I'm pretty good at it, and someday I will play for the Jackson Polar Bears.



I'm going to be successful at life. I will be something in medicine or something in basketball, maybe as a high school coach, striving to be as good as my former coach Mike Fuline.



Jordan Lindesmith, 2008 grad

Put me on the E-List

If you would like to receive periodic messages from your school district, such as notes from the superintendent, messages from the Board of Education, and electronic copies of Polar Bear Pride, simply e-mail pblangger@neo.rr.com and say, "Put me on the E-List."



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9:15 The Gathering - Alternative worship.
10:30 The Celebration - A great worship experience for the whole family, especially children.

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9:15 & 10:30 Adult Bible Study
10:30 Senior High School Sunday School



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MEET THE LEVY LEADERS



Jim Bostic Jennifer Jones Jean Furbay

My name is Jean Furbay and I am "Jackson proud". I am proud of our schools' test scores and our athletic events. I am proud of our accomplishments and our offerings. As the mother of three children who attend Jackson schools (one in elementary, one in middle school, and one in high school) I am also afraid. I am afraid that our larger class sizes will translate into lower test scores. I am afraid that too many cut-backs will translate into less opportunity for students who must be trained to function in a global marketplace. I am afraid that a declining school district will reduce the value of our homes. I am afraid that our community won't step up to the plate in November and support the much needed levy to keep our schools in the top 5% nationwide! Times are tough for everyone right now, and I know we all need to cut back. But please don't let those cutbacks come at the expense of our children. They are our future! I'm asking each of you to pass along the pride in our children and in our community and support your school system. Unity In Our Community has never been more important. **To get involved with our effort, please call me at 330-837-1115.**

My name is Jennifer Jones. I am very proud to say that I am a life-long resident of this township. As an alumna, I have joined the efforts to preserve our school district because many citizens sacrificed to educate me and many sacrificed to educate my daughter who graduated this year with honors. Now it's my turn to support our community's tradition of excellence in education. Once a Bear, Always a Bear. **To help with this important work, please call me at 330-499-3453.**

My name is Jim Bostic. I am a 14-year resident of Jackson Township and a 23-year veteran of public education. I am very excited and pleased to be a part of such an incredible community and EXCELLENT school system. Next to you, our parents and community members, our teachers and school personnel care and prepare the most precious resource that our nation has to offer, our children. My wife and I have eight children (one deceased), five of which are currently in school; two at the middle school and three in elementary school. Until a better system is put in place, it is our responsibility to support our local school system any way possible. Please ask questions, get involved, and think of the many successes our children have contributed to our community, state, and country as a result of Jackson Local Schools. Support your school system, as they support and enhance our community. It is only through our commitment and unity that we will succeed. **To get involved, please call me at 330-495-8908.**

My name is Bob Kolberg. I, too, am very proud to be a life-long resident of Jackson. I was educated in these schools and so was my wife and both of my two children. Even though my children are out of the system and successful adults, I feel it's important for my family to continue educating this community's children. It's time to dig deep and get the job done for our schools and our kids. It's just the right thing to do. **To help, call me at 330-705-4207.**



What Our Schools Need

The Stark County Auditor has reviewed the district budget and approved 3.9 mills for a 5-year, Emergency Operating Levy.

This would cost the owner of a \$100,000 home \$9.95 per month.

MEET THE LEVY LEADERS



Bob Kolberg



Jeff Sponseller with his son, Julian

My name is Jeff Sponseller. My wife Sherry and I moved our family to Jackson Township over 10 years ago. We weighed many options and specifically chose Jackson because we felt it had the best schools. We believe it is now time to support the district that drove our decision to move to Jackson.

When I say the best school district, I think it is important to state what that really means. Our schools are consistently rated in the top 3% in the state of Ohio. *Newsweek* has rated our JHS in the top 5% of United States high schools for the past four years. I believe our kids are getting a private school education at a public school price. Most importantly, 99% of our students graduate and nearly 9 of 10 attend college.

A couple of my friends in the community asked if I would help with a levy. Candidly, I assumed our schools would be fine if we didn't pass a levy. I thought it was just a matter of belt tightening and making better use of our money like we all have to do from time to time. That was probably a little true. It was critical for me to be shown specifically what has been done in terms of belt tightening to earn my vote, my friends vote, our community's vote. (See the list below of belt-tightening actions that earned my trust).

To maintain the academic excellence we expect in Jackson Township, our growing schools simply require additional revenue. This November, I plan to support the shining light of our community. Our schools.

Our schools have done what we've asked

- Balanced the cafeteria budget
- Negotiated successfully with the unions so that all employees participate in insurance costs
- Froze administrative salaries 2006/07
- Eliminated the Adult Education Department, including the positions of director and secretary
- Eliminated 7 teaching positions
- Eliminated 2 vocational teachers
- Reduced cafeteria staff
- Eliminated administrative positions:
 - .5 Assistant Elementary Principal
 - Vocational Director
 - Middle School Assistant Principal
 - High School Assistant Principal
 - Assistant Bus Transportation Supervisor
 - Adult Education Director
 - Elementary Curriculum Coordinator/Title 1 Grant person
- Eliminated Community Intervention Specialist position (drug and alcohol intervention)
- Reduced summer employment
- Offered retirement incentive for staff at the higher end of the pay scale and hired less experienced staff at the lower end of the pay scale to save more than \$3 million over four years
- Reduced busing cost by creating cluster stops, combining JMMS and JHS routes, reducing drivers, and reducing bus replacement
- Reduced technology costs through lease/purchase agreements
- Refinanced bonds to save tax dollars
- Raised private funds to make 6th grade Outdoor Education Camp self-supporting
- Eliminated summer school for remedial students
- Eliminated elementary field trips paid by the Board of Education
- Eliminated remedial reading academies
- Implemented athletic fees
- Implemented academic fees for consumable items.



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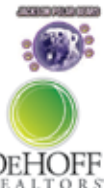
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- Quarterly Newsletter
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Mister & Miss Jacksonite Class of 2008



Elizabeth Rutledge



Michael Lapadot

Mister and Miss Jacksonite represent the seniors who the senior class and Jackson High School staff consider the most exemplary students academically, socially, and civically at school and in the Jackson Community.

We sincerely apologize for printing the picture of Elizabeth's sister in this spot in the June issue of Polar Bear Pride.

Want to know the straight facts about your school district?

Become a Key Communicator, or ask a Key Communicator



Key Communicators is an exciting program that takes community leaders behind the scenes for an in-depth look at Ohio's 19th most successful district. At each meeting, you will spend time with our staff and superintendent, focusing on district operations, from buses to balance sheets. As a graduate of our Key Communicators program, you will be among Jackson's most informed citizens and most important communicators of accurate school-related information.

Key Communicators commit to five lunch meetings with the superintendent and various school board members. As a graduate of the Key Communicators program, Superintendent Haschak will consult with you periodically via e-mail for your input on various topics, and will want to hear community concerns and ideas from you indefinitely.

This year's five meetings will be held the 2nd Tuesday of the month, January through May, from 11:30-1:00 in the Bear's Den student-run restaurant at Jackson High School. If you are interested, please contact Paula Blangger – pblangger@neo.rr.com or 330-497-0883.

The following individuals are graduates of the program. We are grateful for their ongoing, valuable input and the time they dedicate to truly understanding and communicating our struggles and joys.

Mary Aaby	Missy Casper	Jean Furbay	Ann Margaret Lambo	Rebecca Scott
Dr. Jonathan Ash	Janet Cecconi	Denny Goodwill	Kirk Lombardi	Missy Sirpilla
Renee Arnold	Joe Check	Deepa Goyal	Stacey Malcolm	Linda Smith
Victoria Baxter	Lisa Costas	Todd Hawke	Jim Myers	Jerry Smith
Debbie Bentivegna	Ron DeChellis	Rita Haines	Todd Nicholas	Jonathan Stump
Trishla Bhargava	Sharon Deagan	Michelle Henry	Roger Piper	Lisa Tucker
Michele Bossart	Courtney Dietrich	Debbie Johns	Susan Ralich	Rose Marie Westover
Greg Brokaw	Beth Digianantonio	Marilyn Jones	Sally Rath	Ruthanne Wilkof
Stan Bunting	Ken Douglas	Jennifer Jones	Ted Rath	Mark Williams
Dana Burgardt	Michele Evans-	Marilyn Kanam	Jo Rini	Penny Young
Janet Byrnes	Gardell	Lesia Knox	Rick Rodak	Glenda Zink
Jim Camp	Joan Frey	Sheila Lahoti	Linda Schmidt	Jane Zito.

If you want to really know your school district, become a Key Communicator.

POLAR BEAR PRIDE is published six 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.

YOUR INPUT IS WELCOMED: Send comments to Paula Blangger, Jackson Middle School, 7355 Mudbrook NW, Massillon, OH 44646, or pblangger@neo.rr.com

This, I know for sure...

I really like to cook, especially bake pastries. I made brownies for my gram and she freaked out. Every time I make them, they disappear. Every time we go to the grocery store together, she says, "Come on Jen, I'm really missing those brownies." So what I know for sure is that I will be a pastry chef.
Jennifer Hooper, grade 11



Family is the most important thing. I know mine will always be behind me in whatever decisions I make.
Hannah Griffin, 2008 grad



The Browns will make the playoffs this year. It's gonna happen.
Kevin Deagan, grade 9



Nothing good has ever come out of war and nothing ever will. The Iraq war has gone on longer than WWII and we've lost more than we've gained.
Casey Guerrieri, grade 10



The safe drivers, front from left are: Zack Tate, Anna Mallette, Amie Mallette, Logan Webster, Jack Primack, and Bryce Abbott. Standing are Jackson police officer John Angelo, counselor Breezy Manes, and counselor Megan Angelo.

Safety Village icon passes baton to Jackson grad

After 16 years as the Safety Village director, former Jackson teacher Marilyn Jones spent this summer's session grooming 2003 Jackson grad Molly Ott to become the new director.

"I love the program, but I am giving it up because it takes a younger person to do all that is necessary for the children," Mrs. Jones said.

The week-long program served 142 children who will enter 1st and 2nd grade as you read this. The June event requires pre-planning that begins in January so that each day the students can learn various aspects of safety (police, stranger danger, fire, 911, home safety, poison, bus, electrical, railroad, bike). This summer it took 20 youth counselors from the middle school, high school, college and police explorer program to aid the children. In addition, at least five Jackson firefighters are in attendance each day. Presenters in each area of interest round out the team.

Molly attended Safety Village in 1990, just before she entered 1st grade. "I have great memories but the program was not as involved as it is now," Molly said.

"It is more involved because Marilyn Jones made a lot of new contacts and set up a lot of new things," said firefighter Kevin Lanzer.

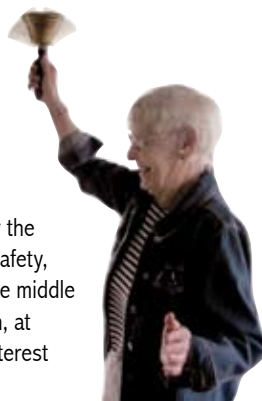
"The original idea came out of the Police Department 20 years ago. It was so popular and grew so much that the police needed help," remembered firefighter Ralph DeChiara. The program is now run cooperatively by the police and fire departments with the schools providing classroom space.

Molly witnessed the program's evolution each year from the time she was 12-years-old and signed on as a counselor, helping Mrs. Jones with the younger children. Now, age 23, and a senior at the University of Akron (studying child and family development), Molly is ready to take the lead.

"I have always wanted to work with children," Molly said. "I have more patience for children than I do for adults," she added with a laugh. "I want to be someone they remember."

"She will bring fresh new ideas to the program," Mrs. Jones said.

Molly plans to add water and boating safety to next year's lineup.



Marilyn Jones



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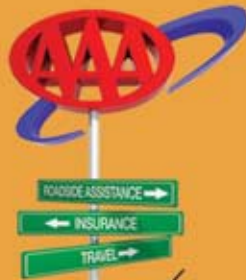
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This, I know for sure...

I love ice cream. There's different flavors, and they're all good. It's the most thing I ever want for dessert. I always pick ice cream. My favorite is banana splits. Oh, they're so good. My mom said a banana split is too big for me. She let me get one at Chubbys and she said if I don't eat it all, I won't get another one. So I ate it all. Three cherries, and oh... I loved the whipped cream... you just pick up some ice cream with the whipped cream, and it tastes so good. I felt really good after I ate it because bananas are healthy for you. Mom said I might blow up if I ate it all, but I didn't! I just love ice cream.

Kristen Stokes, grade 2



I love my mom and dad and my brother and sister 1,000, and they love me, and we will love each other forever.

Marissa Schoeppner, grade 1



Trees give oxygen so we can breathe. Me and my dad made a tree house in a big tree in our yard. I do my math homework in the tree house so I can think. It's quiet there. I like that tree cause it gives me shade. When it gets too hot, I go in my tree house and it's cool. Sometimes I catch water in a cup when it comes through a little hole in the roof. It takes several hours to fill the cup, and I drink it.

Carson Gossett, grade 2



Lake Cable is the best school ever. The teachers are very nice and funny. Mrs Steadham taught me how to read chapter books and now I can read whenever I want to.

Ethan Kulich, grade 1



Getting a new pet makes you happy. I'm getting a new cat and naming her Fluffy. I felt really sad when my other cat died but now I feel happy that I'm getting my own new cat.

Morgan Casey, grade 1



My two sister Kaitlin and Hanna will always be there for me and I'll always be there for them. They love me and I love them.

Jessica Sausaman, grade 4



I have one Husky, one Shar-Pei, and one turtle and they can always make me feel better when I feel bad.

Kristen Ritzman, grade 4



Even though my sister is a brat, she can still be a good little sister. She doesn't think so, but I really do like her.

Nick Sills, grade 4



You have to take care of your pets. My brother has a fish and I have a black cat with green eyes. His name is Casper, and if I don't take care of him, he could get sick and die, and I'd feel bad and sad. Casper makes me happy.

Monica O'Neill, kindergarten



BOYS / GIRLS STATE Continued from page 1

to inspire a large group of women to campaign for her, Elizabeth said her "eyes were opened" to the amazing power of teamwork. "The experience made me want to give back wherever it is needed," she said.

The students stressed that the experience sharply increased their awareness of diverse human problems, meeting many students from communities fraught with teen pregnancy, poverty, teen suicide, rape, and lack of family/community support. "My greatest fears were voiced by some of the other participants. It expanded my views on things and made me more than thankful for my experience at Jackson," said Aric Augustine.

"Issues of losing family farms and improving education were important to other participants, but not to us," said Rachel Anderson who realized that Jackson students discuss political ideas in classrooms where there is little diversity. She, too, appreciated the eye-opening diversity at Girls State. The remaining Jackson students joined Aric and Rachel in gratitude for the Jackson community where a safe and effective educational and community environment has long been a top priority. Our students realized that politics has the power to improve the lives of those less fortunate.

Katelyn Levengood who has spent time volunteering in a homeless shelter said that experience coupled with her experience at Girls State made her want to fight for causes such as educational funding.

Colin Szeles as Boys State city law director, argued a case against racial profiling and found he liked being in the court room. Originally considering a career in aeronautical engineering, he now leans toward a career in law.

Girls State passed 11 bills, two of which were written by Ari Eleftrin who said she hopes to combine her passion for art and political service. "Many of the exercises showed us that although some people had much bigger problems than we do, they weren't that different from us as people, and it made us want to reach out and change their lives," Ari said, adding that she'd like to affect the arts because "when kids learn to think creatively, they become better citizens and better people."

The boys passed 30 bills, several of which will be sent to the State House in Columbus for review and possible implementation. Steve Winick believes the Boys State group could "change the world" if they united. Calling himself "a dreamer" he reasoned that if all the representatives from Boys State nationwide went back to their schools and collected just a small sum of pocket change, it would be enough to create \$6,000,000 worth of change in the world. "I like taking things that seem impossible and making them happen," Steve said.

Brennan Hamilton became county prosecutor at Boys State. "I plan to continue working hard for my family and my community, and take this experience into a law degree and someday work for the Civil Liberties Union. At the end of your life, if you have done great things for your fellow man, you have won," he said.

This, I know for sure...

Life is a series of choices and we live by the consequences of those choices. I learned that from my dad.

Micah Johnson, grade 6



When you think negatively, negative things happen to you. When you think positively, positive things happen to you. I learned this in the movie *The Secret*. Our family is positive. One day we were going to a restaurant and we got a parking space right in the front row because we were thinking positively about it.

Santiago Gil, grade 6



If you practice hard, you play easy. My sports are baseball, basketball, golf, and scootering.

Anthony Lombardi, grade 6



If you don't have something nice to say, don't say anything at all. Once I said something negative to my friend and then I felt guilty and bad. I said I was sorry and he forgave me.

Parker Shutey, grade 6



I have really good friends. They are always there for me. When my dog died, my friend Valentina tried to comfort me. I will continue to make good friends because some kids don't have many friends and I want them to feel better.

Kathryn Sanders, grade 5



Flowers will grow when you plant them. But you have to water them and you have to let them get a lot of sunlight. Flowers are really pretty and if you have a lot of colors they can make your yard stand out. I like roses best. I like the way they are shaped and the colors they come in. My favorite is pink.

Lauren DeChellis, grade 3



High school is definitely harder than middle school.

Ben Clark, grade 9



Life is what you make it. If you make good choices and have a good attitude, you will succeed.

Shantanu Sakaram, grade 6



I love art. I like the creativity of it. I put things together and make something new. I made a puzzle. My dad likes to carve things. He carved a family and I painted it. I'm not allowed to carve things. It makes me happy when I do something creative. When my baby sister was born, she had a problem and I felt sad, so I drew a picture of her getting happy. My mom hung it in her room and I knew my sister knew that I cared. She went to bed and woke up with a smile on her face.

Katelyn Sausaman, grade 2



My family is very nice, and my dog is finally potty trained. They care for me and help me with homework and make me dinner every night. Bently (the dog) is white with brown spots. I love him a lot and he loves me. He always comes to me and licks me and that makes me feel happy.

Tori Bowen, grade 2



I really like playing and watching sports, especially basketball. I made a really long shot, close to the three-point-line in the last game this season and it felt really good.

Ian Gelal, grade 3



I am a nature girl. I don't kill animals. But I shot a deer once with my dad. But that's different. You have to eat something.

McKenzie Kanczurzewski, grade 3



I will always love my little sister Addison. She's the best – so cool and so cute. Her little laugh makes me smile.

Alexia Markley, grade 3



Snowball, my guinea pig, will always make me laugh when he squeaks. When they squeak, it means they are happy. I know because I looked it up on the computer.

Daniel Hathaway, grade 3



Summer Stock

The musical, *Oliver*, was performed by students participating in one of two summer art camps held at the middle school and high school. Interns from Jackson School for the Arts (JSA), under the leadership of Amherst music teacher Cindy Grove, made costumes and scenery, wrote scenes, choreographed, and worked with sound.

At a 2nd camp, older students worked with retired theater teacher Chey Schubert to produce a variety show that interpreted classic paintings by the great masters.



Rehearsing *Oliver* are Maria Knepshild, Nicole Sanderson, Mackenna McDonald, Macey Warden, and Kaitlin Kulich. JSA student interns (standing) are Amanda Rearick, LaBriant McCullough, and Katie Lisy.

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ALUMNI NOTES

Grad lands lead in *Grease on Broadway*

Ashley Spencer, 2003 JHS grad, is now starring in her second Broadway production. On July 22, she took over the leading role of Sandy in the Broadway revival of "Grease" at the Brooks Atkinson Theatre in New York. Just days earlier, she concluded her Broadway role as Amber Von Tussle in "Hairspray".

In 2006, Ashley placed second on "Grease: You're the One That I Want," an NBC-TV reality series designed to find a Danny and Sandy for the Broadway production of "Grease." Now, on Broadway, she has replaced the original Sandy (and series winner) Laura Osnes.



Ashley Spencer poses with Bonnie and Bill Kolberg who traveled to New York to see Ashley perform. Mrs. Kolberg is the JHS Guidance Office secretary. Ashley was a student helper in that office when she attended JHS.

Grad wins scholarship to study abroad

Michael Nemeth, 2005 grad, received the \$5,000 Freeman-Asia Scholarship to study at Akita International University in Akita, Japan. Michael will be a senior at Washington & Jefferson College in Washington, PA this fall. He has traveled to China and Japan previously with the college and made the spring 2008 dean's list. A business administration major with a minor in East Asian studies, Michael plans to pursue a career in international business after graduation in the spring of 2009.

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R Eric Erickson

B Cody Miller
E Bailey Gadow
A Sydney Rowlands
R Corey Hyatt

P Austin Rohrer
R Olivia Natural
I Anthony Meniru
D Chase Abel
E Ethan Bosley

SCHOOL CALENDAR

AUG	18	Mon	6th Grade & New Student Orientation—Last Name A-M ...7:00 PM
	19	Tue	6th Grade & New Student Orientation—Last Name N-Z7:00 PM
	19	Tue	Freshman & New Student Orientation—Last Name A-M7:00 PM
	20	Wed	Freshman & New Student Orientation—Last Name N-Z.....7:00 PM
	21	Th	Open House – Amherst, Lake Cable, Sauder, Strausser.....4:30 – 6:30 PM
	25	Mon	First Day of School (Grades K-9)
	26	Tue	First Day of School (Grades 10-12)
SEPT	1	Mon	Labor Day – No School (K-12)
	2	Tue	Open House – Jackson Middle School— Last Name A-M....6:30 – 7:30 PM Last Name N-Z.....7:30 – 8:30 PM
	10	Wed	Open House – Jackson High School6:30 – 8:30 PM
OCT	9	Th	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5)4:00 – 8:00 PM (6-12)4:30 – 7:30 PM
	13	Mon	Columbus Day – No School (K-12)
	15	Wed	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5)4:00 – 8:00 PM (6-12)4:30 – 7:30 PM
	23	Th	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5 only)4:00 – 8:00 PM
	31	Fri	Teacher In-service – No School (K-12) Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5 only)8:30 – 11:30 AM End of 1st 9 weeks
NOV	3	Mon	No School (K-5)
	26	Wed	Thanksgiving Recess Begins – No School (K-12)
DEC	2	Tue	Classes Resume (K-12)
	22	Mon	Winter Recess Begins – No School (K-12)
JAN	5	Mon	Classes Resume (K-12)
	16	Fri	Teacher In-service – No School (K-12) End 2nd Nine Weeks
	19	Mon	Martin Luther King Day – No School (K-12)
FEB	5	Th	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12) 4:30 – 7:30 PM
	11	Wed	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12) 4:30 – 7:30 PM
	13	Fri	No School (K-12)
	16	Mon	President's Day – No School (K-12)
MAR	20	Fri	End 3rd Nine Weeks.
	23	Mon	Spring Recess Begins No School (K-12)
	30	Mon	Classes Resume
APR	10	Fri	Good Friday – No School (K-12)
MAY	15	Fri	No School (K-12)
	25	Mon	Memorial Day – No School (K-12)
JUNE	5	Fri	Last Day of School



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—Jim Williamson, B.S., M.A.Ed., Malone College
(Fifth grade teacher, Amherst Elementary)

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Sierra, Marissa, and Annie are my best friends. They are nice to me.
Olivia Parcher, grade 1

I can do the worm backwards. My sister taught me. I thought it would be fun to learn, and it was. I do the worm a lot, almost every day. It helps me stretch out my body.

Mary Grace Bentivegna, kindergarten



Mary Grace doing the worm backwards.



Elyse Dye, Hailey Adams, Alexis Hrabovsky, and Kaitlin Kulich at Otterbein.

My mom loves me. She always tells me that, and she rearranged my room yesterday. She's so strong, she moved my bed all by herself. I love my room. There's a little hiding place in there.
Jessica Lowmiller, kindergarten



Students perform in summer All-State Honors Choir

Lake Cable students Hailey Adams, Alexis Hrabovsky and Kaitlin Kulich and JMMS student Elise Dye participated in the Ohio Choral Director's Association 2008 All State Children's Honor Choir, comprised of 146 of Ohio's most talented young singers who were in grades 4-8 last year. Jackson's students were chosen by Lake Cable music teacher Nathalina Schloneger.

To prepare for the event, students participated in two Saturday satellite rehearsals (each 3 hours long) at Baldwin Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, then met at Otterbein College Monday, June 23 to begin working with guest conductor, Sharon Rodkey Smith.

The OCDA All State Children's Honor Choir performed at the Ohio Choral Director's Association (OCDA) Summer Conference 2008 on Wednesday, June 25 in Cowan Hall at Otterbein College in Westerville, OH.

The program included six pieces which students performed from memory:

- Cantate Hodie! (Sing Today) by Mary Lynn Lightfoot
- In Flander's Fields (Remembrance Day) by Alexander Tilley
- Jai Bhvani arranged by Ethan Sperry (commissioned for the 2008 OCDA All State Children's Honor Choir)
- This Little Light of Mine arranged by Ken Berg
- I'se the B'y arranged by John E. Govedas
- Give Us Hope by Jim Papoulis, arranged by Francisco Nunez

The concert also highlighted The New World Singers of the Columbus Children's Choir, under the direction of Dr. Sandra L. Mathias. Dr. Mathias is the Artistic Director of the Columbus Children's Choir and most recently served as Professor of Vocal Music Education at Capital University for 29 years.

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Board Meeting Schedule

Sept. 16.....	High School	6:30 PM
Oct. 21.....	Sauder	6:30 PM
Nov. 18.....	Lake Cable.....	6:30 PM
Dec. 16.....	Amherst	6:30 PM

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



Life is full of surprises, and you have to expect the unexpected.
Arielle Elsass, grade 10

I like school a lot. I especially like gym class, art, math, and science. School is a good place to make friends.

Vinnie Yacono, grade 5



NOTE: Vinnie, now entering 6th grade at JMMS and has never missed a day of school from kindergarten through 5th grade.



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This, I know for sure...

I don't know what I am going to do in life, but I know I am going to be the best at it, so everybody else better watch out. Keep your eyes and ears open because you will hear about me.
Amber Angle, grade 8



Caterpillars are soft and they turn into pretty butterflies.
Victoria Dionisio, grade 1



I'm going to Slippery Rock University to become a physical therapist because I like helping people.
Stephen Gilbert, 2008 grad



I will go to the Cleveland Institute of Art to study medical illustration. Creativity will always be in everything I do. Painting, drawing, or doing something creative gives me a positive outlook on life.
Katie Gutshall, 2008 grad



SOME THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Buildings inspected for asbestos

Our district's Asbestos Management Plan is kept current through general inspection of all buildings every six months. A major reevaluation is done every three years in compliance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Act of 1986.

Anyone interested in viewing the plan can make an appointment with buildings and grounds supervisor, Chris Diloreto, at the administration building, 7984 Fulton Drive, 330-830-8044. Copies of the plan may also be purchased for 25 cents per page, payable in advance, with a maximum of five work days required for preparation.



Asbestos-containing floor being removed from a JHS classroom as part of the renovation plan.

Jackson seeks to serve children with disabilities

Within the intent of the federal statutes (Rehabilitation Act of 1973-section 504 and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act IDEA-public law 105-17), the Jackson Local School District continues its effort to locate and identify children with disabilities from birth through age 21. Children with disabilities have physical, emotional, and or mental impairments that may require special education. Public schools provide free and appropriate education regardless of a child's disability. However, before these children can be served, they must be found. Many of these children are not visible because they may not function in the community's mainstream, and many are preschoolers. Parents may not realize that programs and services are available through their school district or from agencies in their community. If you are aware of a child who may need a special education program or services, contact the principal of the school the child attends or would likely attend upon reaching school age.

Jackson seeks federal grants for special education

The Jackson Local School District is eligible to submit two applications to the Ohio Department of Education for federal grants to maintain and improve fiscal year 2009 special education programs and services in the Jackson Local Schools: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (Public Law 105-17) and Education of the Handicapped Act, Preschool Grant Program (Public Law 99-457). Residents within the Jackson Local School District may inquire and make program and service recommendations regarding the Fiscal Year 2008 grant applications. For information, contact Christine Dieringer, Director of Special Programs at 830-8006.

Basic student information made publicly available

As per Jackson Local Board of Education policy, our schools make available, upon request, certain directory information which includes student names, addresses, telephone numbers, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, height, weight if student is a member of an athletic team, date of graduation and awards received. **Parents and adult students may refuse to allow disclosure of any or all such directory information** upon written notice to the building principal within 10 days of receipt of this notice. It is also your right to:

- inspect and review your student's educational records
- request amendments if the record is inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's rights
- disallow disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except in the cases of disclosures allowed by law
- file a complaint of district noncompliance with the Department of Education
- obtain a copy of the district's policy and administrative guidelines on student records.

JHS required to provide student information to military recruiters

Each high school receiving federal funding is REQUIRED to turn over student information (name, address, phone number) to local military recruiters unless parents opt out in writing. You can visit www.leavemychildalone.org to remove your child's name.

BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY

JMMS student throws out first pitch at Indians game

Kareesma Parbhoo won the Ohio Lottery Academic All-Star award after being recommended by her 6th grade teachers Frank Gant and Fran Dougherty.

The award recognizes nine outstanding Ohio students each month, based on academics, responsibility, attitude, leadership, citizenship, community service, school pride, and extracurricular activities.

Kareesma is in accelerated classes and has maintained a 4.0 grade point average. She is a member of the Math Club and the math tournament team. She also took first place in the Stark County Bar Association Law Day Poster Contest. On June 28, she, her two teachers and her family attended a Cleveland Indians' game where Kareesma threw out the first pitch, received merchandise from the team and an assortment of Partners in Education merchandise from the Lottery.



Teacher Fran Dougherty and Kareesma Parbhoo at an Indians game.

10U Jackson Jayhawks win 2008 Tire Town Classic

10 & Under Jackson Jayhawks won four out of eight tournaments this season. They took runner-up in two tournaments, third in one, and tied for 5th place in State AAA tournament. Front row from right: Josh Meldrum, Cade Mottice, Matt Uhl, Brock Begue, Jacob Mottice. Middle row: Zach Mottice, Nick Sima, Matt Hilinski, Jacob Begue, Ryan Mallette, Logan Maier. Back row: Coach Jeff Skelley, Coach Steve Mottice, Manager Dave Maier, Coach Eugene Uhl.



This, I know for sure...

I have a mind-set to succeed. I will live to be at least 95, become a Broadway star and a pro snowboarder. I will own a Pug and see the sun set in Italy. You have to have faith in yourself or you'll never succeed at anything.



I have faith in myself. I will accomplish these things and nobody will tell me any differently.

Samantha Lantz, grade 8

I'm not positive about anything.

Kerry Renae Kunze, 2008 grad



Trust is important. I will always be there for my friends. I do not tell the secrets that they have entrusted me with, and I expect the same back from them.

Amber Dennis, grade 9



It's important to be yourself. This year I learned to worry less about what other people think. I have my priorities. It's important to spend time wisely.

Meera Patel, grade 11



I love my mom. She makes me food and is paying for my college education. I will study exercise science at Malone College.

Tyler Campitella, 2008 grad



I'm getting a full-sleeve tattoo. I love art and want people to see me as an artist. I'm headed to the Police Academy in Summit. I love people's reactions to my tattoos – good and bad.

Jamie Taylor, 2008 grad



Everybody is going to die someday. I'm a Christian and I know what I'm living for. I'm going to Heaven. My personal relationship with Jesus Christ gives me great comfort and guidance.

Emily Cavalier, grade 10



Everybody is different. It's important to find friends who have the same morals as you do and not be with friends who will take you in a wrong direction in life. Your reputation is important.

Rachael Schneider, grade 9





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VARSITY SPORTS SCHEDULES

2008 Varsity Football

Friday, 8/22	Copley	7:30pm
Friday, 8/29	@ Solon	7:30pm
Friday, 9/5	@ Hudson	7:30pm
Friday, 9/12	GlenOak	7:30pm
Friday, 9/19	@ McKinley	7:30pm
Friday, 9/26	Austintown Fitch	7:30pm
Friday, 10/3	@ Boardman	7:30pm
Friday, 10/3	Lake	7:30pm
Thursday, 10/16	@ Perry	7:00pm
Friday, 10/24	Hoover	7:30pm

2008 Junior Varsity Football

Saturday, 8/23	@ Copley	10:00am
Saturday, 8/30	Solon	10:00am
Saturday, 9/6	@ Hoover	10:00am
Saturday, 9/13	@ GlenOak	10:00am
Saturday, 9/20	McKinley	10:00am
Saturday, 9/27	@ Austintown Fitch	10:00am
Saturday, 10/4	Boardman	10:00am
Saturday, 10/11	@ Lake	10:00am
Saturday, 10/18	Perry	10:00am

2008 Varsity/JV Boys' Golf

Monday, 8/11	Big Cat Invitational @ Legends	9:00am
Tuesday, 8/12	Pre-Season FL Tourney @ Tannenhauf	8:30am
Thursday, 8/14	Fairfield Tourney @ Turnberry	9:30am
Friday, 8/15	Kickoff Classic @ Seven Hills CC	8:00am
Monday, 8/18	Grizzly Invitational @ Rawiga CC	9:00am
Tuesday, 8/19	@ Boardman	4:30pm
Thursday, 8/21	@ Hoover	4:30pm
Thursday, 8/28	@ Lake	4:30pm
Tuesday, 9/2	@ GlenOak	4:30pm
Saturday, 9/6	The Tradition @ Good Park	11:30am
Monday, 9/8	St. Thomas Aquinas	4:00pm
Tuesday, 9/9	Austintown Fitch	4:30pm
Tuesday, 9/16	Perry	4:30pm
Saturday, 9/20	Stark County Invitational (Dales)	9:00am
Tuesday, 9/23	McKinley	4:30pm
Wednesday, 9/24	Green @ Prestwick CC	4:00pm
Friday, 9/26	Post-Season FL Tourney @ Tannenhauf	9:00am

VARSITY SPORTS SCHEDULES

2008 Varsity/JV - Gold Boys' Soccer

Thursday, 8/21	@ Youngstown Cardinal Mooney	5:00/7:00pm
Tuesday, 8/26	@ Hudson	5:00/7:00pm
Thursday, 8/28	@ GlenOak	5:15/7:00pm
Saturday, 8/30	Green	5:15/7:00pm
Tuesday, 9/2	Austintown Fitch	5:15/7:00pm
Saturday, 9/6	Solon	5:15/7:00pm
Tuesday, 9/9	Perry	5:15/7:00pm
Saturday, 9/13	Walsh	5:15/7:00pm
Tuesday, 9/16	McKinley	5:15/7:00pm
Saturday, 9/20	@ Toledo Anthony Wayne	1:00/3:00pm
Tuesday, 9/23	@ Boardman	5:15/7:00pm
Saturday, 9/27	Avon Lake	12:00/2:00pm
Tuesday, 9/30	@ Lake	5:15/7:00pm
Thursday, 10/2	Copley	5:15/7:00pm
Saturday, 10/4	@ Wadsworth	5:00/7:00pm
Saturday, 10/11	@ Hoover	5:15/7:00pm

2008 JV Purple Boys' Soccer

Wednesday, 8/27	@ Strongsville	5:00pm
Thursday, 8/28	@ GlenOak	5:15pm
Saturday, 8/30	Green	5:00pm
Wednesday, 9/3	Hoover	5:15pm
Saturday, 9/6	Solon	5:00pm
Saturday, 9/13	Walsh Jesuit	5:00pm
Tuesday, 9/16	Lake	5:15pm
Wednesday, 9/17	@ Revere	5:00pm
Saturday, 9/27	Avon Lake	12:00pm
Tuesday, 9/30	@ Lake	5:15pm
Saturday, 10/4	@ Wadsworth	5:00pm
Wednesday, 10/8	@ Highland	5:00pm
Saturday, 10/11	@ Hoover	5:00pm
TBA	Hudson	



Polar Bear Pride — August 2008 Issue



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VARSIY SPORTS SCHEDULES

2008 Boys'/Girls' Cross Country

Saturday, 8/9	Alumni Race @ JMMS	11:00am
Tuesday, 8/19	Green @ Boettler Park	4:30pm
Saturday, 8/23	Claymont Invitational @ Claymont	TBA
Saturday, 8/30	Avon Lake (Varsity) @ Tri-C	8:00am
Saturday, 8/30	N. Canton Invitational (JV) @ N. Canton	8:30am
Saturday, 9/6	Walsh Warrior Invitational @ Walsh	9:30am
Saturday, 9/13	Boardman Invitational @ Boardman	12:00pm
Saturday, 9/20	Malone Invitational @ Malone	TBA
Saturday, 9/27	Stark County Meet @ GlenOak	TBA
Saturday, 10/4	Open	
Saturday, 10/11	Federal League Meet @ Perry	TBA
Saturday, 10/18	District Meet @ Malone	TBA
Saturday, 10/25	Regional Meet @ Boardman	TBA
Saturday, 11/1	State Meet @ Scioto Downs	TBA

2008 Varsity/JV Girls' Volleyball

Monday, 8/25	Boardman	5:30/7:00pm
Thursday, 8/28	Hoover	5:30/7:00pm
Tuesday, 9/2	Lake	5:30/7:00pm
Thursday, 9/4	GlenOak	5:30/7:00pm
Saturday, 9/6	@ Green	10:00/11:30am
Tuesday, 9/9	@ Austintown Fitch	5:30/7:00pm
Thursday, 9/11	@ Perry	5:30/7:00pm
Saturday, 9/13	@ Wooster	10:00/11:30am
Tuesday, 9/16	@ McKinley	5:30/7:00pm
Thursday, 9/18	@ Boardman	6:00/7:30pm
Saturday, 9/20	Jackson Invitational (JV @ MS)	10:00am
Tuesday, 9/23	@ Hoover	5:30/7:00pm
Thursday, 9/25	@ Lake	5:30/7:00pm
Tuesday, 9/30	@ GlenOak	5:30/7:00pm
Thursday, 10/2	Austintown Fitch	5:30/7:00pm
Saturday, 10/4	Walsh	10:00/11:30am
Tuesday, 10/7	Perry	5:30/7:00pm
Thursday, 10/9	McKinley	5:30/7:00pm
Saturday, 10/11	@ West Holmes	10:00/11:00am



Go Bears

VARSITY SPORTS SCHEDULES

2008 Varsity/JV - Girls' Soccer

Wednesday, 8/20	@ Green	5:00/7:00pm
Saturday, 8/23	Sylvania Northview	1:00/3:00pm
Wednesday, 8/27	GlenOak	5:15/7:00pm
Saturday, 8/30	Wadsworth	3:00/5:00pm
Wednesday, 9/3	@ Austintown Fitch	5:00/7:00pm
Monday, 9/8	Revere	5:15/7:00pm
Wednesday, 9/10	@ Perry	5:15/7:00pm
Saturday, 9/13	@ North Royalton	1:00/3:00pm
Wednesday, 9/17	@ McKinley (Varsity)	7:00pm
Saturday, 9/20	@ Copley	1:00/3:00pm
Wednesday, 9/24	Boardman	5:00/7:00pm
Saturday, 9/27	@ Walsh Jesuit	11:00am/12:00pm
Wednesday, 10/1	Lake	5:15/7:00pm
Saturday, 10/4	@ Cloverleaf	4:00/6:00pm
Wednesday, 10/8	Hoover	5:15/7:00pm
Saturday, 10/11	Medina	11:00/12:00pm

Senior Citizens pay half price for athletic tickets

If you are age 65 or over, you can attend all regular season varsity contests (except football) for half price. Your general admission ticket will cost \$3 with your photo I.D.

2008 Varsity Girls' Golf

Monday, 8/11	Copley Invitational @ Chippewa	8:30am
Tuesday, 8/12	FL Pre-Season @ Tannenhau	8:30am
Wednesday, 8/13	Jackson NE Invitational @ Legends	9:00am
Friday, 8/15	Pickerington Invitational @ Turnberry	TBA
Saturday, 8/16	Midwest Classic @ Skyland Pines	TBA
Tuesday, 8/19	Boardman @ Tam O'Shanter	4:30pm
Thursday, 8/21	Walsh Invitational @ Aurora CC	11:00am
Monday, 8/25	Hoover @ Tam O'Shanter	4:30pm
Thursday, 8/28	Lake @ Tam O'Shanter	4:30pm
Tuesday, 9/2	GlenOak @ Tam O'Shanter	4:30pm
Tuesday, 9/9	@ Austintown Fitch	4:30pm
Wednesday, 9/10	McKinley @ Edgewood	4:30pm
Saturday, 9/13	Perry Invitational @ Legends	TBA
Tuesday, 9/16	Perry @ Legends	4:30pm
Saturday, 9/20	Stark Team Championship @ Tam O'Shanter	9:00am
Monday, 9/22	Green @ Turkeyfoot	TBA
Wednesday, 9/24	Marlington @ Tannenhau	TBA
Friday, 9/26	FL Post-Season @ Tannenhau	9:00am
Tuesday, 9/30	Sectionals @ Turkeyfoot	TBA
Tuesday, 10/7	Districts @ Legends	TBA
Thur. - Sat. 10/16-10/18	State Tournament @ Columbus	TBA

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Jackson's 51 students and chaperones at Chambord, France.

Summer enrichment abroad

Jackson's World Language Department Chair and long time Spanish and French teacher Parthena Draggett and nine chaperones accompanied 52 JHS students to Spain and France during summer break. Mrs. Draggett had this to say upon her return.

"On our 10-day trip, students experienced many wonders of Spain and France, including: Madrid, Toledo, Segovia, Burgos, Bilbao, San Sebastian, Biarritz, Paris, and the castles of the Loire Valley. Imagine being in Spain right after they won the European Cup for soccer for the first time in 44 years, being there when Spain's Rafael Nadal won Wimbledon, being in San Sebastian the day before the "Running of the Bulls" started in Pamplona, and being in France at the start of the Tour de France. I loved seeing how our students soaked in the culture and opened their minds to greater global awareness and appreciation. They truly embraced the educational opportunity and listened intently to every guide's history-filled explanation with awe and inquisitive minds. It's wonderful to see them learning and having the time of their lives at the same time."

This, I know for sure...

Life is hard. If you are faced with a difficult challenge, you should not run away; you should hit it head on. I got a new Cocker Spaniel but I didn't understand how much responsibility there would be, so I was faced with taking care of Molly or giving her back. I decided to buckle down and focus on Molly's needs and make sure they were met before my own. Now she's potty trained and well behaved and I get to keep her.

Kristin Wright, grade 7



Exercise is important to stay fit. Skateboarding is radical. Radical means cool. It's fun and active and makes me strong. I can do a kick flip which is when your board flips in a 360 degree rotation as you jump off it and land back on it and keep rolling. Took me a month to learn it.

Zack Henry, grade 7



School is rough but in the long run it will pay off. My goal is to become an architect. JHS is moving me in the direction that I want to end up in life.

John Boda, grade 10



I've had a good four years at Jackson. I made a lot of close friends

and I like the new school building. I know that sticking to your priorities is real important. It gets you through life. I want to be a missionary, maybe in Africa.

Jessica Hi, 2008 grad



You must learn to ask the right questions if you want to learn the answers.

Mostly kids wait for adults to give them all the answers. I like to think for myself, which causes me to ask many more questions.

Cruz Reigler, grade 8



Mrs. Steadham is the best teacher. She is the queen of first grade and always will be. She is really fun.

Annie Winkhart, grade 1



If you have a crush on a boy and he does not like you, don't get mad, just be like, "whatever" because the worst thing you could do is change yourself so someone would like you.

It's better to be who you are so you don't hate who you become. Then you can find friends who like you for you.

Emilija Gocavska, grade 7



Whatever I put my mind to, I will achieve - either as a chef or an author or a politician. I'm interested in so many things. I don't know who my real friends are, but I do know my real friends will be people who care about what is important such as charity in the all-encompassing sense. If you remain humble but put your mind to what you want to achieve, you will be like a seed growing into a plant.

Nat Steiner, grade 8



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