



AUGUST 2009 Vol. 16, Issue 1

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Circulation 22,000

## Mark your calendar for the Community Health Fair and Pancake Breakfast

To promote unity and wellness in our community, Jackson Local Schools will combine two of last year's very successful events for the pleasure and convenience of public.

**Saturday, October 24**  
**8 AM to noon, Jackson High School**

## What's cool about school?

At the end of each school year, Polar Bear Pride asks students to respond to a statement. This Year's statement, "What's cool about school?" drew the varied responses that pepper the pages of this issue. We hope you enjoy the wit and wisdom of our children.



"It's cool to come back to school and see our friends. You get to see some kids at school that you don't see all summer."  
Tyler Bender, grade 9

"Learning is cool. I learned A-B-Cs and what sounds they make. And I learned sight words and I can make sentences. I can read to my mom and dad."  
Nolan Scanlon, Kindergarten



**Head coach says he's "very optimistic" about his team and upcoming football season.**

Balderson See story, page 12

## Did You Know?

Jackson Local has fewer administrators per student than any district in Stark County.

## Senior Citizens' Fall Fling

Mark your calendar for Thursday, Nov. 12. See the dress rehearsal of *Funny Girl*, then have dinner in the Student Commons for only \$10 per person. To be the first notified about ticket sales and other school information, send your e-mail address to pblangger@neo.rr.com.

**Fall Sports Schedules page 12-14**  
Come out and see our kids play.

# Governor says Jackson Local is doing it right

In July, Governor Ted Strickland stopped at JHS on his statewide tour of Ohio school districts. Praising Jackson Local for its outstanding performance, he said, "You have met 30 out of 30 state indicators. You have a Chinese teacher. Your graduation rate at 99.8% is astounding, and over 87% of your graduates seek higher learning. You have a mean ACT score of 23. You collaborate with neighboring schools to save money, and you have all day kindergarten. These are remarkable statistics. If every school district in Ohio were like Jackson, we wouldn't need education reform. You've figured out how to do it right."

The governor outlined his reform plan which will take a decade to gradually implement and which he hopes would increase the state budget for education from 48% to 61%. This does not mean that Jackson will receive an increase in funds from the state. In fact, our district will see a 1% decrease in state funding this school year and a 2% decrease in the next school year which is the maximum amount of decrease permitted for a school district.

*If every school district in Ohio were like Jackson, we wouldn't need education reform.*

— Governor Ted Strickland



Sarah Shew, David Peters, and Alexa Welsh presented Governor Strickland and Superintendent Haschak with t-shirts that said, "I Am #2" as a reminder to be compassionate toward others. The students were part of a large group of juniors and seniors who spend part of their summer preparing to be good mentors to the incoming freshmen.

The governor's plan begins with curricula that prepare students for global effectiveness in the areas of communication, problem solving, creativity and collaborative skills.

Effective immediately is a longer school year. His

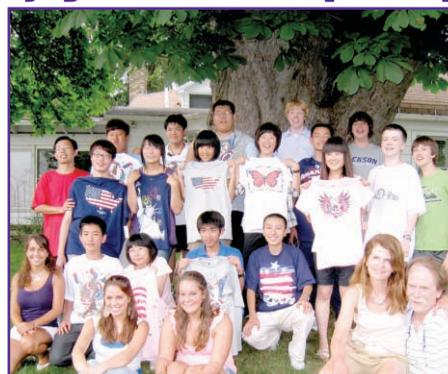
plan will eventually lengthen the school year by 20 days. Two additional days will be added in the 2010-11 school year through a reduction in snow days from five to three.

See GOVERNOR, back page

## Chinese visitors enjoy Jackson hospitality

With the generous financial help of the Jackson Belden Chamber of Commerce and Jackson trustee Jamie Walters, Jackson High School and members of the Jackson community hosted 20 Chinese students and two teachers from the Jiaozhou No. 1 High School in China for two weeks in July. At right they are seen beneath Ohio's largest horse chestnut buckeye tree in the yard of Dan and Collette

See CHINA, page 15



## Federal stimulus softens blow of state decrease

In the state's two-year budget for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years, Jackson will see a 1% decrease in state funding this school year and a 2% decrease in the next school year which is the maximum decrease permitted for a school district. This will result in a loss to the Jackson Schools of almost \$170,000. All school districts in Stark County will receive federal stimulus funds over the next two years. Per the Ohio Legislative Services Commission, Jackson Local will receive approximately \$1.2 million over that time period. **After two years these federal stimulus funds will stop.** Therefore, the federal funds will be used to purchase Smart Boards, computers, and software updates for the classrooms in an attempt to permanently benefit the maximum number of students.

## Jackson cafeterias receive Grade A Food Excellence Award

The Jackson Local Food Services Program was commended by the Stark County Health Department for having "the highest commitment" to food safety and sanitation. This award not only requires a track record of good sanitation, but also emphasizes the high level attention the operation gives to educating its employees in food safety. **The award was won in all six Jackson school cafeterias.**

The Food Services Department is run by Marsha Escola. "Thank you for taking food safety and sanitation to an excellent level," Health Commissioner William Franks told Mrs. Escola.



Marsha Escola  
Food Services  
Director

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- Middle School and High School .....\$2.50
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# Want to know the straight facts about your 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. You will be able to communicate what you know to people in your circle of influence as topics surface naturally day-to-day.



**Key Communicators commit to five lunch meetings with the superintendent** and various school officials. 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 Wednesday 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 have participated in 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         | Janet Cecconi         | Deepa Goyal        | Deb Lanam      | Amy Seanor          |
| Lisa Arnold       | Joe Check             | Chuck Haba         | Kirk Lombardi  | Missy Sirpilla      |
| Maureen Ater      | Pam Clevenger         | Brian Harkness     | Nancy Laughlin | Linda Sloan         |
| Dr. Jonathan Ash  | Kelly Cline           | Jessica Harkness   | Stacey Malcolm | Janet Smitek        |
| Renee Arnold      | Lisa Costas           | Todd Hawke         | Marian Manns   | Lisa Smith          |
| Tracie Bailey     | Kathy Costin          | Rita Haines        | Lori Martino   | Linda Smith         |
| Victoria Baxter   | Ron DeChellis         | Michelle Henry     | Dee Merrill    | Jerry Smith         |
| Chuck Bennell     | Sharon Deagan         | Mike Henry         | Jim Myers      | Jonathan Stump      |
| Debbie Bentivegna | Beatrice Deligny      | Pam Janson         | Todd Nicholas  | Jeannine Thomas     |
| Lisa Berry        | Courtney Dietrich     | Debbie Johns       | Roger Piper    | Lisa Tucker         |
| Michelle Beyer    | Beth Digianantonio    | Marilyn Jones      | Susan Ralich   | Sandy Turner        |
| Trishla Bhargava  | Ken Douglas           | Jennifer Jones     | Sally Rath     | Gino Vicini         |
| Michele Bossart   | Michele Evans-Gardell | Marilyn Kanam      | Ted Rath       | Rose Marie Westover |
| Greg Brokaw       | Barbara Fordyce       | Lesla Knox         | Connie Ribauda | Ruthanne Wilkof     |
| Stan Bunting      | Joyce Fox             | Diane Kracker      | Jo Rini        | Mark Williams       |
| Dana Burgardt     | Joan Frey             | Jim Kracker        | Rick Rodak     | Penny Young         |
| Janet Byrnes      | Jean Furbay           | Sheila Lahoti      | Mary Rusnak    | Bonnie Zepp         |
| Jim Camp          | Chris Goff            | Amy Lakritz        | Linda Schmidt  | Glenda Zink         |
| Missy Casper      | Denny Goodwill        | Ann Margaret Lambo | Rebecca Scott  | Jane Zito.          |



**2009 Key Communicators at work in the Bear's Den at JHS.**

# Gym class produces brain fertilizer

Physical education (PE) classes at Jackson have moved beyond the basic sports competition model toward a health and wellness model. Students are no longer asked to participate in dodge ball, embarrassing rope climbs, or competitive sports unless the effects can be measured for students' individual health and wellness. Thanks to the Carolyn M. White (federal) PEP grant awarded to the district in 2007, our students district-wide, are exposed to a PE curriculum filled with physical activities designed to offer lifetime health and fitness based on new state and national PE standards.

Beginning in 5th grade and continuing through graduation, students are benefiting from an evaluation tool called a Fitnessgram which allows PE teachers to collect and analyze each student's activity and health-related data over time and also forward the data across grade levels. Students are given a print-out of their results to use as a baseline for designing their own fitness goals in and out of school. At the high school, students also use a grant-purchased "TriFit" machine that measures and records body fat percentage, blood pressure, and oxygen consumption. The program hopes to someday include cholesterol and diabetes screening as part of the assessment.

No longer do physical education teachers have to "guess" whether a student is giving his/her best effort. The Jackson program keeps track of student effort with pedometers and heart rate monitors that measure the amount of time the student stays within his/her own personal appropriate healthy fitness zone.

With grant funds, the district has also purchased treadmills, elliptical machines, summit trainers, exercise bikes, and a circuit of strength training units for the middle school and high school. These are used weekly by every PE student.

Research says that movement aids academic success by enhancing blood volume in a part of the brain that is involved in memory formation. There is also evidence that exercise stimulates one of the brain's most powerful growth factors, BDNF (Brain Derived Neurotrophic Factor), which has a fertilizer-like effect on the brain, especially in the areas involved with cognition. The more you exercise, the more fertilizer you make and the easier it

is to learn and retain information.

Several Jackson PE teachers visited the Naperville 203 Schools in Illinois. The schools have tested the brain fertilizer theory and have data that seems to support the positive effect of physical activity on learning. In 1999 Naperville students participated in the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) by taking a test designed to compare students' knowledge levels to



**PE teacher Julie Kovick helps Nikhil enter his blood pressure reading into the TriFIT machine.**



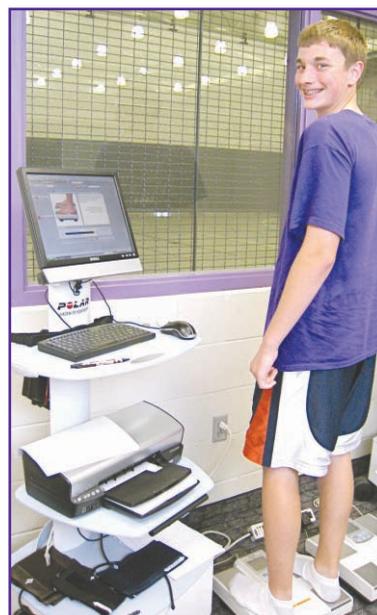
**Britney Harford, Katie Markijohn, Erik Godar, and Kyle Donahue help each other build muscle through sit-ups and push-ups.**

different countries in these two subject areas. Classroom teachers had students participate in moderate-vigorous exercise (heart rate at 185bpm) for 20-30 minutes prior to taking the test.

On average, US students rank 18th in science and 19th in math on the TIMSS. When Naperville students took the test, they ranked number one in math and number six in science – in the world. Even though Naperville 203 is a demographically advantaged district, most school officials, students, and parents believe PE contributed the most to this outcome.

"I am usually sleepy during first period, but then I have gym 2nd period and I feel wide awake all the rest of the day," said Jackson student Britney Harford.

"That's because exercise and activity wake up your brain," said PE teacher



**Chris Lach uses the TriFIT machine to gather his personal health/fitness data, which he and his PE instructor will use to design his individual fitness plan.**



**Alex Lowers measures his flexibility.**

Julie Kovick who is a fan of the newest research on exercise and academic excellence. She recommends the books, *Brain Rules* by John Medina and *SPARK – The Revolutionary New Science of Exercise & the Brain* by John J. Ratey, MD.

Jackson P.E. teachers have shared with their colleagues, the Naperville idea of providing students with brain breaks during regular classroom instruction. Brain breaks are short (2-3 minute) interactive games/challenges that get kids out of their seats and moving to recharge their brains and increase their ability to focus. Research demonstrates that after 20-30 minutes of sitting and listening we need to move to increase the flow of blood and oxygen to our brains. JHS English teacher Stephanie Scourfield used brain breaks in her classroom and although she has no scientific data, she believes the breaks benefitted her students.

"We are made to move, said Mrs. Kovick, "and in this age of technology and multi-tasking, we have neglected this basic need. That may be why we are seeing so many health and behavioral problems. When we move, everything works more efficiently and we genuinely feel better."

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BEFORE

AFTER

# Relay for Life makes tracks at the Netz

Relay for Life was held at JHS where 37 teams earned approximately \$67,000 for the American Cancer Society. Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's signature fund-raising activity. It offers everyone in a community an opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer by becoming a member of a team that camps out at a local high school, park, or fairground taking turns walking or running around a track for up to 24 hours.

Jackson resident Jim Kracker has never had cancer, but he walked because his wife, mother, and several close friends have.

"They found a cure for tuberculosis, why not cancer? I think we can beat this thing, but not by sitting at home. You have to come out and walk," he said.

Through tears of awe, cancer survivor

Karen Miday said, "It was the best relay ever. It's just so powerful to see so many people in our community telling their stories."

"To be here in the presence of such hope," said Alice Shoop who finished her sentence by simply touching her heart and shaking her head. She had no words to explain.

Jackie Palmer walked 15 miles around the quarter-mile JHS track as part of the Jackson Belden Chamber of Commerce team.

Jackson High School custodian Vic Neff was not at the event as a walker. He was on hand throughout the event to assist the group. This was his first exposure to Relay for Life. "It was impressive," he said. "Like nothing I have ever seen. My niece and mother passed away from cancer, My family will walk next year."



About 30 members of the JHS Cross Country Team and their parents participated. Pictured are Evan Reed, Lucas Shroades, Josh Benner, and Kyle Rohrig,



Katie Philbrick pushes Pat Glenny in her wheelchair. Alan Dolan takes a spin around the track on a bike beside Lisa Miller and Delores Johnson who walk in honor of Lisa's father and Delores's husband who passed away two years ago. Lee Dolan (far right) wishes her husband Alan had a bicycle built for two.



Karen Miday, 5-year breast cancer survivor, made her way around the track.



ABOVE • The Rick Neitzelt Stadium track was packed with walkers for most of the 24-hour event.

RIGHT • After 60 times around the track (15 miles), Jackson Belden Chamber of Commerce finance manager Jackie Palmer needs a little help from her friends. Helping her up from her pretend collapse are Chamber president/CEO Ruthanne Wilkof and Chamber graphic designer Chet Niewierski.

To participate in next year's relay, contact Kari Novotony at 330-284-3137.



# What's cool about school?

"Making friends and getting to know other people. I used to live in China. I learned to accept people as they are and not to judge them. I went to an international school there and there were a lot of ex-patriots there, so I learned to make friends with all kinds of people."



-Kailah Nelson, grade 7

"Meeting new friends and seeing old friends. And when you have teachers that are really fun, it makes class easier and you get better grades."



What makes a teacher really fun is when they know what kids are talking about and can relate to us, and if they are not boring."

-Aden Minor, grade 7

"I like coming to school and learning and being smart. It's just fun. Everything in school is fun. The only thing that bugs me is that in summer you have to wonder who your teacher will be. I always get good teachers, but I guess if I got a bad one, I'd just make the best of it."



-Elizabeth DeChellis, grade 4



"Math. I know take away and it makes me happy."

-Areca Blaha

"Having Mrs. Boylan as a teacher because she reads to us."

-Logan Webster, grade 1

"I like acting a lot, and I think I'm good at it, so I like going to music. In 2nd grade I tried out for the part of Cindy Lou and I got it. Then in 4th grade I tried out for mother in *Oliver Twist* and got it. I thought I would do bad on the solo, but I did good. I felt at first I was getting red and then it was over with and it was a relief. I want to be an actress when I grow up. First I will work at McDonalds and baby-sit to get money, then I will try out for parts, maybe in Hollywood."



-Maria Knepschild, grade 4

"Science is cool. Mr. Weisburn brought a Vandagraph generator and Carly put her hand on it and her hair totally stuck up and she looked a foot taller. Then Mr. Weisburn turned off the lights and he had a metal ball and he put it against the Vandagraph and a shock came out that lit up the whole room. Mason Klinger had a paper clip in his pocket and it shocked him. Just a little kind of shock, though."



-Thomas Pi, grade 5

"Band is what makes school cool for me. I really like getting to learn the music and play my flute in the band."

-Ashley Palmer, grade 7



"School is cool because we have a Smart Board and it's a touch screen and you can do surgery on a cartoon person. And we get to go to the science lab where we made a light bulb light up with batteries and wires."



-Kerissa Vernon, grade 5



This group of juniors agree that the coolest thing about school is being with friends at lunch. Kristen Lombardi, Mady Bogdan, Steph Douglas, Gina Montini, Kara Loughry, Jessica Davide, and Moriah Jones say they have been friends since 7th grade.

**POLAR BEAR PRIDE** is published five 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, pblangger@neo.rr.com.

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# JSA summer camps joined the circus and took to the seas

The Jackson School for the Arts (JSA) held three summer camps for students in grades 3-8 who are interested in the arts.

There was a visual arts camp "ARTventure" directed by JHS art teacher, Sherry Angeloni and assisted by JSA students and National Art Honor Society students. This camp produce an art show viewed by friends and parents at the end of the week.

There was a musical theatre camp for elementary students led by Amherst Elementary music teacher Cindy Grove and JSA students. They explored song and dance around a pirate theme.

"These students exceeded our expectations with their tremendous talent," Mrs. Grove said. On the day of the performance, she told the students, "It is because of your focus and hard work that we have been able to put on this fantastic show in only a matter of five days. The JSA students and I hope that you will continue to showcase your talents and work to achieve your dreams."

And finally, there was a musical theatre camp for middle school students led by JHS theater arts teacher Stefanie Fatzinger, who was assisted by JSA seniors. They explored the history of P. T. Barnum and the circus through song, dance, improvisation, and script interpretation.

"This was a great opportunity for the high school students to understand the role of teacher, leader, and organizer in the arts. By running the camps, the JSA students were asked to assume the roles of choreographers, vocal directors, costumers, set designers, program design, and prop master," Mrs. Fatzinger said.

The camps are designed to give elementary and middle school students a chance to see the opportunities in store for them should they become students in the JSA program.

## Lake Cable artist 'chalked the walk' at Canton's First Friday

Lake Cable 5th grader Shannon Richey submitted designs to Arts in Stark for July's First Friday *Chalk the Walk* event and won the right to create a piece of chalk art on 4th street. She joined professional sidewalk artist Aaron Costic and 14 local artists who covered Canton sidewalks in colorful chalk pictures. At age 10, Shannon was the youngest artist participating in the event.

Shannon titled her piece *Fairy Island*, "Because I love Tinkerbell and islands," she said.

Lake Cable teachers identified Shannon as gifted in visual arts some years ago. She has been drawing since she could hold a crayon. "Drawing is fun, and you get really cool pictures out of it," she said. "Drawing on the sidewalk was a lot of fun, but I like to draw on paper better because it lasts longer."

For her efforts at First Friday, Shannon receive a \$100 honorarium.



# What adults think is cool about school

What's cool about Jackson Schools? Being on the school board gives me the opportunity to meet with and discuss our schools with representatives from other school districts across the state. What is always cool is to hear how well respected and in such high regard that our school district is held by people outside of Jackson. Our schools have a great reputation because of all the hard work our students, parents, staff, and the whole community have put in over many years, and that continues today. We are very fortunate to have a community that works hard to provide our kids with the tools for a great education, and we're fortunate to have students who want to excel in both the classroom and the other important activities that make for a great school system. Jackson schools are cool because of our kids and a community that puts an emphasis on and understands the importance of educating our next generation."

*Ken Douglas  
Jackson School Board of Education*

"I say everything is cool about Jackson Local Schools!!!!!! The excellent educational experience! The extracurricular opportunities! The staff! The value that the school's excellence brings to the community! The pride I feel every time I see purple and gold or sing the Alma Mater."

*Jennifer L. Jones  
1977 grad and proud of it!!!  
Sr. Account Representative  
Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield*



"Everything about Jackson Schools is cool. The students and staff are excellent. Everyone has great attitudes. It's a very positive place to work. This is my first year here. Everyone has been so helpful and they have treated me with the utmost respect."

*-Greg Beiter, School Resource Officer*



dedication, success, failure, etc. are all values which student-athletes take from athletics. I am proud of Jackson athletics in general, and especially proud of all the student athletes and coaches who wear Purple and call themselves Polar Bears.

*Terry Peterson,  
JHS Athletic Director*

As voice of the business community, the Jackson-Belden Chamber of Commerce gets numerous phone calls from people wanting to move to Jackson. They do their homework. And they tell us they want to move to Jackson because of the exceptional school system. And it is. I wish I had kids just so I could send them there.

*Ruthanne Wilkof, President and CEO of the Jackson Belden Chamber of Commerce*



"What's cool about school is the energy and enthusiasm that students bring with them each day. As educators, we can make great gains when we are able to tap into their passion for learning."

*Anna Minor, Secondary Curriculum Coordinator*



My granddaughter Brianna goes to Lake Cable, and our family loves the way they take care of the children there. From the principal, to the teachers, to the office help, to the custodians.

*Vern Schaub, Schaub Electric*



"Were the greatest, say no more. I am from the class of '74. This was our class motto."

*David R. Ruwadi  
Jackson Township Park/Operations Director*



"Seeing kids grow and mature through the years."

*Scott Studer,  
JHS Security*



"I think it is cool to see student athletes have the opportunity to compete, the desire to succeed, and the gratification of performance. Although not all athletes share these three identities, a majority of them do. Athletics teaches so much more than most people realize. The life-long experiences of team, determination,



"What's cool about school for me is being able to see how students interact with each other and their teachers, and what they learn at JMMS. It is so exciting to be a part of their journey of discovery."

*Monica Myers, JMMS Principal*



## Corrections

Our apologies for accidental errors involving these two stories in the June edition of Polar Bear Pride. Below you will find corrected versions of the stories.

### Career clarification for Katherine

A teacher-selected group of 23 JHS students participated in a two-day training designed to move them from students to adult learners, workers, and citizens.

**Megan Katherine Southerland** knows she wants to become a medical instrument sterilization technician. She and others learned what they could expect to earn in their chosen fields, and what it might be like to manage an independent lifestyle complete with insurance costs, rent, utility bills, and car expenses.



### Leanne was among Jackson's top 25

At the end of each school year, Jackson's top 25 students invite an inspirational teacher to dinner and speak about the effect that person had on them. In the June issue of *Polar Bear Pride*, **Leanne Diese** and her honoree, math teacher **Mistina Tolarchyk** were accidentally omitted. Gaining a spot in the top 25 is a measure of a student's hard work and dedication and should be celebrated. The gratitude a student feels toward an honored teacher is not only heart-warming but also a mark of a student's fine character.



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## What's cool about school?



"Having fun teachers is cool. We're dissecting frogs in biology right now and I call my science teacher Trooper because she stuck both of her hands into a frog bag and pulled out two frogs with this stuff dripping from them. I was totally disgusted but she just showed them to me and asked which one I wanted."

-William Logan, grade 10

"School is the best thing that could ever happen to your life. You learn things and you get success, and you never want to give up."

-Chandler Kirtz, grade 2



"Getting in Polar Bear Pride is really cool. You're famous."

-Allison Lombardi, grade 2

"It's cool at the middle school how we have communities, three of them. Sometimes you don't get put in the same community as last year and you get to make new friends. I made a lot of new friends this year and I'm still friends with my friends from last year."

-Mia DiLoreto, grade 6



"I like, no, I love math. I like solving things and testing my knowledge. I want to be a college math professor someday."

-Stevie Arnold, grade 11

"I like my 5th grade teachers because they give us more freedom and opportunity to talk to our friends. We do hands-on experiments, grow our own plants, and make string telephones with cups. We wrapped wire around a nail and hooked wires to a battery. That magnetized the nail and we attached about 25 paper clips to the nail."

-Andrey Talevski, grade 5



"I like being on the green team, doing centers, playing with Jordan and Jessica and helping them go higher on the swings. I like chicken patties at lunch and doing my poems. We read *The Old Lady Who Lived in a Shoe*. We have a bag of books and I kind of like reading, but I like recess better."

-Sean Snyder, kindergarten

"I get to have lunch and play with Legos and after lunch I get rest time."

Barry Prince, kindergarten



"I like the computer. I go to www.starfall.com (a reading Web site). We had to go to lunch, but I wanted to stay and play on the computer instead."

Khai Nguyen, kindergarten

## Want to make a difference? Join the JHS Alumni Association

In 1998, about a dozen people met to discuss the possibilities of starting a Jackson High School alumni association. The dozen has now grown to 300. But with over 6,000 JHS grads, the association hopes to keep increasing its membership so that it can better carry out its mission to continue the school pride beyond graduation, award academic scholarships (\$5,000 last year), and become a clearing house for alumni addresses and updates on classmates. In addition, the association has contributed to the rebuilding of the middle school gymnasium after the tornado damage and has created the JHS Wall of Fame inside the high school to honor outstanding community members and graduates.

Current officers are: president Tom Lockard, vice president Jim Scott, secretary Rita Haines, and treasurer Barbara "Pinkey" Strieber.

### All are welcome to join

You need not be a JHS grad to join the association. "We welcome staff members and anyone who is a friend to the school district," said association president Tom Lockard. Dues are \$10 a year or \$100 for a lifetime membership.

### Alumni Association needs a Webmaster

The association has started a Web site [www.jacksonpolarbearsalumni.org](http://www.jacksonpolarbearsalumni.org) and is looking for help in this area. The site will be used to keep members and alumni abreast of association activities and will provide current and continually updated grad contact information. President Lockard said a strong Web site will allow graduates who have lost touch with each other to renew a contact and will make planning for class reunions easier.

## On The Banner

**P** Carissa Deeds  
**O** Kristen Bader  
**L** Patrick Hardy  
**A** Philip Schleich  
**R** Matt Rivera

**B** Will Cutler  
**E** Ashley Smithkey  
**A** Karissa Schroeter  
**R** Nick Kelly

**P** Lisa Mickley  
**R** Nolan Jones  
**I** Kyle Evans  
**D** Rachel Spangler  
**E** Taylor Zepp

*New Web site honors memory of Michael Jay Danner 1998-2005*

[www.michaelyaydanner.com](http://www.michaelyaydanner.com)

The JHS class of 2009 received eight \$1000 scholarships from the proceeds of the 2008 Poker Run held in Michael's name. Over the past three years, the Mike Danner family has gifted JHS grads with a total of \$27,500 in academic scholarships. Visit the Web site to learn more about the MJD Scholarship, Michael's memorial gazebo in Jackson Park, and how his personal decision to become an organ donor helped to save, prolong, or improve the lives of eight people.



Michael Danner

## Join Your JHS Alumni Association [jacksonpolarbearsalumni.org](http://jacksonpolarbearsalumni.org)

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Year \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### I am interested in helping with:

- Special Events     Web site  
 Membership     Publicity & Public Relations  
 Memorabilia     Class Liaison

Annual Fee ..... \$10  
Lifetime Member ..... \$100  
Scholarship Contribution .....  
Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Jackson High School Alumni Association, P.O. Box 35323, canton, OH 44735-5323

## Nominate a grad for the JHS Alumni Wall of Fame

The JHS Alumni Association is asking for nominees who have distinguished themselves in one or more of the following areas: athletics, community contributions, professional accomplishments, political leadership, humanitarian contributions, or education. Nominee must be a five-year graduate. **Nomination Deadline: May 1, 2009.**

Name of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation year \_\_\_\_\_

High school achievements: \_\_\_\_\_

Athletic achievements: \_\_\_\_\_

Post high school achievements: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Jackson Memorial Middle School, Alumni Wall of Fame Committee, 7355 Mudbrook Street, Massillon, OH 44646



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	17	Gr 6 / New Student Orientation A-M (7 PM)
	18	Gr 6 / New Student Orientation N-Z (7 PM)
	18-20	Teacher In-service
	18	Gr 9/New Student Orientation A-M (7 PM)
	19	Gr 9/New Student Orientation N-Z (7 PM)
	20	Open House-All Elementary Bldgs. (4:30 PM)
	24	1st day Students (K-9)
	25	1st day Students (10-12)
<b>September</b>	1	Open House JMMS
		Last Name A-M (6:30-7:30 PM)
		Last Name N-Z (7:30-8:30 PM)
	4	In-service - No School (K-12)
	7	Labor Day - No School (K-12)
	9	Open House High School
<b>October</b>	12	Columbus Day - No School (K-12)
	20	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5)
	22	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12)
	28	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12)
	30	Waiver Day - No School (K-12)
	30	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5)
<b>November</b>	2	No School - (K-5 ONLY)
	25-30	Thanksgiving Break
<b>December</b>	21	1st Day Christmas Break
<b>January</b>	4	Classes Resume
	15	End 2nd 9 weeks
	18	Martin Luther King Day - No School (K-12)
<b>February</b>	4	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12)
	10	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12)
	12	Waiver Day - No School (K-12)
	15	Presidents' Day - No School (K-12)
<b>March</b>	19	End 3rd 9 weeks
	29	1st Day Spring Break
<b>April</b>	5	Classes Resume
<b>May</b>	14	No School (K-12)
	31	Memorial Day - No School (K-12)
<b>June</b>	4	Last Day of School

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



## What's cool about school?

"I like to color rainbows in school. They're so colorful. I like playing outside on the swings. It makes your legs get exercise. My body likes it. I jump off the swing at the end and a lot of times I feel like I'm flying."

*Madisyn Parks, kindergarten*



"Next year I will be doing JSA (Jackson School for the Arts) and I'm really excited about that. I love art. I've been into drawing since I was a little kid. I like that our school is offering us a chance to do the things we really love instead of just normal school subjects like math and science."

*Kristen Kennedy, grade 8*

"School has been cool since 6th grade when I came to the middle school. That's when you get to meet all the different people coming from all the elementaries. High school will be even better because I'll be able to drive."

*Cody Norris, grade 8*



"Using computers is cool. I was a JPN student and we got to make Web sites, make videos, and edit video. We hosted our own news show. I'll use this all through high school and college. Because of this, I can help my family with computers, and I even helped my cousin make a Power Point presentation because I learned it in school."

*Evan Thrans, grade 8*

"Being in different communities every year and not knowing which teachers you'll get is cool because you always end up liking them. Coming back to school, you have butterflies. New grade, new people, new teachers. You are nervous. But as the weeks go on, you get used to things and have a lot of fun. So it's cool to overcome obstacles."

*Olivia Baumel, grade 7*



"School is cool because we have good athletic teams. My brother Nathan is my favorite athlete in football, tennis and basketball. And we have fun teachers."

*Anthony Kanam, grade 5*

"I like reading books and seeing the pictures. My favorite books are Care Bears. My cousin's name is Carrie so we are allowed calling her Care Bear. I learned to read in kindergarten. I can read chapter books already. My teacher has easy chapter books for me. I read six of them already."

*Kate Morena, kindergarten*



"Dances and football games and being a Polar Bear Backer. Senior Service day, and pep rallies and the biggie—being in Polar Bear Pride."

*-Sarah Guerrieri, Jessie Young and Taylor Stefanov*



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**Tom Winkhart**  
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**Chris Goff**  
Board Member • 330-639-2290

### Board Meeting Schedule

Aug. 18	JHS	6:00 PM
Sept. 15	JHS	6:30 PM
Oct. 20	Sauder	6:30 PM
Nov. 17	Lake Cable	6:30 PM
Dec. 15	Amherst	6:30 PM

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

## Class of 1994, 15-year Reunion

Sunday, September 6 at the 356th Fighter Group Restaurant (Bomber Squadron) in Canton. We have reserved the outdoor patio and are looking forward to a casual evening of fun. Please email your contact information to Heather (Essex) Szastak at [heather@szastak.com](mailto:heather@szastak.com).

A blog has also been set up so that reunion information can be shared more efficiently. Visit the blog at <http://jhs1994.blogspot.com>.

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# What's cool about school?

"Learning is cool. I didn't know that if you add 41 and 51, you carry the one up top. It turns into a hundred and that's how you add it up. I feel good knowing that."

*Nathan King, garde 1*



"I love making new friends and having great teachers, and going to 6th grade camp, but my non-favorite thing is getting up in the morning."

*Katelyn Baker, grade 6*



"I love art. That's my favorite thing to do in school. And you get to meet new friends and then you become very best friends with them."

*Makenzie Hoover, grade 2*



*McKenzie Quartz, grade 2*

"I love recess because we can actually escape from the classroom. But I like the art we do in the classroom."



"The new school environment is cool. I like the student commons. Makes me feel at home and relaxed."

*Danny Aiti, grade 9*



"Gym is the class for me. I like cardio kick ball. It's like the best thing ever."

*Kyle Donahue, grade 9*

## Some Things You Should Know

### Jackson Local 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 Local 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 2010 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 2009 grant applications. For more information, contact Kathy Brand, Director of Special Programs at 330-830-8006.

### Buildings continually inspected for asbestos

The 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, Ricky White, at the administration office, 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 was properly removed from a JHS classroom as part of the renovation plan.

### Basic student information is made publicly available

As per Jackson Local Board of Education policy, our schools make available, upon request, 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](http://www.leavemychildalone.org) to remove your child's name.

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# JHS junior named a 2009 Nestlé Very Best in Youth after nationwide search

After a nationwide search from nearly a thousand entries Nestlé USA proudly named Carly Zalenski one of 24 Nestlé Very Best In Youth, for her dedicated fund-raising efforts for the children of Vietnam.

At age 12 Carly, now a JHS junior, founded *Kids Building Hope*, a non-profit that raised \$50,000 to build an elementary school in the AnGiang Province of Vietnam. Two years later, in March 2008, Carly cut the ribbon on her brand new Hoa Loc Elementary School and also handed out backpacks filled with school supplies to the school's 500 students.

"Carly and the rest of our 2009 Nestlé Very Best In Youth winners truly represent the best and brightest of our future leaders," said Ken Bentley, vice president of community affairs/educational programs at Nestlé USA. "These winners reflect not only the best in youth, but set an example for us all of how to change and improve the lives of those around us."

"It's an honor and a thrill to have been named as one of the Nestlé Very Best In Youth," said Carly. "Knowing that I played a part in changing others' lives has changed my life, and made me a better person."

Carly traveled to Los Angeles for the awards ceremony in July, and received a donation of \$1,000 for her charity. She will use the money to enhance the music curriculum at her Hoa Loc Elementary School. Last January, Carly and her



Carly receiving her prize from Nestlé CEO and Chairman Brad Alford and celebrity spokesperson NFL Hall of Famer Jerry Rice

classmates in the Jackson School for the Arts held a *Dancing with the Teachers* competition, raising \$1150 for the cause.

Carly's mother, Chris, said the journey began when Carly was struggling to fit in as a 7th grader at JMMS. "Our family tried to get her to look outside herself by doing something for someone less fortunate. We were thinking she might like to try serving at a soup kitchen, but she was thinking much bigger than we were," Mrs. Zalinski said.

Carly's influence has now spread over her younger sister Abby (now in 9th grade at JHS) who is raising money to build her own school in Vietnam. Abby plans to have raised the necessary funds and to cut the ribbon on her school during spring break 2010. Among her donors is the Jackson Township Rotary Club.

Carly has no plans of stopping her altruistic endeavors. In fact, she plans to enter the Peace Corps after graduating from college.

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## What's cool about school?

"I can make friends - Ethan, Trevor, Ben, Luke, Shane, Matthew, Connor, Heath, Matt, Eli, Trent, and a 5th grader named Joey. I don't like to play with girls. I am too young for girlfriends."  
- Simon Nelson, grade 1



"School is cool because you get to learn stuff. Mrs. Snow taught us where Ohio is on the map. You have to know where Pennsylvania is, then on the left is Ohio."  
- Rianna Ritter, grade 1



"The Jackson faculty is cool. I feel very fortunate to learn from them, and in such a great environment. The Smart Boards are so practical. We have the Writing Center to help us learn. The library is a great resource, and we have great guidance counselors."  
-Luxy Xia, grade 12



"All the teachers. They are all nice, and they do nice stuff, and they're really good at teaching. I didn't know how to add



the sides of shapes, and I didn't know the names of them, but now I do and I feel really smart."  
-Meghan Tucker, grade 3

"It's cool that we have so much freedom at the middle school. At elementary we had recess, so that's not cool about the middle school, but the freedom is. You don't have to go in lines in the hall anymore. You get to go to your locker more. It makes you feel like you're getting older. But getting older is good and bad. You can keep your freedom as long as you follow the rules."  
Anthony Pizzino, grade 7



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this school to everyone."



— Grace Talka, Jackson High School

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## New football coach "very optimistic" about '09 season

Before he scored his third head coaching position at Jackson, Beau Balderson led Parma High School to its first winning streak in a decade and to an 11th place region I finish, the school's highest in a dozen years. Prior to that, he was named Portage Trail Conference Coach of the Year, Varsity Gold Regional VI Coach of the Year, and Portage County Coach of the Year. His Southeast High School team became Portage Trail Conference champs and qualified for the state playoffs for only the 2nd time in the school's history. Most recently, as offensive coordinator at Avon High, Coach Balderson created an offensive game plan that racked up 4381 yards of offense. The team became regional finalists with a 12-1 record and scored 470 points in a single season.

This fall, Balderson's Bears will slam their opponents with a time-robbing, no-huddle offense, hoping to gain the advantage as plays are signaled in from the sideline. This is a new strategy for the Bears, but after spending time with the team in practice, Balderson knows they are up to the task.

"They are tough kids and they want to win," he said.

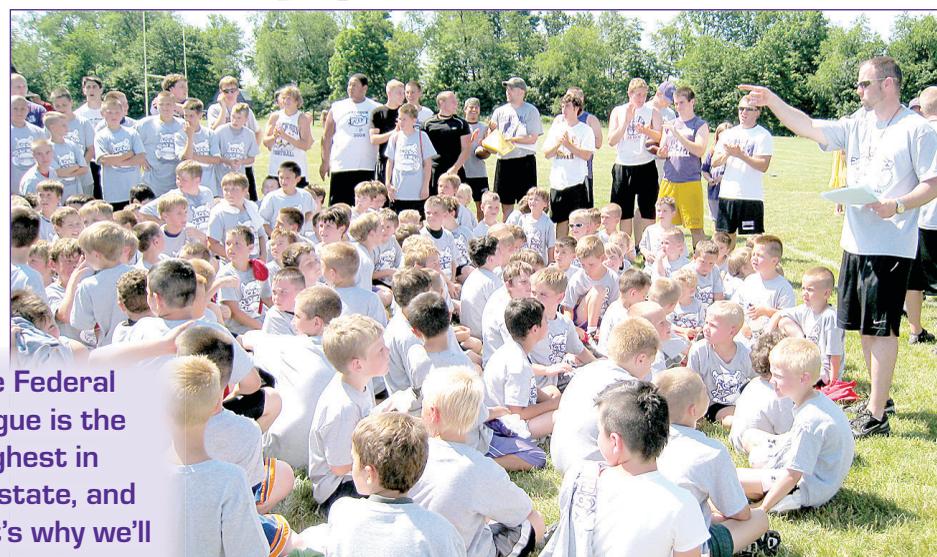
But a team can't win on offense alone. After reviewing past season tapes, Balderson liked what he saw in the defense which will be run this season by former head coach Thom McDaniels. "I liked the way they flew around to the ball," Coach Balderson said.

Balderson added, "The Federal League is the toughest in the state, and that's why we'll be bringing our best every week."

His philosophy is all about besting yesterday's best. Today's best is tomorrow's history. "I am very optimistic about this season and expect this team to get better each and every week," he said. The team motto is *get better every day*.

Balderson, his wife Jill, and their two daughters, Eve age two and newborn Chloe, are new members of the Jackson community. "Jackson is fantastic," he said. "Everybody here wants to win and be the best at everything they do, and I'm looking forward to diving in."

This summer he dove in by leading a youth football camp for students in kindergarten through 7th grade. When school starts, he will also be diving into the classroom as a freshman world history teacher.



**"The Federal League is the toughest in the state, and that's why we'll be bringing our best every week."**

— Beau Balderson,  
Head Football Coach

JHS head football coach Beau Balderson, staff, and players host summer camp for future Polar Bears, kindergarten through 7th grade.

### Fall Sports Schedules

#### VARSITY FOOTBALL

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Friday	Aug. 28	Copley	Away	7 p.m.
Friday	Sept. 4	Solon	Home	7:30 p.m.
Friday	Sept. 11	Hudson (Youth Night)	Home	7:30 p.m.
Friday	Sept. 18	*GlenOak	Away	7:30 p.m.
Friday	Sept. 25	*McKinley (Athlete/Band Sr. Rec.)	Home	7:30 p.m.
Friday	Oct. 2	*Fitch	Away	7:30 p.m.
Friday	Oct. 9	*Boardman (Black Light/Homecoming)	Home	7:30 p.m.
Friday	Oct. 16	*Lake	Away	7:30 p.m.
Friday	Oct. 23	*Perry (FB/Cheer Sr. Rec.) (Black Light Rain Date)	Home	7:30 p.m.
Friday	Oct. 30	*Hoover	Away	7:30 p.m.

#### \*Federal League Games

#### GIRLS' GOLF

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Thur.	Aug. 6	Walsh Jesuit scrimmage	Home	TBA
Mon.	Aug. 10	Tam O'Shanter Inv.	Tammy	9:30 a.m.
Thur.	Aug. 13	JFK Eagle Invitational	Candywood GC	8 a.m.
Tue.	Aug. 18	Pre-Season FL Tourney	Tannenhaus	8:30 a.m.
Wed.	Aug. 19	Jackson NE Invitational	Legends	9 a.m.
Fri.	Aug. 21	Pickerington Invitational	Turnberry	9 a.m.
Sat.	Aug. 22	Midwest Classic	Skyland Pines	1:45 p.m.
Tue.	Aug. 25	McKinley	Edgewood	4 p.m.
Thur.	Aug. 27	Boardman	Mill Creek	4 p.m.
Thur.	Sept. 3	Hoover	Fairways	4 p.m.
Tue.	Sept. 8	Lake	Sable Creek	4 p.m.
Thur.	Sept. 10	Copley	Tammy	4 p.m.
Tue.	Sept. 15	GlenOak	Sanctuary	4 p.m.
Tue.	Sept. 22	Fitch	Tammy	4 p.m.
Thur.	Sept. 24	Perry	Shady Hollow	4 p.m.
Sat.	Sept. 26	Stk. Cty. Championship	Sable Creek	8:30 a.m.
Mon.	Sept. 28	Green	Turkeyfoot	4 p.m.
Wed.	Sept. 30	Marlington	Tannenhaus	4 p.m.
Friday	Oct. 2	Post-Season FL Tourney	Tannenhaus	9 a.m.
Tue.	Oct. 6	Sectionals	Turkeyfoot	TBA
Tue.	Oct. 13	Districts	Legends	TBA
Thur.-Sat.	Oct. 22-24	State Tournament	OSU Gray Course	TBA

# GO BEARS

# BOYS'/GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Sat.	Aug. 29	Claymont Invitational	Claymont	TBA
Sat.	Sept. 5	Malone CC Invitational	Malone	TBA
Sat.	Sept. 12	Walsh Tomahawk Run	Walsh Jesuit	TBA
Sat.	Sept. 19	Boardman Spartan Inv.	Boardman	TBA
Sat.	Sept. 26	Cardinal CC Invitational	Sandy Valley	9 a.m.
Sat.	Sept. 3	Stark County Meet	GlenOak	TBA
Sat.	Sept. 10	Open		
Sat.	Sept. 17	Fed. Lg. Championship	McKinley	TBA
Sat.	Sept. 24	District Meet	Malone	TBA
Sat.	Sept. 31	Regional Meet	Boardman	TBA
Sat.	Nov. 7	State Meet	Scioto Downs	TBA

# GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL - JV / VARSITY

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Mon.	Aug. 31	McKinley	Away	5:30/7pm
Thur.	Sept. 3	Boardman	Home	5:30/7pm
Sat.	Sept. 5	Green	Home	10/11:30am
Tue.	Sept. 8	Hoover	Away	5:30/7pm
Thur.	Sept. 10	Lake	Away	5:30/7pm
Sat.	Sept. 12	West Holmes	Away	10/11am
Tue.	Sept. 15	GlenOak	Away	5:30/7pm
Thur.	Sept. 17	Austintown Fitch	Home	5:30/7pm
Tue.	Sept. 22	Perry	Home	5:30/7pm
Wed.	Sept. 23	Walsh	Home	5:30/7pm
Thur.	Sept. 24	McKinley	Home	5:30/7pm
Sat.	Sept. 26	Jackson Invitational	Home	10am
Sat.	Sept. 26	JV Invitational	JMMS	10am
Tue.	Sept. 29	Boardman	Away	5:30/7pm
Thur.	Oct. 1	Hoover	Home	5:30/7pm
Sat.	Oct. 3	Cloverleaf	Away	TBA
Tue.	Oct. 6	Lake	Home	5:30/7pm
Thur.	Oct. 8	GlenOak	Home	5:30/7pm
Tue.	Oct. 13	Austintown Fitch	Away	5:30/7pm
Thur.	Oct. 15	Perry	Away	5:30/7pm

# GIRLS' TENNIS

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Tue.	Aug. 18	Orange (?)		
Wed.	Aug. 19	Revere	Home	4pm
Tue.	Aug. 25	*Boardman	Away	4:30pm
Thur.	Aug. 27	*Hoover	Home	4:30pm
Sat.	Aug. 29	Lexington	Home	11am
Wed.	Sept. 2	*Lake	Away	4:30pm
Thur.	Sept. 3	*GlenOak	Away	4:30pm
Tue.	Sept. 8	*Fitch	Home	4:30pm
Fri.	Sept. 11	Columbus	Away	TBA
Sat.	Sept. 12	Columbus (2)	Away	TBA
Tue.	Sept. 15	*Perry	Home	4:30pm
Mon.	Sept. 21	Copley	Away	4:30pm
Tue.	Sept. 22	*McKinley	Home	4:30pm
Wed.	Sept. 23	Central Catholic	Away	4pm
Sat.	Sept. 26	Lexington Invitational	Away	9am
Fri.	Oct. 2	FL Championship	GlenOak	9am
Mon.	Oct. 5	Walsh Jesuit	(Harvard/Stadium Courts)	
Thur-Sat	Oct. 8-10	Sectionals	Away	4pm
Thur-Sat	Oct. 15-17	Districts		
Fri-Sat	Oct. 23-24	States		

\*Federal League Games

## Senior Citizens pay half price for athletic tickets

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

### What's cool about school?

"Extracurricular activities, especially lacrosse. We moved to Division I this year and that was achallenge. Only one other school in the county has a team (Hoover), so we have all over the place to play - Green, Toledo, Columbus. We made it to 1st round tournaments then we lost to Medina. I predict we will have a winning record and hopefully make it to state next year. And we will beat our rival, St. Ursula, again. Last year was the first year we beat them, and it was exciting." -Erin Huemme, grade 11



"Our track program. My teammates and my coaching staff are really cool. The coaches nicknamed me babycakes because I flirted with a girl from GlenOak." -Luther Henderson, grade 11



"Track. The competitiveness, the adrenaline. We love our Coach Netz. He cares for us. He puts health over winning. This was my first year running the 400 and I ended up being district champion." -Jada Henderson, grade 12

"School activities and sports are cool. I like volleyball, basketball, track, and softball. I was new last year, so I didn't play, but this year I will play softball and hopefully volleyball. I like competition, but if I lose, I'm never mad. I just try harder next time and give it my all." -Megan Philabaum, grade 7



"I like recess and gym. In gym we get to play a lot of fun stuff like turtle tag. You run, and if you are about to be tagged, you can get in your shell and you're safe." -Shane O'Brien, grade 1



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**Fall Sports Schedules**

**GIRLS' SOCCER VARSITY / JV**

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Wed.	Aug. 26	Green	Home	5:15/7pm
Sat.	Aug. 29	Sylvania Northview	Away	1/3pm
Wed.	Sept. 2	*Hoover	Away	5:15/7pm
Sat.	Sept. 5	Wadsworth	Away	5/7pm
Wed.	Sept. 9	*GlenOak	Away	5:15/7pm
Sat.	Sept. 12	Revere	Away	5/7pm
Wed.	Sept. 16	*Austintown Fitch	Home	5:15/7pm
Sat.	Sept. 19	Copley	Home	5/7pm
Wed.	Sept. 23	*Perry	Home	5:15/7pm
Sat.	Sept. 26	Cloverleaf	Home	4/6pm
Wed.	Sept. 30	*McKinley	Away	5:15/7pm
Sat.	Oct. 3	Walsh	Home	5/7pm
Wed.	Oct. 7	*Boardman	Away	5:15/7pm
Mon.	Oct. 12	North Royalton	Home	5:15/7pm
Wed.	Oct. 14	*Lake	Away	5:15/7pm
Sat.	Oct. 17	Medina	Away	5/7pm

\*Federal League Games

**BOYS' GOLF - VARSITY and JV**

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Mon.	Aug. 10	CVCA Invitational	Silver Lake CC	8 a.m.
Mon.	Aug. 17	Big Cat Invitational	The Legends	9 a.m.
Tue.	Aug. 18	Pre-Season FL Tourney	Tannehauf	8:30 a.m.
Wed.	Aug. 19	Central (JV)	Tam O'Shanter	TBA
Thur.	Aug. 20	Lake JV Invitational	Sable Creek	7:30 a.m.
Fri.	Aug. 21	Kick-Off Classic	Seven Hills CC	8 a.m.
Mon.	Aug. 24	Grizzly Golf Classic	Rawiga CC	3:15 p.m.
Tue.	Aug. 25	McKinley	Skyland Pines	4:15 p.m.
Thur.	Aug. 27	Boardman	Tam O'Shanter	4:15 p.m.
Wed.	Sept. 2	Central	Tam O'Shanter	3:30 p.m.
Thur.	Sept. 3	Hoover	Tam O'Shanter	4:15 p.m.
Tue.	Sept. 8	Lake	Tam O'Shanter	4:15 p.m.
Sat.	Sept. 12	The Tradition	Good Park	11:30 a.m.
Mon.	Sept. 14	St. Thomas	Skyland Pines	3:15 p.m.
Tue.	Sept. 15	GlenOak	Tam O'Shanter	4:15 p.m.
Tue.	Sept. 22	Fitch	Away	4:15 p.m.
Sat.	Sept. 26	Stark County Tourney	Sable Creek	8:30 a.m.
Mon.	Sept. 28	Walsh/Green	Prestwick CC	4 p.m.
Tue.	Sept. 29	Perry	The Legends	4:15 p.m.
Fri.	Oct. 2	Post-Season FL Tourney	Tannehauf	9 a.m.
Sat.	Oct. 3	JV Brookledge Tourney	Brookledge	TBA

**BOYS' SOCCER - VARSITY/JV-GOLD**

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Tue.	Aug. 25	Avon Lake	Away	5/7pm
Thur.	Aug. 27	Cardinal Mooney	Home	5:15/7pm
Thur.	Sept. 3	Hudson	Home	5:15/7pm
Tue.	Sept. 8	*GlenOak	Home	5:15/7pm
Sat.	Sept. 12	Solon	Away	12/2pm
Tue.	Sept. 15	*Fitch	Away	5:15/7pm
Sat.	Sept. 19	Walsh	Away	1/3pm
Tue.	Sept. 22	*Perry	Away	7pm
Sat.	Sept. 26	St. Ignatius	Away	12/2pm
Tue.	Sept. 29	*McKinley	Home	5:15/7pm
Thur.	Oct. 1	Copley	Away	5/7pm
Sat.	Oct. 3	Olentangy Liberty	Away	1/3pm
Tue.	Oct. 6	*Boardman	Home	5:15/7pm
Tue.	Oct. 13	*Lake	Home	5:15/7pm
Thur.	Oct. 15	Wadsworth	Home	5/7pm
Sat.	Oct. 17	*Hoover	Home	5/7pm

\*Federal League Games

**Sports Note:**

The June edition of Polar Bear Pride, we inadvertently left out some of last school year's state qualifiers in girls' tennis. Congratulations to Stephanie Conlan, Trish Conlan, and Ashley Thomas.

**What's cool about school?**

"I like athletics, especially football. It's hard work, but it ends up paying off. Practice builds your muscles up and builds your skills, and gets you playing time, which raises your self esteem."  
- Matt Miraglia, grade 9



"Jackson sports. I am a center for the volleyball team. It's fun to play sports at Jackson. The coaches and the faculty are really good here."  
- Olivia Maringa, grade 9



"I think math and recess are cool. I like to climb up to the top of the monkey bars and there is this pole and you slide down it. Then in math there is this game and you roll the dice and if you roll two, you get two pennies on your paper. Then when you get your whole paper filled up with pennies before your partner does, you win!"  
- Lauren Marshall, grade 1



"I enjoy Jackson's Friday Night Lights. I am a quarterback and receiver for the football team, and even though I have been riding the pine, my goal is to play this year and have our team win the Federal League title."  
Jake Batcho, grade 11

# China comes to Jackson *Continued from page 1*

Wasdahl where the group met for an old fashioned American barbecue. Mrs. Wasdahl gifted each Chinese visitor with a t-shirt bearing an American symbol. They were served Mr. Wasdahl's sought-after barbecued ribs, cheeseburgers, watermelon, apple pie, and a cake decorated with the American and Chinese flags. Jackson families who hosted our Chinese visitors also attended the picnic, and added to an overflowing table of American picnic food. Mrs. Wasdahl provided the customary plastic cutlery and even chopsticks.

This visit followed an earlier American trip to China for seven JHS students. Just as the Chinese proudly showed their country to Jackson students, we showed off a bit of America to their students, beginning with a tour of Jackson High School. The Chinese teachers found JHS to be filled with natural light and were surprised to see teachers' lounges, cooking classes, and basketball courts inside the school. They were surprised to learn that our teachers stay put in their classrooms while students move from class-to-class. In China, students stay seated in one classroom all day as teachers move.

While in China, American Corey Cleaver stayed in the home of Xiaowen Song. Corey thought China would

be rich with Buddhism and Taoism but learned that few Chinese have a religious practice. "They just believe you should always do your best," Corey said, adding, "I loved everything about China except the hygiene. There were puddles of urine in public rest rooms." He spoke of the ceramic pots laid at ground-

was the lack of air pollution. "You have very fresh air," said Fangyuan Gao. Teachers Jindao Zhang and Boshen Zhao agreed, saying, "Clean, beautiful, fresh." Fangyuan added, "American people are very friendly, there are big trees, American boys are very tall, and they are gentlemen." What she disliked most was American food, "except for pancakes," she said.

American Ben Marconi found the food in China

digestive tract of a crab, which had the texture of melted chocolate and tasted a bit like horseradish. Some things were out of my comfort zone but they contributed to a fantastic and enriching experience."

Ben was also impressed with the population. "There are 21 million people in Beijing alone," he said. "That's like seven Clevelands packed into a few square miles."



Chinese summer exchange students with their American host families at Jackson High School.

Ben and host brother Ziqui Jia agree that the exchange experience has made them friends for life. "Ben is teaching me many things about piano, hip hop, and lacrosse," said a smiling Jia. "America is very beautiful and Ben is very friendly."

Using the donated funds from The Jackson-Belden Chamber of Commerce and from Jackson Trustee Jamie Walters, the entourage visited Cedar Point, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Cleveland Science Museum, Amish Country, and saw an Akron Aeros baseball game. With their own funds, the Chinese later traveled to New York City, Philadelphia, and Washington D.C.

At a dinner for host families and Chinese guests, JHS principal Rick Campbell said, "We are very fortunate to have this exchange opportunity and hope to further develop our relationship with the Jiaozhou No. 1 High School."

Chinese teacher Jindao Zhang then thanked his American hosts and added, "May the friendships between the two schools last forever."

level and no stalls or curtains to separate them. Even so, Corey plans to return to China someday as an English teacher.

When asking the Chinese guests what they most liked about America, the most frequent response

"culturally enriching." He said, "Some of the food was very delicious and some was not so very delicious. I ate silkworm which tasted like rotten cream cheese with a crusty coating. I ate starfish, raw chicken feet, raw shrimp, conch, and slurped the

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Ryan DiRuzza serves pancakes to State Representative W. Scott Oelslager.

## Music makers serve up compassion

Jackson High School's Tri-M Music Honor Society hosted a Pancake Breakfast which raised \$1,799 for Akron Children's Hospital. Tri-M is an international honor society recognizing high school music students for their musical ability, academic excellence, school involvement, and community service. Over 40 students were inducted into Jackson's Tri-M chapter last school year. Breakfast sponsors included: Smith's Dairy, Gabe's Meat & Deli, Giant Eagle on the Strip, and Dinner Plans.

## What's cool about school?



**"I play trombone in the band. Right there is awesomeness. Over the summer you hang out with your individual friends, but when band starts you get to meet 230 people and it makes you have friends already when school starts."**

*Stephen Short, grade 11*

**"Working really hard and having the satisfaction that your hard work paid off. It just happened to me today. I failed a research paper rough draft, then I worked on it lots of consecutive days and took a lot of time with it and got an A on the final paper."**

*Hannah Lawrence, grade 10*



**"School brings different people together who might never have talked to each other and makes bonds that will last a lifetime."**

*Megan Maas, grade 10*

**"I think it's cool how much this school has changed. It used to be dark. You never got much sunlight. Now everything is so much more vibrant."**

*Jake Lowden, grade 11*



**"I like our celebration of learning. It's a party for all the things we learned all year. Our parents and volunteers have it for us, and they have inflatables and Popsicles and we celebrate that we learned so much."**

*George Bogner, grade 3*

**"Doing art is cool. We made Mother's day booklets and used markers. I love using markers. They have really pretty colors, except black and brown. I don't like them because they are boy colors."**

*Stephanie Spencer, grade 1*



## Safety Village has new leader

In 1990, a five-year-old first grader attended Safety Village and loved every minute of it. When the first grader was 12-years-old, she signed up as a Safety Village camp counselor and loved it so much that she has been involved each year thereafter. Her name is Molly Ott and this summer was her first year as Safety Village leader.

"My first year as the new leader was exciting," said the 2003 Jackson grad, qualifying, "I had a lot of people who helped me meet the challenge."

Helping her was 16-year Safety Village leader Marilyn Jones and 15 high school and middle school camp counselors. Miss Ott kicked off her inauguration year by adding water safety to the program and by securing a donated service from Farmer's Insurance who produced a CD containing a current photograph and pertinent information on each child for use by the Police Department in the event that a child should go missing. "I have some new ideas for next year, too, and I'm looking forward to it," Miss Ott said.

The 21-year-old program is a collaboration between the schools, fire department and police department. This year it introduced 147 children, ages 5 to 8-years-old, to weather safety, dialing 911, buckling up, stranger danger, fire safety, poison hazards in the home, and bus, bike, water, and train safety.

Miss Ott will graduate from the University of Akron with a degree in family and child development in December.



## GOVERNOR *Continued from page 1*

The plan hopes to strengthen the teaching profession by establishing a four-tier licensing program (entry level to lead teacher) with a four-year residency for new teachers.

It will increase school district accountability and transparency by developing a fiscal report card for all schools in Ohio, including charter schools.

Governor Strickland called Ohio's school funding problem "vexing" but added that education is now the state's priority. "In

order to get good things done we have to set priorities," he said, noting that an educated workforce will help bring business to Ohio.

Education and jobs for Ohioans are two sides of the same coin. The governor said that according to a recently released Pew Trust report, Ohio is fourth in the nation (following California, Texas, and Pennsylvania) in investments being made in jobs-related green technologies. He said that by 2020, 20% of all electricity

sold in Ohio must come from renewable resources or advanced technologies. He said that northwest Ohio has the strongest solar industry in America, and that there is a growing interest in wind power.

Governor Strickland recently met with a Colorado and San Francisco-based company that is interested in building electric buses in Ohio. He has connected that company to the research being done at Stark State College of Technology in collaboration with Rolls Royce.

## Get involved with the Pancake Breakfast and Health Fair

### Health Fair

The 2nd annual Health Fair and Pancake Breakfast will be held at JHS on Saturday, October 24 from 8 a.m. to noon. If you would like to rent a table

space, contact Linda Salom at lms2jc@mail.jackson.sparcc.org or Jeff Moore at jam4jc@mail.jackson.sparcc.org. Spaces cost \$25, but are free to non-profit organizations. There are also 30'x30'

areas in the gym for demonstrations. **Pancake Breakfast** If you want to help out with the Pancake Breakfast, call Janelle Winkhart at 330-832-3955.

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