



POLAR BEAR PRIDE

Angelina Paxos, Riley Lorenz, Eve Balderson, Chloe Balderson, Bella Paxos, Aaron Waltman, Jack Walter, Carson Pastorius, Niko Paxos, Dawson Wanzer, Conlan Wanzer, Brennan Wanzer, Logan Lorenz, Max Murray



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Keeping the Main Thing, the Main Thing

Student Achievement • Resource Management • Communication & Collaboration

CHRIS DILORETO

Jackson gets an A on the State Report Card

The Ohio Department of Education has released the district report cards. Jackson Local Schools received an A in the performance Index category. The Performance Index measures the test results of every student, not just those who score proficient or higher. Our district earned 109.4 out of a possible 120 points, which is the highest in the history of the district. The score also ranks Jackson 18th highest among Ohio's 610 public school districts. More than 80 percent of our students scored accelerated or advanced on the nearly 8,800 tests they took last year. Those kind of results take all of us—students, teachers, parents—striving for excellence together.

Our resource management program saves taxpayer dollars.

We have changed the energy culture at Jackson Local Schools. Students and staff are mindful of their personal energy consumption, turning off lights

and computers when they are not in use. These may seem like small things, but coupled with the district's effort to make sensible adjustments to existing equipment, we have saved approximately \$1.5 million since we began the program in 2010. Jackson Local is proud to demonstrate this kind of environmental leadership to students, staff, and our community.

Follow us on Facebook

Last school year, fans of our Facebook page enjoyed 400 posts that contained over 5,000 photos and 23 videos. A lot of learning happens here every day. Facebook allows us to show you some of our students' day-to-day activity as well as their big achievements. It was interesting to see over 30,000 people follow our baseball team's run to the state championship via our Facebook page. If you are not already one of our 6,000+ fans, sign up to see our great students in action every day.



Marching Bears play new blimp into wild blue yonder

The JHS Marching Band set a festive tone as "Good Morning America" co-anchor Robin Roberts christened Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.'s newest blimp, Wingfoot One, in Suffield, Ohio near Akron on Saturday, Aug. 23. The band played for the event's 2,000+ people at various times during the celebration and as the airship rolled from its hangar and rose on its maiden flight.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to have been part of this historic event. Our outstanding students will certainly remember their performance, with pride, every time they see a blimp on television or flying overhead," said JHS Band Director Michele Monigold.



Jackson staff studies strategies for school safety

The Jackson Local staff recently attended a school safety session conducted by Staff Lieutenant Steve Rosta in the high school auditorium. Lieutenant Rosta is the Ohio State Highway Patrol Special Response Team Tactical Commander and a 25-year veteran of the Patrol.

Lt. Rosta instructed our staff to pay particular attention to their surroundings and to become aware of safety options that may be uniquely beneficial to their classrooms or work areas in the event of a critical incident. The presentation emphasized strategies beyond traditional lockdowns.

Also attending the session were officials from the Jackson Township Fire and Police Departments, Jackson Township Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol and the Canton FBI Office, many of which are part of our Critical Incident Management Team (see photo at left).

The safety of our students and staff is a top priority; therefore security training has been a key component of ongoing professional development. Earlier training conducted by the Attorney General's Office stressed that it's more important to spend our efforts trying to prevent an event rather than respond to one. School employees

At a recent school safety staff training session were (standing from left): Jackson police officers Matt Demyan, Dave Trubisky and Jordan Starcher, Technology Specialist Keith Obermeier, Jackson Fire Chief Tracy Hogue, JLSJ Superintendent Chris DiLoreto, Jackson Police Chief Mark Brink, JLSJ Assistant Superintendent Barry Mason, FBI agent Dave Morgan, JLSJ Building/Grounds Supervisor Bob Kolberg. Seated from left: JLSJ Transportation Supervisor and former Jackson police chief Harley Neftzer, Lt. Steve Rosta, Deputy Fire Chief Tim Berczik.

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2013 - 2014 Report Card for Jackson Local School District



Achievement

This grade combines two results for students who took the state tests. The first result answers the question – How many students passed the state test? The second result answers the question – How well did students do on the state test?

Performance Index

91.1% **A**

Indicators Met

100.0% **A**

Performance Index Calculation

Achievement Level	Pct of Students		Points for this Level	=	Points Received
Advanced Plus	0.1	x	1.3	=	0.1
Advanced	43.5	x	1.2	=	52.2
Accelerated	28.9	x	1.1	=	31.8
Proficient	22.7	x	1.0	=	22.7
Basic	3.8	x	0.6	=	2.3
Limited	1.0	x	0.3	=	0.3
Untested	0.0	x	0.0	=	0.0
					109.4

GRADE

A

Performance Index

The Performance Index measures the test results of every student, not just those who score proficient or higher. There are six levels on the index and districts receive points for every student in each of these levels. The higher the achievement level the more the points awarded in the district's Index. This rewards schools and districts for improving performance.

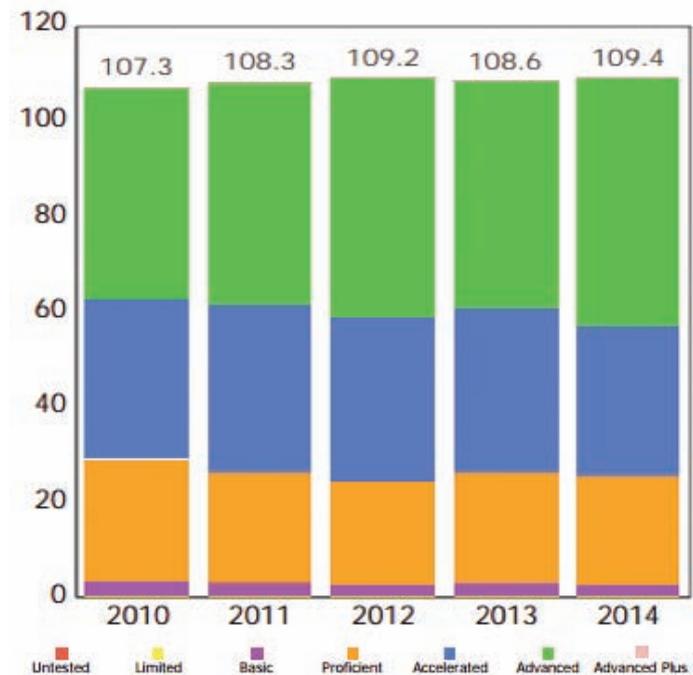


91.1%

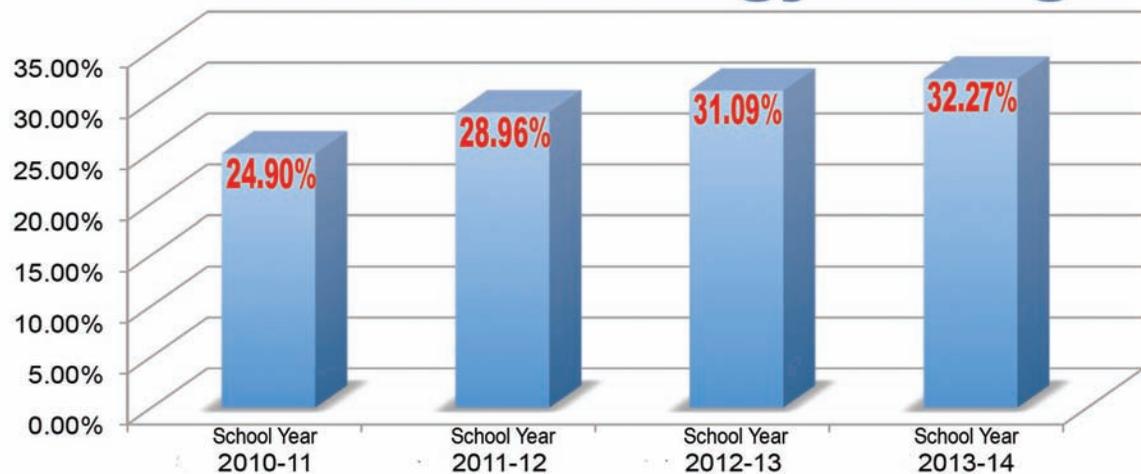
109.4 of a possible 120.0

A = 90.0 - 100.0%
B = 80.0 - 89.9%
C = 70.0 - 79.9%
D = 50.0 - 69.9%
F = 0.0 - 49.9%

Performance Index Trend



Jackson Local Energy Savings



This chart equates to approximately \$1.5 million in energy savings over the past four years. The district energy program has changed the culture at JLSD, making staff and students mindful of their personal energy usage (shutting lights and computers when not in use). Coupled with the district's sensible upgrades to existing equipment, the program has exceeding projections. We expect to continue the practices we've established, holding this trend steady. Being good stewards of taxpayer dollars is a top priority at Jackson Local Schools.

JACKSON LOCAL SCHOOLS

Quality Education is a
Community Commitment



New teachers join the Jackson Local faculty

Laura Basford (7th Grade Math), Baili-Dawn Burdeshaw (Grade 3) Michael Cochran (Science), Joni Craver (Guidance Counselor), Matthew Denham (Grade 5), Ashley Fazenbaker (7th Grade Lang Arts), Cristina Gonzalez-Abreu (Grade 40), Cassandra Gouge (Intervention Specialist), Allison Grant (English), Ryann Guilliams (English), Sarah Hamilton (Library/Media Specialist), Alexandra Henry (Grade 3), Crystal Kaschube (Intervention Specialist), Matthew Marlett (Social Studies), Todd Michael (Social Studies), Amanda Nicholas (Grade 4), Victoria Pavlantos (Grade 2), Brian Poetter (7th Grade Art), George Preston (Science), Kelly Putney (7th Grade Math), Kelsey Rich (Grade 2), Stephen Robison (Science), Gregory Sauline (8th Grade Math), Daniel Tamburro (Science), Lindsay Werner (Psychologist), Nicole Wohlheter (Guidance Counselor), Maggie Yavorsky (Phys Ed/Health), Paige Zenovic (English).

School Gate Guardian: Keeping our kids safer



Because student and staff safety is a top priority, Jackson Local

Schools implemented a visitor management system at all six school buildings. First-time visitors must produce a valid driver's license or state-issued photo ID to be scanned into a system called School Gate Guardian. The software captures and stores the visitor's name, date of birth and photo to compare against a national database of over 704,000 registered sex offenders. If no match is found, a time-expiring photo ID badge is printed for the guest. Each time a guest signs in, the system checks the continually updated national database before printing a badge. If the system raises a question about a visitor's background, a school administrator(s) will take the necessary steps to ensure the appropriateness of the individual's visit. School Gate Guardian is currently used in more than 1,000 school districts nationwide.

SCHOOL SAFETY Continued from page 1

have a unique prevention opportunity because of the relationships they have cultivated with students, thus having insight into their lives. Our staff also encourages partnerships with parents, students and local law enforcement. Everyone should be reminded, if you see or hear something that causes concern, please communicate it to a building principal.

Lt. Rosta brings tremendous credibility to our school security training. Before joining the Patrol, he served 10 years with U.S. Army Special Forces, Green Beret. The Ohio State Highway Patrol's Special Response Team is an elite unit of troopers that have been trained and equipped to handle a variety of incidents and situations. Lt. Rosta and his team coordinate and oversee security for all of The Ohio State University's home football games.



Goodyear Blimp hovers over Fife to thank the Jackson Band

Goodyear Blimp, Wingfoot One, hovered over Fife Stadium on Friday September 12 and captured the above photo as the Jackson Band formed USA on the field. The Goodyear team visited the game as a thank-you to the band for providing a musical send-off for Wingfoot One's maiden flight.

Want a ride in the blimp?

The band is raffling off a 6-person blimp ride. Tickets (at \$10 each) will be available at the football games and in the band office at the high school throughout the season. The winner will be drawn at the Hoover Game.

Become a host family for our JHS French exchange student

The Jackson Township Rotary Club is seeking one more families to share the hosting of its French exchange student. The host family is expected to provide room and board and transportation to and from after-school activities. The student is expected to purchase her own clothing, toiletries, school supplies, school fees, etc. She also has her own medical coverage and receives a \$100/month stipend from the Jackson Rotary Club. If you are considering this enriching cultural experience for your family, please contact Aletha Carver to learn more. 330-497-0700.

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- I Love Lucy May 16
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- Shoji Tabuchi Dec 28 (2015)
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Past, present and future JHS Marching Band members take the field together

Continuing the “Past, Present and Future” tradition, the Jackson Alumni Band and JMMS 8th Grade Band performed the halftime show with the current JHS Marching Band on Friday, September 19 at Fife Stadium. They took the field playing the traditional J-A-C-K-S-O-N entry piece and continued upfield to “Mississippi Mud” followed by “Crunch Time,” “Hey Song” and “Get Lucky” before exiting the field to the JHS Fight Song. As you can imagine or remember, the crowd roared its appreciation.

Artifacts collector brings history to life for JHS students

JHS students in Dan Taray’s Advanced Placement U.S. History classes were visited by Dave Grabowsky, a collector of authentic historical artifacts. Mr. Grabowsky enhanced the students’ study of the New Nation by bringing letters from famous people of the period and beyond. Students held and read framed, hand-penned letters from Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Lincoln. Mr. Grabowsky was inspired to collect historical artifacts by his father who owned letters written by Napoleon, Hitler and Sherman. Students were particularly interested in the glass-encased snips of hair from Washington and Lincoln, and a piece of the curtain from Lincoln’s box at the Ford Theatre.

Mr. Grabowsky said that owning such treasures makes the hair on his neck stand up. “I’ve got the DNA of people who played important parts in our nation’s history,” he told students.

A collection appreciates over time, like stocks, but for Mr. Grabowsky, it’s about important contributions that were made by ordinary people doing extraordinary things. “I could buy stocks, but they wouldn’t have meaning, and I wouldn’t be intimately involved in my investment,” he said.

The students and Mr. Taray concurred when Mr. Grabowsky said, “You can teach history and read about it, but there’s nothing like holding it in your hands.” He encouraged the students to hold the collection and feel the energy of the times to make their studies come alive.



Jackson teacher drums for Cleveland Browns

Tyler Carpenter teaches percussion at JHS and JMMS, and on the weekends when the Browns play at home, he can be found on the sideline at First Energy Stadium as a member of the Cleveland Browns Drumline. The drummers enliven the crowd with their rocking beat. They visit tailgaters before the games and take the field for a pregame performance. They play in the end zone several times each game and sound off from their spot on the 10-yard line any time the team spirit moves them.

The drumline was formed in 2013, with help from the Canton Bluecoats Drum & Bugle Corps, to enhance the game day experience for the fans. Mr. Carpenter won his position after two, four-hour auditions. The line has twenty members consisting of five tenors, ten snare drums, and five bass drums.

Mr. Carpenter, a percussionist for more than 23 years and teacher at Jackson since 2008, directs Jackson’s drumline and writes all of its music. He directs and writes for the JHS steel drum band, teaches percussion ensemble, directs one of the 7th grade bands and directs the freshman band.



Here’s our percussion teacher just after the Browns ran a trick play, passing to quarterback Johnny Manziel who fell into the drumline barriers. Unfortunately, the exciting but illegal play was called back.

Extremely proud of his students, Mr. Carpenter said, “I incurably believe that Jackson has one of the strongest, most well-rounded percussion programs in the state, due to the dedication of our students. The JHS drumline typically plays college and even drum corps level music. Our percussion ensembles have received accolades from some of the most well-known professionals in the world at the Ohio State University Festival and consistently receive superior ratings at local solo and ensemble contests. If that is not enough, we have one of the most successful high school steel drum bands in the state, a group that performs regularly in the area and brings the beautiful instrument of Trinidad to the forefront of our community.”

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

JHS students study at local nature center

JHS students in John Durkin's class went to Brumbaugh's Nature Center to help address the school's extended standards in Science for students with disabilities. While there, students took a nature hike led by naturalist, Bonnie Twaddle. She pointed out important plants on the trails and spoke about each plant's value. The class takes several community trips during the school year to various places throughout Stark County to practice social and life skills.



JHS upperclassmen welcome incoming freshmen

Each year, the freshmen start school one day earlier than the rest of the student body. That day is spent acclimating to the high school in a relaxed manner. A group of older students lead the freshmen through getting-to-know-you activities, help freshmen find their lockers, homerooms and each of their classrooms, encourage them to join various clubs, and tour the cafeteria to learn the lunch process. They meet their teachers and guidance counselors and learn the Alma Mater. It is a morning of fun designed to ease first day jitters. The mentors continue to assist the freshmen throughout the school year.



Matthew Reed earns Eagle Scout Award

Matthew J. Reed, JHS senior, has earned the Eagle Scout Award. A member of Troop 935 at the McDonaldsville St. Paul United Methodist Church, Matthew is one of approximately four percent of all Boy Scouts who attain the Eagle rank. According to Scoutmaster Paul Smith, he is the 60th scout from Troop 935 to earn the Eagle rank since the troop was founded in 1967. Each candidate must earn 21 merit badges and successfully complete a community, church, or synagogue-related service project. Matthew designed and installed landscaping, gravel beds and benches outside a recent addition at St. Stephen Martyr Lutheran Church. He has served as Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader,



Quartermaster, Troop Guide, Historian and Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. He holds a fifth-year Pipestone, the Polar

Bear Camping Award and is an Ordeal member in the Order of the Arrow. He joins other outstanding American citizens who have become Eagle Scouts, among them former President Gerald R. Ford, Jr., astronaut Neil Armstrong, and cinematographer Steven Spielberg. Matthew is a member of St. Stephen Martyr Lutheran Church and participates in Cross Country, Speech and Debate, and Track at JHS. Matt also serves as the treasurer of his class and has been inducted into the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society. In June of 2014, American Legion Post 221 sponsored Matt to attend Buckeye Boys State. He is the son of Bryan and Diane Reed of Jackson Township.

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Eighth-graders to spend the year working with nonprofits

Holly Bantum, a JMMS English teacher, wants students to understand the larger community, in and beyond Jackson Township. "I believe it is important to teach our students that there is a part of our community that they usually do not see," she said, referring to the many who are less fortunate.

Mrs. Bantum frequently tells students, "You can make a difference," and she wants them to feel what it's like when they do so. That's why all 500 eighth graders will participate in a yearlong service project to aid 19 local nonprofits. Earlier this year, those 19 set up booths in the school gymnasium. Students visited the booths, learning the roles of the organizations and deciding which groups appealed to them. Many students were surprised at the services provided and were eager to dig in and help.

They will try to raise \$50,000 to distribute among the groups, beginning with a walk-a-thon. In addition, they will collect food for the Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank. Some students are making blankets to present to Pathway for adoption ceremonies.

The students can volunteer as much or little as they like, and can choose the organization or cause they want to support.

To enhance their experience, students will read "It's Our World, Too!" in their English classes. It's a book about young people making a difference in their communities. Also, some of the nonprofits will visit the school to make educational presentations. The Red Cross will train students in administering CPR. Wags for Warriors will give a Veteran's Day presentation.

Toward the end of the school year, students will write and deliver persuasive speeches to their classmates, on the effects they felt from the experience and encouraging others to make a difference by getting involved.

JMMS tradition of feeding the hungry continues

For more than 25 years, the students and staff at JMMS have conducted a food drive. This year's 14-day effort produced 16 barrels of canned and boxed goods to benefit Jackson's needy families at Thanksgiving and Christmas. The Student Activities Council (SAC) ran the drive with guidance from teachers/advisers Holly Bracken and Kathy Dunnerstick. They also had a bit of help from Saker Alexander, a 7th grade computer teacher who dressed as "The Can Man" and raced through the school each morning, reminding students of the opportunity and rewarding participants with "can-dy".



"SAC is an enthusiastic group of over 30 students who plan, organize, and facilitate such events. They will host other events throughout the year to



The green barrels were provided by the Akron Canton Regional Food Bank. Excess items will be given to the food bank.

help Jackson Middle school students and their families," said Ms. Dunnerstick.



Increasing awareness of Cerebral Palsy

JMMS sixth grade students in Community A celebrated Global Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day by wearing green and discussing the condition in their Social Studies classes. They decided to wear green to increase awareness and to honor one of their classmates.

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JACKSON LOCAL SCHOOLS

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Language Arts students ponder their differences and similarities

JMMS 6th grade Language Arts students in Mrs. Haas, Mrs. Raddish and Mrs. Fultz's classes created a hand-painted friendship tree. They were given the question, "How does a tree and its leaves symbolize our classroom?" Students divided into small groups to ponder the question and "tweet" out their responses on sticky notes. After discussing the question as a class, each student placed his or her thumb print on the classroom tree that now hangs in the school hallway. Students also responded individually, to the same question in their journals. "I wanted them to see that although we have differences we can still come together as a family here in 6th grade Language Arts," said Mrs. Haas.



JMMS Fall Sports Athletic Wrap-Up

Boys Cross Country 1st at State

Coached by Katie Laughlin, Ben Hartley, and Pam Dingler, the team finished the Federal League Season 5-0. They placed first in the Mount Vernon Invitational, North Canton Dave Clegg Invitational, Boardman Invitational, Dover Invitational, Cloverleaf Invitational, Stark County Meet, and Minerva Invitational. The team also took first place in the Federal League Meet. Top performers were Jon Uhl, Aaron Matthus, and Micheal Stefan. The OHSAA now holds a middle school state championship meet. Our boys took 1st place.



Boys Cross Country

Girls Cross Country 2nd at State

Coached by Katie Laughlin, Ben Hartley, and Pam Dingler, the team finished the Federal League season 5-0. They placed first in the Mount Vernon Invitational, North Canton Dave Clegg Invitational, Dover Invitational, Cloverleaf Invitational, Stark County Meet, and Minerva Invitational and took second place in the Boardman Invitational. The team took first place in the Federal League Meet. Top performers were Quincy Powers, Emily Newland, and Michaela Huffman. The OHSAA now holds a middle school state championship. Our girls took 2nd place.



Girls Cross Country

7th Grade Gold Volleyball

The team, coached by Erin Johnson, finished the season 13-1 in the League and 15-3 overall. The top performers were: Server-Jaclyn Zanolli, Emmie Vance. Hitters-Megan Cooper, Jessie Sedlock, and Passing-Grace Dunn and Lauren Marshall.

7th Grade Purple Volleyball

The team, coached by Katie White, finished the season 8-6 in the League and 11-8 overall. Top performers: Servers - Kaitlyn Wilson and Ellie Chevalier. Hitters - Kate Finefrock and Christina Paxos. Passing - Sarah Hatcher and Bri Flood.



8th Grade Gold Volleyball

The team, coached by Sammie Hubbard, finished the season 11-3 in the League and 14-5 overall. Top players: Servers - Kendall Hill and Kenzi Smith. Hitters - Cameron Dingler and Michele Rabbitt. Passers - Michele Rabbit and Bre Cutts. Setter - Allison Lombardi.

8th Grade Football

Coached by Jim Williamson, Craig Brown, Jordan Johnson, and Dan Rodriguez, the team finished 7-1 for the season. The top performers: Leading rusher - Noah Albright. Key leaders on offense - Trey Wright and Logan Fisher. Key lineman - Matt Hicks. Leading tacklers - Cole Novak and Adam Kelly. Leading receivers - Clay Crawford and Yianni Skeriotis.

8th Grade Purple Volleyball

Purple Volleyball

The team, coached by Julie Kovick, finished the season 14-0 in the league and 20-0 for the year! They only lost two sets all year! Top performers were Gabbi Bailey, Krista Seifert, McLaren, and Shyanna White.



Jonathan Li and Saurabh Vasil have started a non-profit business called Open Waters Math and Science Center to provide a club-like space for Jackson Middle School students to pursue interests after school and on Saturdays.

JHS seniors establish math and science center for JMMS students

When JHS seniors, Saurabh Vasil and Jonathan Li were in middle school, they wished for a club or organization that could enhance their advanced



understanding of math and science. They loved and lived the subjects and wished for after-school mentors to lead them further in their exploration, but instead, went home each day and pursued their interests alone. That's why they started the Open Waters Math and Science Center at Stark State College, where middle school students can explore the fun of the sciences with them, with 20 of their fellow honor students and with various Stark State professors. They will provide tutoring at any level in addition to thrilling their young counterparts with the wonders of the math and science world.

"We want it to be a place where someone can build a robot, create controlled explosions, get coaching help for math competitions, or get tutored in areas of interest. Really, just come to collaborate with other individuals who are passionate for math and the sciences," said Saurabh.

When Saurabh and Jonathan reached high school, there were a variety of science clubs to join. They want middle school students to see Open Waters as their own club. They invite students on an accelerated track and those who are struggling and want to get ahead.

"Math relates to everything in life. If you have an understanding of it, you can see patterns and critically analyze situations. Then, more often than not, you will win at what you are doing—sports, music, art, etc.," said Jonathan.

Students can attend Open Waters from 3:15-5:30 several days each week and on Saturdays from 10 AM to noon. Parents and students are invited to an open house at 7 PM on Nov. 3 in room 202 of the science wing at Stark State College.

There will be no charge for the service, although donations will be accepted for supplies. The boys thank James Treacle, Dean of Sciences and Assistant professor of Biology at Stark State for providing the space. They were also aided by Mike Johnson and Dick Mautz of SCORE, a business mentoring service at Kent State University, Stark Branch

DO YOU RECYCLE ALUMINUM CANS?

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

2014-15 School Calendar

NOV	26 Thanksgiving Break Begins
DEC	2 Classes Resume 19 End of 2nd 9 Weeks - 41 Days 22 Winter Break Begins
JAN	5 Classes Resume 16 Teacher Inservice - No School for Students (K-12) 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School (K-12)
FEB	11 Parent Conferences (K-12) 4:30-7:30 pm 13 Teacher Inservice - No School for Students (K-12) 16 Presidents' Day - No School (K-12) 19 Parent Conferences (K-12) 4:30-7:30 pm
MAR	13 End of 3rd 9 weeks - 46 Days 30 Spring Break Begins
APR	6 Classes Resume
MAY	25 Memorial Day - No School (K-12) 27 Last Day for Students & Staff 27 End of 4th 9 Weeks - 47 Days

Chinese artists perform for JHS students

On October 1, Jackson High School had the pleasure of welcoming performers from Shanxi University, China. The performance troupe was in the U.S. to help the Confucius Institute at The University of Akron celebrate its 10-year anniversary. From the JHS stage, they performed for students in JAGS, ISA and IB. These students (who study art and world cultures) saw Chinese dancing, a flute solo, a martial arts show, a fan dance, drumming, and a variety of solo voice performances. While they performed, a watercolorist painted a Chinese landscape which was donated to JHS.



JHS students and staff remember SEPTEMBER 11

On the 13th anniversary of the September 11 attacks on America, JHS Broadcast Media students, under the direction of teacher Linda Sutherland, created a very moving memorial video which was shown to the entire JHS student body and staff. Student, Amari Miller (pictured here), spent countless hours editing the video which brought tears to the eyes of many who saw it.



In addition, at 6:30 on the morning of September 11, Patriot Day, JHS students arrived at school early to line the entrance with over 200 flags.

LeBron James gives JHS student his jersey

On June 5, JHS junior Jackie Custer received a diagnosis of acute lymphocytic leukemia. Since then, she has endured four rounds of chemotherapy. After the sixth round, she expects to be in remission, but will still receive treatment for two additional years. On October 1, Jackie walked across the basketball court at Quicken Loans Arena and received a bear hug from LeBron James who also gave her his jersey.

"I was speechless," Jackie said. We had court-side tickets, but I had no idea this would happen.

Jackie's JHS basketball coach, Anthony Butch arranged for her to receive the jersey. "After the realization and acceptance that one of our own has cancer, our focus as a program turned to how we could support Jackie and her family," said Coach Butch.

The team raises money for the family, writes letters to Jackie and visits her at the hospital.

"Their support really keeps me going and distracts me from what is really going on," Jackie said.

While receiving treatment, Jackie suffered a stroke, developed a blood clot and had an infection. Despite it all, she keeps fighting. "I've learned that I'm a strong person," she said.

Jackie's father, Brad, said, "It's been a

struggle, but we get blessings all the time."

Jackie agreed, explaining, "At first, everywhere we went, we knew someone—the ER, the MRI, and Luke down the hall."

Jackson student, Luke Ritchey, was down the hall in the same hospital, receiving treatment for Burkitts Lymphoma and leukemia—stage four. The two have become fast friends. "Luke is such an inspiration to me and we will always have a special bond," Jackie said.

We are happy to report that after eight months of extremely high doses of chemo, Luke is in remission.

That's where Jackie plans to be by March when she expects to return to school. "I won't be able to play on the team this year, but I hope to play next year," she said.

Coach Butch believes the court is exactly where Jackie will be. "Jackie is going to have one heck of a senior season. She was the hardest worker and a true leader on our JV team last year when we finished 18-3. Watching her take those qualities and now battle cancer is truly inspiring."



LeBron James hugs JHS junior, Jackie Custer, after giving her his jersey at the end of the Cleveland Cavaliers intra-squad Wine & Gold Scrimmage on Oct. 1 at Quicken Loans Arena.

"I want everyone to know that I am fighting and staying positive," Jackie said.

"Even with everything she has been through, she is still the same old Jackie, kind, funny and always positive," said Coach Butch.

To read a similar story by 2005 JHS grad, Vincent Dorsey, visit: <http://usatodayhss.com/2014/jackson-hoopster-inspring-community-with-resolve-during-cancer-fight>

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Board Meeting Schedule

October 28 Sauder Elementary6:00 p.m.
November 18..... Lake Cable Elementary6:00 p.m.
December 16..... Amherst Elementary6:00 p.m.

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

This year—Art for all Jackson elementary students

Last school year, the Jackson Local Schools Foundation and ArtsinStark worked with Jackson's elementary curriculum director, Becky Gribble and volunteer Bridget Williams to pilot an art program for third graders. The program was so successful that this year, with additional help from the Stark Community Foundation, it has been expanded to all elementary grades. Visiting artists Bridget Williams, Jeanne Scott, Heather Null and Jessica Casher have been guiding students in their creation of art pieces that mesh with their language arts instruction.

"When art and literature are combined, both subjects become more meaningful to our students," Mrs. Gribble said.

Students will learn how the great masters used the basic art elements of line, shape, color, space, value, form, and texture. They will see that using these elements can help them create satisfying pieces of their own art.



ALUMNOTES

Jackson grad earns two Fulbright scholarships



Adrienne Violand, a 2010 graduate of JHS and a 2014 graduate of Denison University with a degree in German, was awarded two separate Fulbright grants.

The Fulbright program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries. Recipients are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields. The program operates in over 155 countries.

Adrienne was awarded Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship grants to both Austria and Germany. As she could only accept one of them, she chose Germany and has been assigned to a school in Trebur, near Frankfurt, where she will teach for one year. She is one of over 1,800 U.S. citizens who are abroad for the 2014-2015 academic year through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program.

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Amherst Elementary

Students and staff create a one-take wonder

Amherst Elementary submitted an all-school, one-take video to the Macy's Lip Dub Challenge in hopes of coming away with one of the prizes (1st place - \$25,000, 2nd - \$15,000 or 3rd - \$10,000).

Students and staff were directed by the school's music teacher, Cindy Grove, to dance, sing, toss, tumble, jump, slide, scoot, and cheer as parent Michael Cameneti and his associate Ryan Girard, of Michael Cameneti Films, caught it all on video in one continuous take.

To catch the Amherst school spirit, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2II3e6DNOM>

"Students and staff pulled together to create something special. We are very proud of what we accomplished, and we had fun," said school principal, Bill Hayden.



Pies fly at Amherst to whip childhood cancer

Amherst Elementary proudly accepted the "Whip Childhood Cancer Challenge" after being called out by Lake Cable Elementary participants. This challenge asks each participant to take a pie in the face and make a donation to childhood cancer research.

Amherst currently has a brave, five-year-old warrior in its midst. His name is Jaden, and Amherst is proud to take a stand against cancer on his behalf. Former Amherst student and cancer survivor, Jake Griffiths also joined the pie-throwing awareness campaign.

School principal, Bill Hayden challenged



Principal Bill Hayden takes pies from Jaden Yoder and former student/cancer survivor, Jake Griffiths.



Jaden starts by pieing his mom, Michelle.

Together, let's make childhood cancer a thing of the past.



Jackson High School and Jackson Middle School to keep the awareness and fundraising going.

Amherst holds sixth annual Bears Being Fit Walkathon

All students participated in Amherst's Bears Being Fit annual walk-a-thon, organized by parent volunteer Angie Walsh to promote healthy living and to raise funds. Students ask for sponsorships in return for their participation. This year, the \$4,163.61 raised will be donated to the Pediatric Cancer Foundation on behalf of Amherst kindergartner, Jaden Yoder who is currently battling cancer. In past years the money raised was used to install SmartBoards in the classrooms and to install the 220-meter walking track on the Amherst playground. The track is now used for the walk-a-thon.

Students walk or run as many laps as they can in the designated time that each grade level has.

"The kids and staff love spending this time together having fun and being healthy," said Mrs. Walsh. "Whether you are running, walking, jumping, skipping, keep moving forward," she enthusiastically tells the students.



The "Daily 5" foster literacy independence

Students in Kelsey Royer's 2nd grade class at Lake Cable practice their Daily 5. Daily 5 tasks include: read to self, read to someone, listen to reading, work on writing and word work. After receiving whole group instruction, students are free to practice the Daily Five. It's a way of structuring the reading block so every student is independently engaged in meaningful literacy tasks while the teacher meets with small groups or individuals to teach and reinforce essential reading skills. These tasks have a big impact on student reading and writing achievement.



Tommy Smith



Deacon Smith



Andi Gamble and Karol Ortiz



Gia Kouris



Lewis Cook

Apples make great learning partners

Lake Cable kindergarten students spent a week in September learning with an apple theme. Students brought in their favorite kind of apple to share. They read stories about apples, wrote about apples, taste-tested and graphed the class favorites, and celebrated the learning by making apple pizzas and drinking apple cider.



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Sauder Elementary

Sauder students experience a bit of local history

Sauder third graders studied how communities grow and change. They focused Jackson Township and the incorporation of Ohio and used time lines to understand the progression and development of both.

To culminate, teachers walked their students from Sauder, through Jackson Park, to Jackson Center one-room school on Fulton, just west of the high school.

At the school house students sat in authentic desks while Jackson Township Historical Society representatives Mary Aaby and Greg Weekley taught about life in a one room school. Students saw historical artifacts and wrote with ink from old ink wells. They learned about the process of moving the one-room-school from its former location on Wales to its current location so that it would not be destroyed. They learned that their own elementary school bears the name of a person, H. C. Sauder, once an important Jackson educator.



Oh, the things we can do when we link together

After a discussion on positive character traits, Diedre Disman and Sheri Swift's Project Based Learning students pondered their own traits, then wrote three of them on strips of paper. They joined the papers, forming a long chain of possibilities. When all 59 students' positive traits were linked, the group discussed the amazing things that could be accomplished by working together, using each other's strengths.



Sauder's Race for Education

Sauder PTO sponsored its annual Race For Education to raise funds for the school. Students sent letters to friends and families, asking to be sponsored for walking or running during the race. Each grade level spent an hour walking around the Fife Stadium track. After the first lap, students earned a necklace with charms on it. The more laps they did, the more charms they earned.



Remembering September 11

Jackson Football players read the book *SEPTEMBER 12th* to Mrs. Lancy's 2nd grade students at Strausser in honor of Patriot Day.

Kindergartners in Mrs. Snee's class celebrated Patriot Day by wearing red, white and blue clothing and coloring American flags. They also spent the afternoon practicing their sight words with the High School Football players, Ricky Spradling and Nick Storey who played a flash card word game with the students.



Third graders learn why some stories are worth retelling

Strausser 3rd graders and teachers are exploring tales in a reading unit called *Stories Worth Telling Again and Again*. They are learning that oral and written family stories give richness to current and succeeding generations. One activity had students choose props from a storytelling tin and use them to create stories which they told to one another. At home, students are hearing, talking about and writing the stories of their own families, and reading stories of the same theme by children's author Patricia Polacco.



Strausser students perform in select state choir



Jordyn Hopfensperger, Bayleigh Braucher, Maria Hisey and Stavro Spanakis with their Strausser music teacher Suzanne Walters.

The first ever OMEA All-State Children's Chorus place on October 18 at Capital University in Columbus. Strausser fifth graders Bayleigh Braucher, Maria Hisey, and Stavro Spanakis, and fourth grader Jordyn Hopfensperger were part of the 116 students from across the state to be selected for the honor. These students had to pass a recorded audition and have attended two regional rehearsals earlier this fall. To present the concert, the students worked with Dr. Ann Usher, a professor at the University of Akron who also directs the Cleveland Orchestra Children's Chorus.

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 the office and see a copy. The 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 employees.

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 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 grant applications. For information, contact Kathy Brand, Director of Special Programs at 830-8006.



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Girls' Golf finishes 2nd at State

By Coach Teal Harvey

The Jackson Girls' Golf team competed in the 22nd annual Girls' State Golf Championships at the Ohio State University Gray Golf Course. On the first day of competition, the Lady Bears shot a respectful 317 but found themselves in 2nd place trailing Dublin Jerome by nine shots. We got off to a great start shooting a team score of 149 on the front nine, but we didn't do a good enough job handling the strong high winds on the back nine which lead us to shooting a score of 168.

The second day start once again went the Bears way. They shot 151 on the front nine and cut into Jerome's lead by 3 strokes. I told the girls that we were still in the hunt and had a chance of winning. As the teams turned to the back nine, you could sense from all in attendance that it was going to be a close race to the finish. When the final scores were posted, the Bears found themselves 2 shots shy of winning the state title. Their two-day team score was 628, the lowest that any Jackson team has shot in it's previous 7 trips to Columbus, but Dublin Jerome finished at 626.

I couldn't have asked any more from the way the girls played and battled back. Unfortunately it just wasn't enough to catch Jerome. This was the 2nd year in a row the Lady Bears were state runners-up and the 4th time in the past five seasons.



Coach Gary Jones, Amelia Stefan, Jackie Capuano, Lauren Dauk, Gabby Minor, Ali Metzger, Landrie Grace, Hannah Lemons, Coach Teal Harvey

Second place in the state is a great accomplishment, and I am proud of the effort they gave. Landrie Grace finished with a two day total of 152 and Hannah Lemons with a 153. This allowed them both to be named to 2nd team All-Ohio. Gabby Minor finished 11th overall with a two day total of 155. Ali Metzger finished with a 168, and Lauren Dauk rounded out the scoring with a 175.

High School Fall Sports Wrap-Up

At the time of this printing, Jackson High School fall sports teams were still in active play. However, four teams have already won conference titles: Girls' Golf, Boys' Soccer, Girls' Soccer and Girls' Volleyball. Here is a recap of the fall sports season so far:

Girls' Golf completed the Federal League season unbeaten and won both the pre-season and post-season Federal League Tournaments to take the Federal League overall championship. The Lady Bears were also sectional champions, district champions and state runners-up. This is the 4th time in the past 5 years the Lady Bears finished 2nd in the State. Senior Landrie Grace was named the Federal League and Stark County Player of the Year. Coach Teal Harvey was named the Federal League and Stark County Coach of the Year.

Girls' Golf holds a 3-2 regular season League record, finished 3rd in both pre and post season League tournaments and 3rd overall in the Federal League. The Bears finished 2nd in the Sectional Tournament, qualifying them for the District Tournament.

Girls' Tennis completed the season with an overall record of 10-5 and 4-1 in the Federal League. They also finished 2nd in the Federal League tournament to finish 2nd overall in the League. Senior Tessa Hill finished 4th in the State in the Division 1 singles' tournament. She also was named Federal League and Stark County Player of the Year.



Tessa Hill

Girls' Cross Country finished in 4th place in the Stark County Meet, 3rd in the Federal League Meet, and 4th in the District Meet, which qualifies them for the Regional Meet to be held at Boardman.

Boys' Cross Country finished 3rd in the Stark County Meet, 3rd in the Federal League Meet, and 3rd in the District Meet, which qualifies them for the Regional Meet at Boardman. The Bears also were champions of the Mt. Vernon Invitational, the North Canton Invitational and the Brecksville Invitational.

Boys' Soccer won the Federal League Championship for the 13th time since the year 2000 by going 4-0-1 in the League. The Bears also won the Sectional Tournament by defeating New Philadelphia and are currently competing in the Division 1 District Tournament. Qynton Peterson was named the Federal League Player of the Year and Mike Biros was the Coach of the Year.

Girls' Soccer won the Federal League Championship for the 18th time in the past 19 years by going a perfect 5-0 in League play. The Lady Bears also won the Sectional Tournament by defeating Marietta and are currently competing in the Division 1 District Tournament. Miah Wilson was named the Federal League Player of the Year.

Girls' Volleyball currently has a record of 22-2 and finished the Federal League season with a perfect 10-0 record, which clinched its 4th consecutive Federal League Championship. The Lady Bears won the Sectional Tournament by defeating Timken and Massillon and currently are in the Division 1 District Tournament. Junior, Brooke Bailey, was named the Federal League Player of the Year.

Football owns a 5-3 overall record as of this printing. The Bears are currently ranked 16th in Division 1, Region 1 state computer polls. The top 16 teams in each region qualify for the state football playoffs.

ATHLETIC SIGNING

Kyle Mottice signed his National Letter of Intent

to continue his baseball career with the University of Cincinnati. Kyle was named 1st Team All Federal League and 2nd Team All District. He helped lead the Jackson Polar Bears to the 2014 Division I State Baseball Championship. Pictured with Kyle are his brothers: Jake, Cade and Zach, his father Steve and Coach Bill Gamble.



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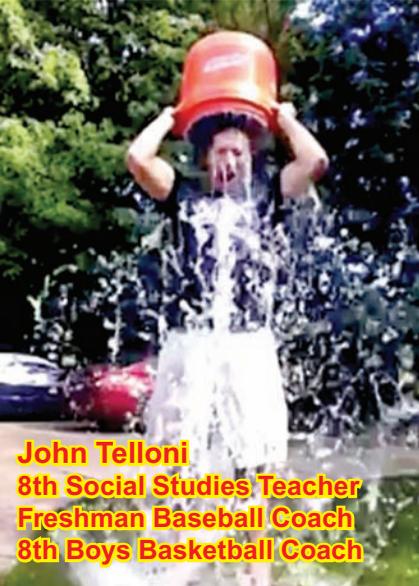
Jackson teachers and administrators brave the ice for ALS

Here are a few of the staff members who shared their videos with Polar Bear Pride. We apologize for the lack of clarity on most, as the shots were grabbed from video. We also know there were many more who took the challenge, and we applaud the nature of educators who do their part for the advancement of a good cause, even if it's messy and uncomfortable and makes you look foolish.

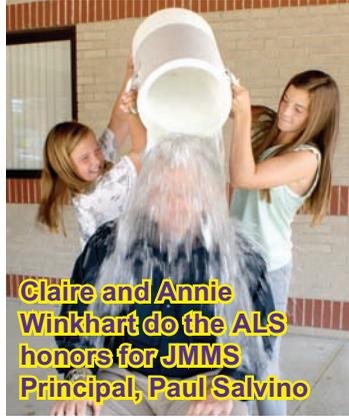
Jackson Football Coaches



Superintendent Chris DeLoreto with Jackson Cheerleaders



**John Telloni
8th Social Studies Teacher
Freshman Baseball Coach
8th Boys Basketball Coach**



Claire and Annie Winkhart do the ALS honors for JMMS Principal, Paul Salvino



**Band students collectively donated \$200 to watch!
Director of Bands Michele Monigold**



**Shani Platt
Strausser Teacher**



**Heidi Priesing & Heather Shaffer
Sauder Teachers selfie after the event**



Brady, son of Strausser teacher Scott Morton, challenged by Jack Lancy



**Kacy Carter
JHS JAGS & IB
Coordinator**



JHS Principal Monica Myers being doused by student Joel Absolom

PHOTOS BY STUDENT, MADI O'NEILL



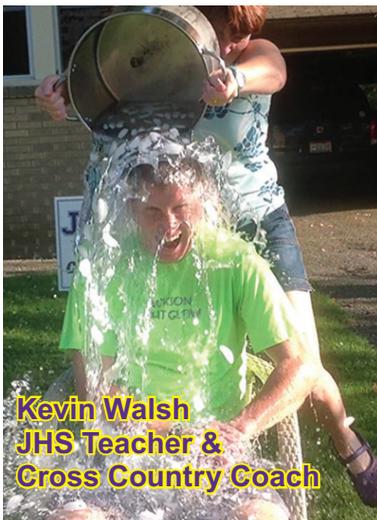
**Michael Wright
JMMS Teacher & Wrestling Coach, with his daughter**



**George Preston
JHS Science & Dan Tamburro
JHS Social Studies**



**Blossom Frank
JHS Forensic Science Teacher**



**Kevin Walsh
JHS Teacher & Cross Country Coach**



Jackson Baseball Coaches

The video froze just seconds before the action, so we will have to imagine how these tough guys looked under the ice storm that roared from those huge buckets.



**Tamara Osburn
Strausser Teacher**



**Jennifer Michael
Strausser Teacher**

Many of the "wet ones" raised more than the typical amount for ALS by asking students to contribute as they watched their teachers or administrators get doused. Some used the opportunity to ask for additional funds to support students in our district who are fighting cancer, and to support the Marcelli family in the tragic loss of their son Lucas in a plane crash. Lucas was and still is an inspirational part of the Jackson High School Wrestling Program.

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