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JANUARY 2023

# R BEAR PRIDE

Connection to the Jackson Local School District

COMMUNITY . COLLABORATION . PARTNERSHIP



# NICHE

## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

## **Jackson Students Impress with** Kindness, Talent During Holidays



Chris DiLoreto

erving as your superintendent in the Jackson Local School District truly is an honor and this time of year makes appreciating our district, our students, families, employees, and community partners certainly easy. Whether it is attending our extracurricular athletic events, or our symphony or choir performances, seeing our students' many talents is evident, but seeing their hearts in action is what you all should know about.

Long before many of us started to think about the holidays, student groups, teams, organizations, and leaders started planning to make sure our Jackson Local families had the necessary items for the holidays. Our Student Council at Jackson High School, adopted nearly

100 families from our district. Working with our counselors, Student Council collected items our families needed this holiday season and raised money to provide those gifts. Our students learned many life lessons shopping this holiday season, but most of all, they walked away with a greater sense of appreciation for their blessings.

Shirts, pants, shoes, and in most cases a winter coat or other warm gear – as well as a gift card or a toy – was purchased for our families. Student Council used funds collected during our homecoming dance to pay for gifts purchased for our families in need.

Student Council has another event this spring planned to help with next year's adopt-a-family expenses. On March 11 there will be a Prom Fashion Show in the Commons at Jackson High School. This fashion show will double as a quarter auction and chance auction. Please email our Student Council Advisor, Gretchen Hull at gkd2jc@jackson.sparcc.org for more information about the fashion show.

This also is a good time to thank the work of the Jackson Local Schools Foundation which funds our Student Assistance Fund. This fund is used to help our families with small emergencies. The Foundation does great work supporting our district and our families. That is why the community's support of the Polar Bear Plunge and the Polar Bear Chip-In are so important. If you would like to support the Polar Bear Plunge, you can do so by going to JacksonPolarBearPlunge.org.

## **Impressive Arts Performances**

Last month I had the privilege to attend our fall musical White Christmas and the talent on the stage and behind the scenes was incredible. White Christmas is set during World War II, and while the musical has an obvious holiday theme, it is more of an appreciation for our military men and women and the sacrifices they make. White Christmas was the front end of a year-long military appreciation by our Jackson School for the Arts program. Next November, the Jackson High School Marching Band will perform at Pearl Harbor. This is another example of how the Jackson Local School District supports our military families. All six Jackson Local

Continued on next page

## **Senior Gets Accepted Into All Three Military Academies**

Jackson High School senior Chad Graham has plenty of top-notch college options as soon as he graduates as a Polar Bear. Graham received appointments and acceptances to not just one military service academy, but three!

He was accepted to the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy, and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Graham said he is leaning toward accepting the appointment to West Point after his high school graduation.



Jackson High School senior Chad Graham speaks with a news crew from WKYC-TV in front of Jackson's Wall of Fame.

No Jackson High School counselor can remember a Jackson student receiving an appointment and acceptance to all three service academies.

"Chad is every student's leader," said Gretchen Hull, who has Graham for AP Environmental Science and is the Student Council Advisor. "Chad relates to all types of kids who walk the halls of Jackson High School. He's witty, he's smart, he's hard-working. His best quality is how approachable he is. He's very humble. "There are a lot of kids who don't even realize Chad is a class officer. There is no arrogance about him. I would not be surprised if he holds a major leadership position in the future."

Graham worked with teachers at Jackson High School to research the process of applying to military academies. He connected with Rocky Checca, a 1997 Jackson graduate. Checca went to and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2002 and served three deployments flying helicopters in Iraq. Checca graduated from Naval Aviation Flight School as an Air Mission Commander and served as the White House Aircraft Commander as the Presidential Helicopter Executive Pilot. He is a retired Lieutenant Colonel.

Graham's parents are Char and Michael Rachita. He is the youngest of four children (Eric, 23; Sarah, 21; and Thomas, 18).

Graham was asked what makes Jackson so special? "The high expectations our teachers and coaches have for us to work hard and achieve our goals make Jackson High School a special school," Graham said. "We are always encouraged to raise the bar and set higher standards for ourselves and our fellow students."

### "From The Superintendent" cont'd

buildings earned Purple Star designations from the Ohio Department of Education. In addition to White Christmas, our band and choir concerts this month were tremendous. I am not surprised by the talent our students exhibit on stage, but I am impressed by them, and the directors, who are able to get the most out of our students.

#### Officiating Classes

Some of the best work done in our school district comes from the creativity of our teachers when they spot a real-world problem, and then help create a solution for it. Jackson High School physical education teacher Dan Rodriguez is a great example of this. A few years ago, Mr. Rodriguez, who also is an assistant baseball coach at Jackson High School, heard about and saw first-hand the shortage of high school sports officials in Ohio, and Stark County. Now Jackson High School offers an officiating class elective that prepares our students to become high school officials in many sports. Some of our students learn the rules of the games, then are employed at our youth levels to officiate games, and then become qualified to officiate high school games once certified. You will hear more about this class in an upcoming Canton Repository feature. Thank you to Mr. Rodriguez and students for applying skills learned at Jackson High School to the real world!

#### Thank You, Polar Bears!

The Jackson Local School District would like to wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday season and all the best in the New Year. Thank you for your support of the Jackson Local School District, and Go Bears!

## **Jackson Local Schools Student Calendar** 2022-2023

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- 10 Gr 6/New Student Orientation, 6-8:00 pm
- 10 Gr 9/New Student Orientation A-L, 7-8:00 pm
- 11 Gr 9/New Student Orientation M-Z, 7-8:00 pm 11 Open House - All Elementaries, 4:30-6:30 pm
- 16 1st Day for Students (K-12)
- 17 Open House JMMS, Last Name A-M, 6:00-7:00 pm Last Name N-Z, 7:00-8:00 pm
- 24 Open House High School, 5:00-7:00 pm

- 2 Professional Development Day No School (K-12)
- 5 Labor Day No School (K-12)

## OCTOBER

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

#### NOVEMBER

23 Thanksgiving Break Begins

#### 21 Winter Break Begins

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

#### FEBRUARY

- 16 Parent Conferences (K-12) 4:00-7:00 pm
- 17 Professional Development Day No School (K-12)
- 20 Presidents' Day No School (K-12) 23 Parent Conferences (K-12) 4:00-7:00 pm

- 17 End of 3rd Marking Period 42 Days
- 20 Spring Break Begins
- 27 Classes Resume
- 7 K-12 Conference Exchange No School (K-12)

#### MAY

- 25 Last Day for Students & Staff
- 25 End of 4th Marking Period 43 Days 29 Memorial Day

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## **Jackson Local Board of Education**

The 2022-2023 Jackson Local Board of Education members have met four times this school year. The members are: Board President Christopher Goff, Esq., Vice President Tonya Wright, Lia Jones, Esq., Thomas Winkhart, Esq., and Scott Gindlesberger.



**CHRISTOPHER GOFF** began his first term in January 2008 and has been re-elected three times. He holds a bachelor of science degree in business administration, with a major in finance from Ohio Northern University, a master's degree in political science from The University of Akron, and a juris doctor from The University of Akron School of Law. He is CEO and General Counsel at Employers Health and is an Adjunct Professor of Law at The University of Akron School of Law. Mr. Goff and his wife have three adult children who have graduated from Jackson Local Schools.



**TONYA WRIGHT** was appointed to the Board of Education in June 2020 and was elected to the Board in November 2021. She has a track record dedicated to servant leadership in Jackson and Stark County. Tonya graduated cum laude from the University of Akron with a bachelor of arts degree in business and organizational communications in 1992. She earned her master's degree in business administration from Kent State University in 2000, while working full-time. She has served in various corporate leadership roles, most recently product marketing manager at Diebold-Nixdorf. She also was an adjunct instructor at Stark State College in the business department. Mrs. Wright and her husband, Mark, have two daughters, Anna and Ava, both Jackson Local students.



LIA JONES was elected to the board in 2021. She graduated from Denison University with a bachelor of arts degree in communication. She earned her Juris Doctor from the University of Akron School of Law. Jones is senior vice president and senior fiduciary strategist for the Akron, Canton, and Mahoning Valley region at KeyBank. In addition to her work on the JLSD Board of Education, Jones is a member of the Akron Symphony Board of Directors. She was the 2018 recipient of the 30 for the Future Award, presented by the Greater Akron Chamber. Jones lives in Jackson Township with her husband, Caleb, and their young daughters, Elle and Olivia.



**TOM WINKHART** began his first term on the board in 2002 and has been re-elected to the board five times. He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Toledo and a juris doctor degree from the University of Akron School of Law. He is president of the law firm of Winkhart & Minor and also of Cornerstone Real Estate Title Company. Tom and his wife, Janelle, have five children, who have graduated from Jackson High School.



**SCOTT GINDLESBERGER** was elected to the board in 2004 and has been re-elected four times. Mr. Gindlesberger holds a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Mount Union and a master's degree in finance from the University of Akron. He is a Senior Vice President with Stifel Nicolaus. Mr. Gindlesberger and his wife Susie have four children.

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



It's never too early to encourage children to love to make and appreciate music. Here's how:

**Attend a Concert:** Whether you're attending a symphony or a rock concert, there is no substitute for the excitement of a live musical performance. Not only will kids enjoy watching the show, the experience may inspire them to learn to dance or play an instrument themselves. To get started, look for events geared towards kids and families, or those with relaxed vibes, to ensure little ones will get the most out of the experience.



**Play With Musical Toys:** Toys are a fun and interactive way to encourage musical creativity and help kids find the beat. One of the coolest musical toys out there, a 2022 Toy of the Year finalist, is DJ Beat Boxer from VTech. Each interaction with this music-mixing pup -- from scratching DJ's head and booping her nose to pushing the buttons on her headphones -- adds layers to the music. Kids can start a rhythm and add in backbeats, harmonies, record-scratching sounds, an air horn effect and more to complete any remix. They can even press DJ's ear to record a quick phrase to drop into their song.

**Get Immersed:** Hit up the library and check out picture books that build music vocabulary or feature musical characters. Look for movies and television shows with musical themes. There are many entertaining ways to immerse kids into the world of music.



**Create a Playlist:** Give kids the tools they need to develop their own music tastes and interests. Many streaming services now offer special apps for kids that allow them to explore genres, musicians and songs all on their own. This is a safe and easy way to ensure little ones have access to kidfriendly content, along with the freedom to create their own library and playlists. Of course, a good pair of headphones that are safe for young, sensitive ears is also essential!



# GET FREEZIN' FOR A REASON!



# Take The Plunge February 11th, 2023 Lake Cable

Elementaries 12:30 Non-School 1:30 Band 2:30

Sign up today and start raising funds for the charity of your choice. Half of all of the money you raise will go to the Jackson Local Schools Foundation to fund classroom grants for our teachers. The other half will go directly to the Non-Profit of your choice. Sign up today at

www.jacksonpolarbearplunge.org

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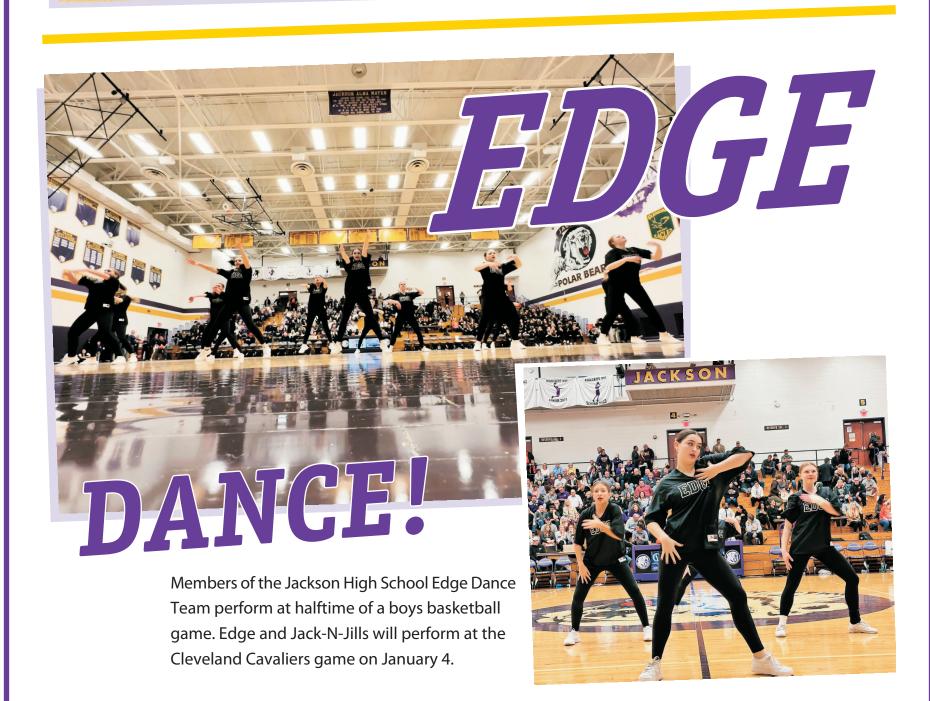


# CHER.



## Federal League Cheer Champs

Congratulations to the Jackson
High School varsity cheerleading
squad on winning the Federal
League championship this month!
The team is heading to the national
competition in Florida in the
spring. If you would like to help
the team with travelling funds,
please contact the Athletic
Department at 330-837-3501.



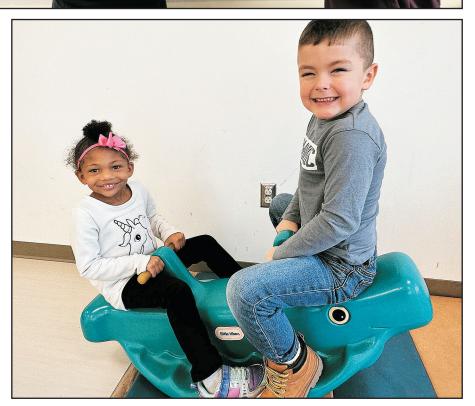
# WHAT WE'VE DONE...













# ...SO FARI



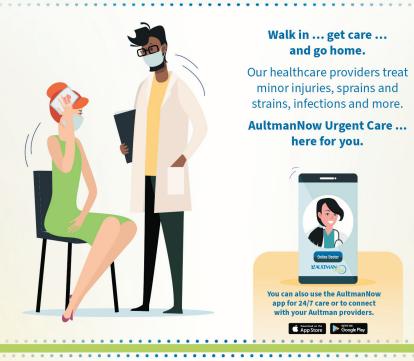






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# Marine Biology Scholarship established to honor Dave Miller

THE DAVID MILLER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO HONOR THE LATE DAVE MILLER'S (1939-2022) SERVICE TO SCIENCE EDUCATION. He was a 25-year science

teacher at Jackson Memorial Middle School (JMMS) and co-founder

of the Hoover-Jackson Marine Biology program that takes students to Forfar Field Station on Andros Island in the Bahamas or Marine Lab on Key Largo in the Florida Keys, every February to study the sea firsthand.

Two of his science teacher colleagues, Lee Ann Kalkhoff (Jackson High School) and Sarah Covington (Hoover High School) secured a \$60,000 grant from the Herbert W. Hoover Foundation and used it to establish a fund that will make approximately \$2,400 available annually for needs-based scholarships to Stark County students participating in the Marine Biology program.

Mr. Miller (and Marine Biology Program cofounder Roger Wiandt of Hoover High School) began taking students to Forfar Field Station on Andros Island in the 1980s before the cabins had heated, running

water. It is estimated that in his 55 years of service to education, Mr. Miller enriched over 1,200 students with hands-on marine science. Today, it's common to find children of his former students participating in the program. Some of his former students have started their own marine biology programs in other Ohio schools while others have done important research with NOAA, working with fish and wildlife services, and studying kelp ecosystems.

"Dave's students were attentive and we teachers were excited when he was at Forfar with us," said Ms. Covington. "Knowing his passion for the ocean, for marine education, and for students, I can't think of a better way to honor Dave than by starting this scholarship in his name."

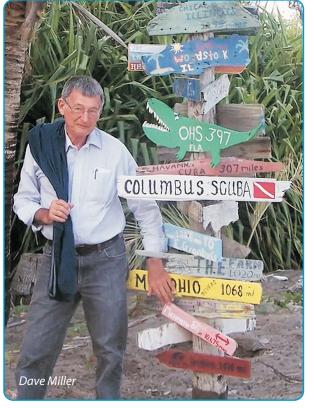
Prior to his work at JMMS, Mr. Miller was a high school biology teacher, an elementary and high school principal and the Science Specialist for the Trust Territory in Saipan, a U.S. commonwealth in the Western Pacific. Upon retirement from JMMS, he worked for SAMM (Science and Math on the Move) helping local science teachers get necessary and interesting materials for their classes.

"Dave was a calm, quiet rock of a mentor, a brilliant, wonderful man," said Ms. Kalkhoff. "His respect for the earth and love of science education was inspirational to teachers and students alike, and he will always be a part of our marine biology family."

The Marine Biology program is open to all Stark County high school students. The program is a one-semester honors science credit taught on Wednesday evenings and culminating in a weeklong field study at Andros Island or Key Largo. For more information, contact Ms. Covington at sarah.covington@northcantonschools.org, or Ms. Kalkhoff at lap2jc@jackson.sparcc.org

The scholarship fund is managed by the Stark Community Foundation as a sub-fund of the Jackson Local Schools Foundation.

By funding top-tier science and impactful local community initiatives, the Herbert W. Hoover Foundation aims to inspire students, improve human health, strengthen economies, build stronger communities, and protect the environment upon which all depend.





From left are: Roger Wiandt, Marine Biology Program co-founder; Steve Wood, Hoover science teacher; Lee Ann Kalkhoff, Jackson science teacher; Sarah Covington, Hoover science teacher; Destin Heasley, Hoover science teacher; Kristine Whitacre, Jackson science teacher; Justin Hardesty of the Jackson Local Schools Foundation.

# OID YOU KNOW?

## Niche.com Ranks Jackson No. 1







Jackson is the top-rated district in Ohio for student-athletes Jackson Local is the county's top-rated school district





By Dan Mucci, *Marketing Coordinator* 

Family Programming is Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health's newest program. It specializes in offering parenting strategies for families who have toddlers and children struggling with behavioral issues to offering tips to parents of teenagers. Family Programming will offer this support through two different programs: Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) and Strengthening Families Program (SFP).

**The Triple P – Positive Parenting Program®** is one of the world's most effective parenting programs. Triple P works by giving parents the skills to raise confident, healthy children and teenagers, and to build stronger family relationships. It also helps parents manage misbehavior and prevent problems occurring in the first place. But it doesn't tell people how to parent. Rather, it gives them simple and practical strategies they can adapt to suit their own values, beliefs, and needs.

Triple P services are provided free to the community through the support of Ohio Children's Trust Fund and United Way.

#### **Strengthening Families Program**

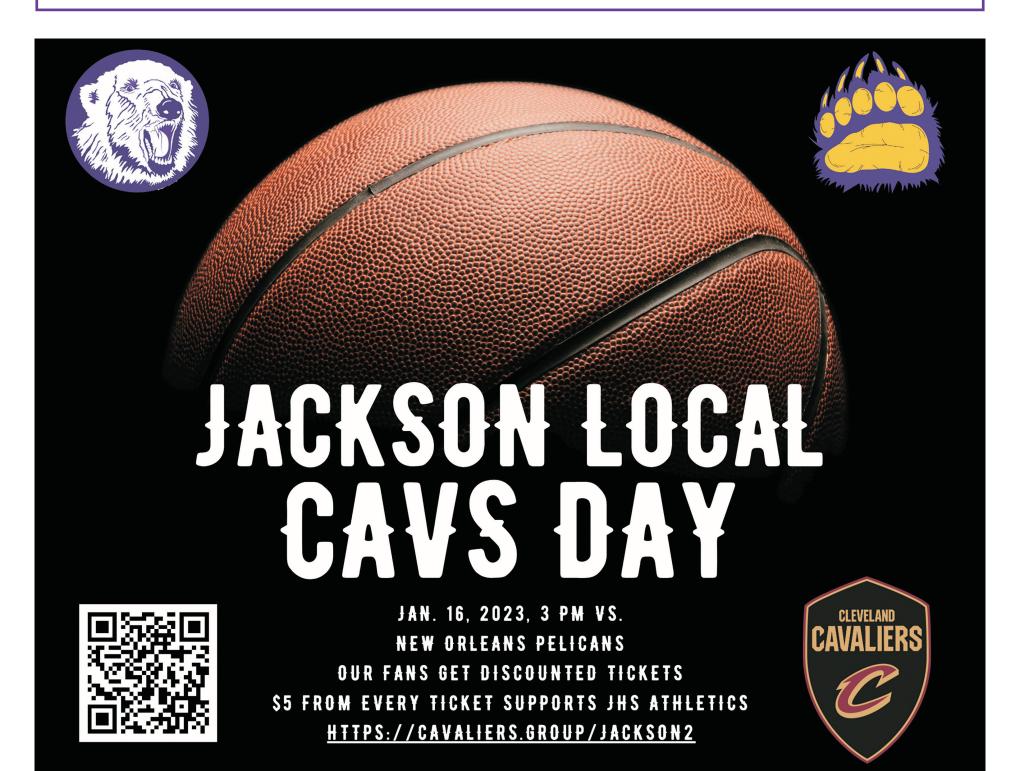
Family Programming is offering a Strengthening Families Program (SFP). SFP family relationship skills are useful for all families with children ages 7-17.

The goal of the SFP program is to strengthen a family's bond, communication, promote pro-social skills, and prevent and reduce adolescent substance abuse and other problematic behaviors in youth 7-17. Strengthening Families is built on five protective factors: parental resilience, social connections, concrete support in times of need, knowledge of parenting and child development and social and emotional competence of children.

SFP is provided to the community free of charge through the support of StarkMHAR.

Triple P is offered in person and virtually; SFP will be offered in person twice (once in the fall and once spring). These prevention programs will support parents in effectively and confidently handling social, emotional and behavioral issues before they become bigger and more challenging concerns.

> For more information, please visit our website at www.childandadolescent.org/family-programming or email dmoyer@childandadolescent.org.





# SmartSocial Partnership Gives VIP Access to Jackson Parents

The Jackson Local School District has partnered with the social media and app experts at SmartSocial.com to supply all of our JLSD families with a log-in to access hundreds of resources to help your family navigate technology.

Many of our students have a cellphone, tablet, or even gaming systems with access to the Internet and social media. While advances in technology have many great benefits, there is also the potential for harm. In addition to cyberbullying, there are concerns about safety, mental health, and wellness. It seems that every day another social media app or social media challenge becomes popular. In some cases, these apps allow strangers to contact children, or make it easy to anonymously bully other children. Some of these social media challenges pose great dangers to students' or bystanders' physical safety. In response to these risks, we have been looking for a resource that can help parents in our community learn the ins and outs of social media and online dangers, and cope with the challenges of parenting in the digital age.

SmartSocial covers a wide range of digital and social media topics that we feel are relevant to our students. Our collaboration has given parent memberships for every parent in our district to give you access to these resources and help you learn how to navigate the negative (and positive) parts of social media with your students.

You can sign up at: smartsocial.com/jacksonlocalschooldistrict

With more than 130 parent, educator, & student courses available ondemand, this resource promises to help bridge the gap between the ever-

changing digital landscape and the very real need to actively guide our students.

Some of the resources include courses for students, parents and educators on navigating TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat and YouTube and other apps, as well as many gaming platforms.



For older students, SmartSocial.com can help begin the process of preparing for college and career by offering parents tools to support their students, including timely advice to help students put their best foot forward with social media and a digital portfolio.

Normally, membership to the SmartSocial suite of resources is \$60/year. Jackson Local parents can now access the SmartSocial library of resources for FREE until July 31, 2023.



## Jackson Local seeks to serve students 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 Kathy Brand, Jackson Local School District's Special Programs Director, with any questions you may have regarding this notice at 330-830-8006

# ID YOU KNOW

## Jackson Academy for Global Studies

The JAGS program at Jackson High School is one of only two ISSN (International Studies Schools Network) programs in the state of Ohio and is dedicated to the development of globally competent, college-ready students. Whithin the JAGS curriculum, students explore courses designed to increase global competency and can enroll in AP, CCP, and other rigorous course offerings. For more information about JAGS visit jags-info.com



YOU KNOW



Get your message in over 11,000 mailboxes!

Contact Ruby Mathys at 330-495-0339



## Congratulations to the following Jackson High School Band members for their participation in select ensembles throughout the state.



### Front row left to right:

Alyssa Braccio - Canton Youth Symphony Advanced Orchestra, Savannah Smith - Akron Youth Symphony, Ohio Band Directors Conference Honor Band, Ashley Scaife - Ohio Band Directors Conference Honor Band, Elise Feller - Ohio Band Director Conference All-Star Band, Davey Harvey - Canton Youth Symphony, Elena Snyder - Canton Youth Symphony Advanced Orchestra, Anna Reed - East Central Region Orchestra, Ash Behn - Ohio Band Directors Conference Honor Band and Capital University Honor Band.

### Back row left to right:

Samm Ash - Canton Youth Symphony Advanced Orchestra, Kahle Sykora - Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra, Evan Jordanides - Canton Youth Symphony Advanced Orchestra, Chinonso Onuora - Canton Youth Symphony Advanced Orchestra, Ben Sayner - Canton Youth Symphony Advanced Orchestra, Kendra Gerstenslager - Ohio Band Director Conference All-Star Band, Ashley Drensky - Ohio Band Director Conference Honor Band

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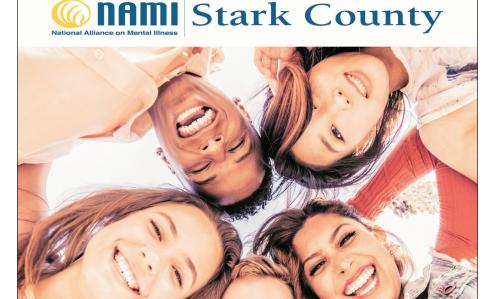
## You are not alone

We provide hope and recovery for persons and families impacted by mental illness, through virtual peer and family education programs, support groups and advocacy.

Call us at 330-455-6264

<u>www.namistarkcounty.org</u>

#namistarkcares



## \* FREE VACUUMS! \*



## Star Wash Massillon

(locally owned by 2 Jackson High School Graduates, 1993 and 1996) on Wales Rd. right around the corner from Progressive Auto Group, has recently added thousands of dollars of new technology to their already STATE OF THE ART CAR WASH.

The new technology and ceramic chemistry will make your vehicle look AMAZING, like nothing you've seen before!



**Customers who have tried the** 

## ALL NEW 5 STAR CERAMIC WASH

are saying:

I can't believe how shiny and how the water just beads off the paint" "My truck hasn't looked this good, maybe ever!" "The new technology at
Start Wash Massillon is a game
changer. It's like getting a professional
detail that would normally cost hundreds
of dollars, but I can get my car cleaned
every day if I want to on the
unlimited plan."

## LOCATION: 2030 Wales Rd NE Massillon, OH 44646

Hours of Operation:

Mon thru Sat
7:30AM - 8:00PM

Sunday
7:30AM to 5:00PM

**Star Wash Massillon** has single washes that start at only \$7 and unlimited monthly wash plans that start at only \$20

FRIENDLY!

BRING THIS
COUPON TO
STAR WASH
MASSILLON
AND GET
50% OFF A
SINGLE
CERAMIC WASH

Not applicable on any other washes. One coupon per customer. No Cash Value. Expires 2/28/23



- +CERAMIC PROTECTION
- **♦HOT WAX SHINE**
- NIMBER THE CAR RUST IMMIRITAR
- ONDER THE CAR RUST INHI
- TIRE SHINE HIGH GLOSS
- **+STAR CLEAR COAT DEFENSE**
- **♦ MASSAGING STAR WHEEL WASH**
- **+UNDER THE CAR WASH**
- **♦STAR PRE-SOAK FOAM**
- **+BRILLIANT WHEEL BRIGHTENER**
- **◆WATER REPELLANT**

POWER DRY

## FREE

Must present coupon at time of redemption. Not applicable on any other washes. One coupon per customer. No Cash Value. Expires 2/28/23

STAR WASH MASSILLON

# LARGE SHAMMY TOWEL

WITH THE PURCHASE OR UPGRADE TO AN UNLIMITED CERAMIC WASH PASS

