



POLAR BEAR PRIDE

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 JAN. 2012 Vol. 18, Issue 2

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Superintendent speaks to Rotarians

When JLSD Superintendent Chris DiLoreto was invited to speak to the Rotary Club of Jackson Township, he outlined the district's goals and achievements. The district motto is, "Keeping the Main Thing, the Main Thing," which covers the district's three-pronged objective: **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**—Raising the district's performance index on the state report card. **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**—Reducing overall energy consumption by 25%. **COMMUNICATION**—Improving/increasing district contact with the community about the great things happening in the school district. Mr. DiLoreto has been invited to speak about the schools to many local groups.



Sauder Elementary earns SOAR Award

On Nov. 14, Battelle for Kids presented Sauder Elementary with a 2011 SOAR Award for being a High Progress School. The award is designed to acknowledge Ohio schools for their academic progress in multiple grade levels and subjects over the last school year (2010–2011). The schools receiving the award for high progress are among the top 10 out of 684 participating SOAR schools..

"It is our honor to recognize these schools and districts for their extraordinary progress. The awards are a testament to the hard work these educators have put forth to make significant growth with their students," said Jim Mahoney, executive director, Battelle for Kids.



About SOAR: In 2002, Battelle for Kids launched SOAR, a statewide pilot to introduce value-added analysis to participating Ohio school districts and demonstrate how information can improve teachers' and schools' impact on student learning.

FINANCIAL FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

See page 2



Chinese educators visit JMMS, Strausser, and JHS

Mr. Yonghui Ren, English Department Chair and Mr. Zhenlin Zhao, Vice Principal of No.1 High School of Liaocheng, China, spent three days at Jackson to observe our teachers and students in action. Serving as an interpreter was Jackson's Chinese language teacher, Steve Hyatt, as our Chinese guests toured the middle school, high school, and Strausser Elementary.



Mr. Ren is one of two teachers from China who helped initiate our Chinese language program at JHS and JMMS. That program, now in its fifth year, has increased to include over 100 students. It is taught by Mr. Hyatt, an American who spent seven years in China.

Mr. Ren delivered a sack of letters and artwork from the students at his school, to the students of JMMS. Our middle school and high school have been cultivating sister school relationships with schools in Spain, France, and China in order to expand our students' first-hand global knowledge.

At Strausser, Mr. Hyatt taught students to say, "Hello" in Chinese. Student, Grace Sykes asked the Chinese guests about the Great Wall of China. "I hope you will one day visit our country," Mr. Ren told Grace in perfect English.

The guests ate in our cafeterias and said they truly enjoyed the amount and flavors of the food, especially the baked potatoes at JMMS. Later, they enjoyed a JHS varsity basketball game.

MORE pictures and a short video on the Jackson Facebook page.

Seated front from left are: Zhenlin Zhao, Vice Principal of No. 1 High School of Liaocheng and JMMS Principal Paul Salvino. Standing from left are: Yonghui Ren, English Department Chair at No. 1 High School, JHS Chinese teacher Steve Hyatt, Assistant Superintendent Barry Mason, International Baccalaureate and Secondary Curriculum Coordinator Linda Salom, Coordinator of Special Programs Susan Gardner, JMMS Assistant Principal Jennifer Morgan, and Intervention Specialist Rachel Stien.

"These important international connections make what we teach about the world even more relevant to our students. We hope the Chinese students benefit as well."
 —Paul Salvino, JMMS Principal



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

CHRIS DILORETO

We're helping to reform education

It has been an honor to represent Jackson Local Schools, a Race to the Top school district, on an education reform team made up of a dozen Ohio colleagues (five other superintendents, the state superintendent and a variety of Ohioans involved with public school education — see list below). With Team Ohio, I recently traveled to Washington D.C. to meet with U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and with similar teams from 11 other states to report on the reform efforts underway in our state. Race to the Top schools have been working in two specific areas. (1) Raising the benchmarks of what students are expected to know in math, language arts, science, and social studies. This is referred to as the Common Core Standards. (2) Developing teacher and principal evaluation tools that will give educators the feedback they need to help students succeed. Teachers and principals will be evaluated 50% on their personal performance and 50% on student growth.

Race to the Top schools will ultimately provide examples for school districts throughout the country on reforms that are likely to transform the nation's schools for decades to come.

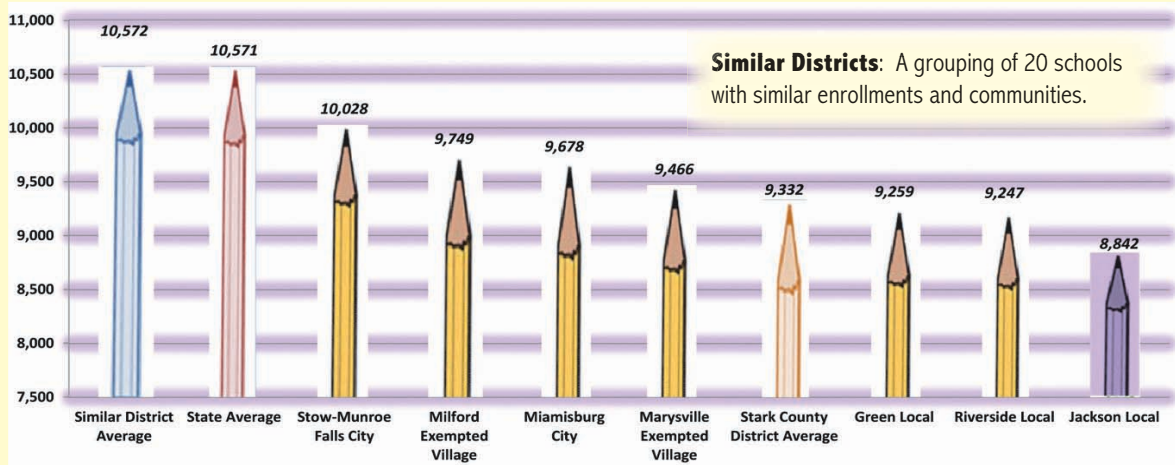
Only six of Ohio's 614 traditional public school districts were selected to attend the national conference. This speaks volumes about how hard Jackson students and staff members are working. We are now 1.5 years into the four-year initiative. By the 2013-2014 school year, all Ohio districts will need to be in alignment with the new Common Core Standards and will also need to

Continued on page 2



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Comparison of Similar Districts' Total Expenditures



DISTRICT	ENROLLMENT	ADMIN EXPENSES	BUILDING OPERATIONS	STAFF SUPPORT	PUPIL SUPPORT	INSTR EXP	TOTAL EXPEND
Similar District Average	5,005	1,150	1,999	301	1,180	5,942	10,572
State Average	2,812	1,297	1,972	390	1,050	5,862	10,571
Stow-Munroe Falls City	5,345	1,066	1,789	188	1,074	5,911	10,028
Milford Exempted Village	6,126	912	2,275	526	739	5,297	9,749
Miamisburg City	5,338	966	1,663	102	1,024	5,923	9,678
Marysville Exempted Village	5,344	1,073	1,728	382	1,223	5,060	9,466
Stark County District Average	3,450	1,089	1,792	182	1,006	5,263	9,332
Green Local	4,167	1,124	1,600	160	1,100	5,275	9,259
Riverside Local	4,863	1,116	2,331	304	569	4,927	9,247
JACKSON LOCAL	5,728	796	1,824	220	978	5,024	8,842

Administration Expenses - Denotes the functions of the building principal's office costs incurred as the principal's office sets the goals and directions and makes key decisions for the building. Also included are central office costs. These costs encompass planning, research, information services, staff services, and data processing expenditures.

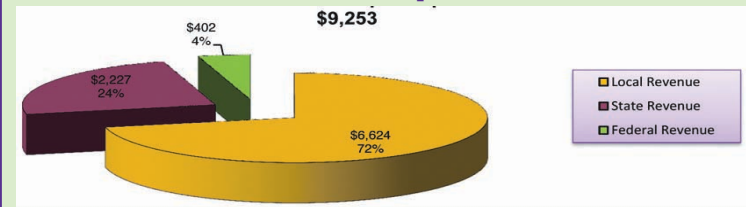
Building Operation Expenses - Facilities and operations support includes facilities and operations at the building and central office levels. It is made up of multiple functions, which combine both capital goods (building, buses, heating equipment, etc.) and the resources necessary to operate, clean, repair and improve them. Purchasing for the Enterprise funds, the largest of which is the Lunchroom operation, is also included.

Staff Support Expenses - The adult employees in the district need support, staff development, training, retraining, additional college courses, and advice. Teacher support may be handled in the Central Office, where planning for staff development activities goes on, or it may occur in the building, where direct support for teachers and other staff is primarily handled.

Pupil Support Expenses - Students need support outside the classroom and beyond their academic instruction. They need guidance counseling, help in the media center or library, college advising, field trips, and psychological testing.

Instructional Expenses - The cornerstones of education are teaching and learning, which generally occur in the building classroom. This function often includes teachers, teacher aides, or paraprofessionals, as well as materials, computers, books and other consumable materials that are used with students in the classroom setting.

Jackson's Per Pupil Revenues



Jackson's Per Pupil Revenues Comparison



Local Revenue - Examples include local property taxes, tuition payments, fees, sales, earnings on investments, etc. Local money received under Food Services, and Extracurricular Activities is not included.

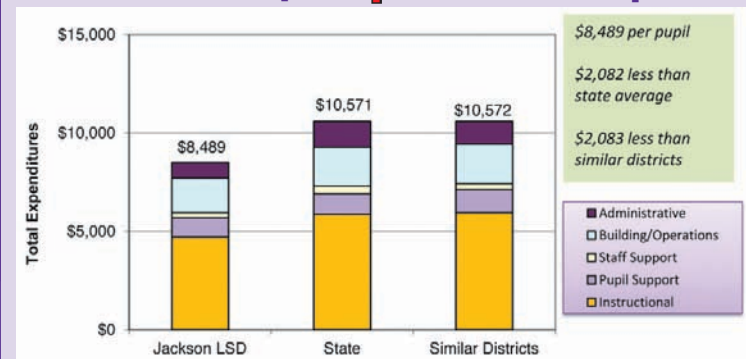
State Revenue - Examples include state foundation payments, state grants, tangible personal property reimbursement, homestead and rollback reimbursements etc.

Federal Revenue - Sources include both restricted & unrestricted fed. grants.

Jackson's Per Pupil Expenditures



Jackson's Per Pupil Expenditures Comparison



Instructional: Teachers, aides, or paraprofessionals, materials, computers, books, and consumable materials that are used with students in the classroom.

Pupil Support - Students need support outside the classroom and beyond academic instruction, such as: guidance counseling, media center help, college advising, field trips, psychological testing.

Staff Support - Staff development, training, retraining and advice.

Building / Operations - Combines both capital goods (building, buses, heating equipment, etc.) and the resources necessary to operate, clean, repair and improve them. Purchasing for the Enterprise Funds, the largest of which is the lunchroom.

Administrative - Building principals' office costs and central office costs encompassing planning, research, information services, staff services, and data processing.

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Continued from page 1

transition to the new teacher/principal evaluation tools.

I am proud to carry forth, to the state and national levels, the work that the Jackson Local staff and students have been doing far in advance of the 2014 deadline. Our teachers are extremely enthusiastic about delivering the best possible education to our students, so it is no surprise to me that they eagerly participate in this development process. They are a team that you can be proud of, too.

The 12 states participating are: Delaware, D.C., Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island and Tennessee.

Members of Team Ohio are: Stan Heffner, State

Superintendent of Public Instruction; Michael Sawyers, Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction; Maggie Niedzwiecki, Director, Ohio's Race to the Top Strategy; Debe Terhar, President, State Board of Education; Randy Flora, Director of Education Policy and Coalition Relations, Ohio Education Association; Deb Tully, Director of Professional Issues, Ohio Federation of Teachers; Sarah Dove, Ohio's Teacher Liaison; David James, Superintendent, Akron Public Schools; Jack Loudin, Superintendent, Liberty Center Local Schools; Kirk McMahon, Superintendent, Circleville City Schools; Eric Gordon, Superintendent, Cleveland Metropolitan School District; Mary Ronan, Superintendent, Cincinnati Public Schools; and Christopher DiLoreto, Superintendent, Jackson Local Schools.

JHS students lead county collection effort for area needy

Pastor Berry Carter and Rick Mirezni, co-hosts of the radio show, Akron Canton Connection, 1480 WHBC, visited Dan Michel's Social Studies class and challenged students to collect a truckload of toiletries for distribution to area needy. JHS seniors Katie Degan and Michelle McCann led the charge, using the power of National Honor Societies across the county to rally support for the cause. JHS principal Monica Myers emailed a letter from Katie & Michelle to every principal in Stark County, asking them to encourage their National Honor Societies to join the effort. Over a dozen schools answered the call, helping to fill a 25' U-Haul truck with toiletries (which cannot be bought with food stamps). The girls also made posters, spoke to classmates, and went on the air with Pastor Berry and Mr. Mirezni to broaden the reach and appeal of the project which was called Operation Personal Care.



Helping to load the truck are front from left: Katie Degan, Michelle McCann, Tyrus Jones, Taylor McDaniel, Brennen Mashchak, Karissa Schroeter, Kelly Walters, Noelle Eiser, and Elle Grubb. Back from left are teacher Dan Taray, Brandon Liebau, Ross Batchelder, Nolan Jones, and Pastor Berry Carter.

Mr. Mirezni was impressed. "If Katie and Michelle are any indication of what the future holds, I'll grow old pretty happy," he said, adding "Jackson students in Dan Michel's class understand the importance of giving back to the community. He is a top notch teacher."

The toiletries were delivered to Samaritan's Table at St. John Church, a soup kitchen that feeds over 500 people each week. Over 700 plastic grocery bags were filled and distributed during the holidays.

After the successful toiletry drive was completed, State Representative Christina Hagan visited the JHS students in MR Michel's Social Studies class. Ms. Hagan gave the students a commendation from the Ohio General Assembly and spoke to them about

State Rep. commends JHS students



State Representative Christina Hagan with Dan Michel's Social Studies students after the successful toiletry drive that provided essentials for area needy.

JHS Geek Squad rescues teachers in tech distress

A group of JHS students, who call themselves the Geek Squad, field technology requests such as delivering equipment to classrooms, helping teachers with their Web sites, and fixing minor problems with computers, printers, SmartBoards, and projectors. This frees-up more time for the Technology Department employees to work on more complex software and hardware issues throughout the district. The Squad keeps a written record of every task they complete, and if they cannot fix a problem, a formal request is sent to the Technology Department. Squad members are assigned to the HS library during their study halls and, from there, with the aid of librarian Christina Conti, they field requests as they come in from teachers. Last year during the spring semester, the Squad fulfilled 40 requests in addition to delivering equipment. This semester's Squad includes: Ace Johns, Michael Tack, Brian Tschantz, Nick Carr, and Brittney Lansdale.



Nick Carr works on a teacher's website.

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JHS seniors study and participate in the election process



Taylor Willoughby gives a sticker to a voter.

JHS senior Government students studied the issues before voting in the Nov. 2011 election. If you voted, you may have noticed Jackson students working at the polls. Twelve of our students worked at the following voting locations: Woodlawn Village, Township Hall, McDonaldsville Church, of the Lakes, and Calvary Chapel.



Government students study the issues.

Theater students produce, direct, act, stage entire production

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Theatre class presented *Tartuffe*, the classic 17th century French comedy by the famous playwright, Moliere. It was directed and produced exclusively by students. The students also designed and created the set, and one student created most of the costumes.

IB Theatre is a two-year course that exposes students to theatre around the world through: acting, directing, production, dramaturgy, play writing, and technical theatre.

Tartuffe was the fourth production this school year. Students also presented a One Act Play Festival in January. They will present *Twelfth Night* in March and *You Can't Take It With You* in April.



Students involved in *Tartuffe* were: Brian Bruno, Rachel Mast, Rachel Dew, Casey Lombardo, Josh Houston, Ryan Schwenning, Steven Janson, Curtis Peters, Benjamin Nelson, Madeline Stoffer, Haleigh Kimble, Jillian Kneppshield, Brianne Campbell, Robert Pritchett and Shoshana Weiner. The play was presented in the JHS Little Theatre.

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Jackson students and staff adopted 49 families at Christmas, delivering a holiday meal and gifts for each family member.



Foreign language study made relevant

Brad Ayres, a 1994 graduate of JHS and representative of Santillana USA visited JHS to speak with students who study Spanish. He spoke about the importance of the Spanish language and culture in the business world and for the import/export business. He also spoke about the importance of understanding various dialects and how understanding culture helps in global marketing. Students had an excellent opportunity to communicate about the relevance of their Spanish studies with Beto, Mr. Ayres' Spanish name from Sra. Draggett's class while at JHS.

Rolls Royce works with Jackson students

Gretchen Hull's Earth Science Classes are partnering with Rolls Royce Fuel Cell (Mark Fleiner) and working through a unit on fuel cells. Mr. Fleiner will be coming to JHS with engineers from Rolls Royce in January and February. Students are preparing by doing research and completing pertinent activities. In March, the students and their teacher will travel to Rolls Royce at Stark State for an interactive field trip and tour. Watch for more on this exciting endeavor over the next few months. We will bring you updates via our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/jacksonschools.

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New partnerships raise funds and awareness for Breast Cancer

Jackson Rotary, the JHS Interact Club (the high school version of Rotary) and the Polar Bear Hockey Club joined forces to raise funds for Breast Cancer. The team wore pink jerseys during their game against the Westlake Club. Approximately 250 people attended the event at Center Ice Complex, raising over \$4,000 for the Northeast Ohio District Unit of the American Cancer Society. Patrons bid on the players' jerseys. Winners received a cleaned jersey with their loved one's name printed on the back.

Jackson Rotary liaison Mark Clendenin said, "I'm in my 40's and I've been involved in a great number of groups, committees, and fund-raisers. It wasn't until I became the Jackson Youth Chair and liaison with Jackson Interact Club that I understood a higher calling in life. The students inspire me to reach higher to gain understanding before passing judgment, and to do, just because we should, for no other reason.

"When I brought the idea of Pink The Rink to the Interact Club and the Jackson Hockey Club, the hockey players embraced the idea, even though it would encroach on their senior recognition day, and the Interact team of: Saadia Pervaiz (President), Chris Ifantiedes (VP), Ashley Spangler (Sec), Sean Carlin (Treas), and Kavya Ravishankar (PR) didn't hesitate to take on the task of putting the event together. It's just amazing to work with a group of students that, when faced with a challenging task, find a way to get things done. I'm so very proud of them and their advisor, Pam Tucker. She was the glue that held it all together I'm already looking forward to next year. Go Bears," Mr. Clendenin concluded.



Interact Club members meet to plan the Pink the Rink event. Pictured are: Sean Carlin, Kavya Ravishankar, Rotary representative Mark Clendenin, Chris Ifantiedes, Ashley Spangler, Saadia Perviaz, and advisor Pam Tucker.



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Seniors: Taylor Clendenin, Nolan Jones, Colby Hart, Alex Shepley, Matt McGervey, Paul Wischt, and Aaron Stover.



Student Council

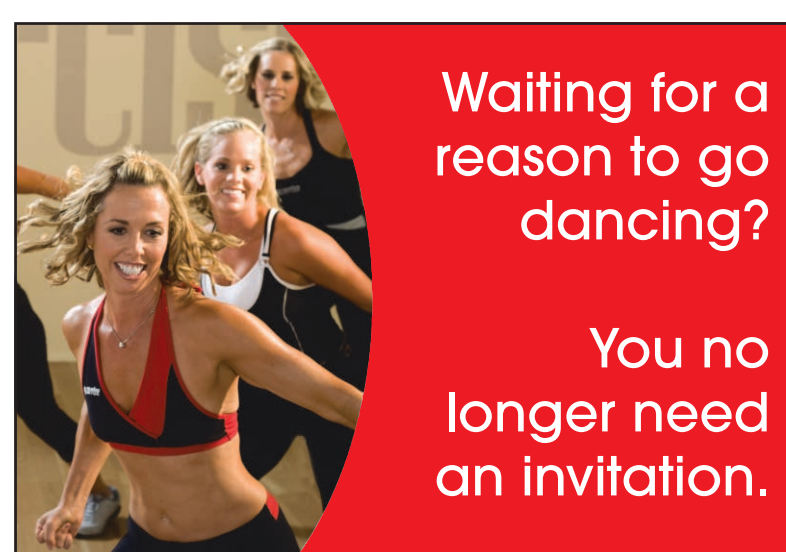
The JHS Student Council Leadership group meets monthly with Principal Monica Myers as her Student Advisory Board. The group is composed of class officers (freshman through senior).

Superintendent Chris DiLoreto, Principal Myers, and Student Council Advisor Becky Arter pose with Council members: (seniors) Karl Xia, Nolan Jones, Ally Furbay, and Jonas Jin; (juniors) Monica Campbell, Siddhant Srivastava, Josh Reed, and Abby Funk; (sophomores) Fuad Farah, Khoa Nguyen, Madison Williams, and Jeff Turner; (freshmen) Jared McCully, Austin Young, Zach Zabło, and Audrey Funk.

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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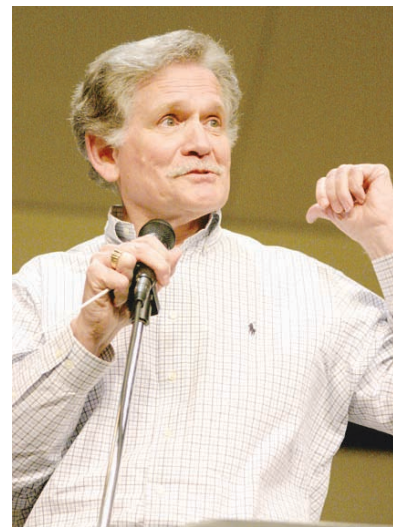


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Middle School



Composer/Director, James Curnow



Bailey Jones and Shelby Werbeck



Maddy Geiser



Morgan Casper



Jackson Crawford and Mitchell Walker



Kyle Tilstra and Daniel Taray

Visiting composer works with JMMS musicians

In December, the JMMS 8th Grade Band performed in an open rehearsal with James Curnow, visiting guest composer. Mr. Curnow is a prolific composer of band music for all age levels. The clinic, funded by the Jackson Band Boosters, gave our students and the audience an opportunity to hear his thoughts about the selections our students performed and the process of composing.

The next evening, the JMMS 8th Grade Band performed at the Ohio Band Director's Convention at the University of Akron Student Union Ballroom. The Convention featured nationally known guest conductors, performers, and educators. It develops, recognizes, and promotes excellence in concert band performances and provides young musicians and their directors with an opportunity to interact and perform.

Photos by Mr. Andrew Robitaille, JMMS technology instructor and yearbook adviser.



Midnight ride comes to JMMS

Mr. Kacy Carter's 8th grade Social Studies students talked, via Skype, with Emily Holmes, Education Director at the Paul Revere House in Boston. The students were able to learn about the museum and ask questions about the famous midnight ride directly to Ms. Holmes from their desks at JMMS.

**Jackson
 Jazz Fest**

Mark your calendar for February 9 at 7 PM when the Jackson Jazz Band will present its 11th annual Jackson Jazz Fest. This year's artist in residence will be Case Western Reserve professor and nationally recognized trombonist/composer Paul Ferguson. Mr. Ferguson will work with our 7th and 8th grade Jazz Ensembles during the school day and perform with the Jackson High School Jazz Ensemble at the evening concert. Tickets are \$5 and available now in the JHS and JMMS main offices as well as from any JHS Jazz Ensemble member.

MORE PICTURES AT www.facebook.com/jacksonschools



JMMS Cheerleaders win in competition

The 7th and 8th grade Jackson Memorial Middle School cheerleaders competed at Hoover High School in November. The team won first place in their division and represented Jackson Local Schools with excellence. The team also won the Best Tumbling Award and the Best Cheer Choreography Award. The fall cheer competition coaches are Miss Amanda Beres, Mrs. Christine Hymes, and Miss Melissa Miller.

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LeBron makes surprise visit to JMMS basketball game

Miami Heat's LeBron James spent the evening at JMMS, watching the 7th & 8th grade girls' basketball games. He also re-connected with the school's principal, Paul Salvano, who was LeBron's high school football coach at St. Vincent-St. Mary in Akron where LeBron was an All-Ohio football player. "LeBron is so down-to-earth, he spent the whole half time signing autographs, shooting with our students, and just being the big kid that he is," said Mr. Salvano. LeBron also attended the games in support of a JMMS student who attends his basketball camp.



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LeBron sat in the bleachers with students and parents then stepped onto the court to shoot baskets with the students.

Grad returns to thank teacher for his skill

2010 grad, Chris Denning, paid a surprise visit to his JHS Spanish teacher, Mrs. Parthena Draggett, with some great Spanish news to share. Chris is a sophomore economics major at the University of Chicago. He said, "Owing to my language skills, I was invited to assist professors Lima and Alvarez from the University of Chicago Economics Department with research regarding the current Spanish debt crisis. My Spanish-speaking abilities allowed me to help collect and interpret primary source data from Spanish government agencies."



Parthena Draggett and Chris Denning

"I am so proud of Chris for using his Spanish skills in his study and research in the field of economics," Mrs. Draggett said.

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Board Meeting Schedule

Feb. 21	Middle School	6:30 PM
Mar. 20	High School	6:30 PM
Apr. 24	High School	6:30 PM
May 22	High School	6:30 PM
June 26	High School	6:00 PM
July 24	High School	6:00 PM
Aug. 28	High School	6:00 PM
Sept. 25	High School	6:30 PM
Oct. 16	Sauder	6:30 PM
Nov. 20	Lake Cable	6:30 PM
Dec. 18	Amherst	6:30 PM

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



Chloe Canterbury and Marissa Fuline.



Garrett Thompson, Andrew Stalnaker, Jacob Jasionowski, and Andrew Hund.

Cookies for Cancer

The Creative Living Classes at JHS held a "Cookies for Kids Cancer" project, raising \$525.86 by baking and selling cookies to classmates. This year, the team also adhered to the healthy cafeteria guidelines set forth by First Lady Michelle Obama, making oatmeal, low fat chocolate chip, and Rice Krispie Bars. "The students did a great job, and I am very proud of their efforts for this worthy cause," said teacher Stephanie Anderson.

On The Banner

P Joey Boord
O Shane Ridgeway
L Ricky Spradling
A Matt Kelly
R Logan Snyder

B Payne Wagner
E Abbie Heck
A Mark Howard
R Nathan Davies

P Emalee Kauth
R Kate Lawrence
I Hannah Harrison
D Allison Antram
E Andi Henry



Autism Peer Group brings friends together

JMMS teachers Natalie Voytek and Kristen Dempsey realized that it takes more than just the adults to assist students on the Autism spectrum. That's why they developed the JMMS Autism Peer Group (APG) now in its 2nd year. APG brings typical students together with students on the Autism spectrum for the purpose of mutual growth. The typical students get to know, understand, and interact with students on the autism spectrum, learning to model appropriate social interactions and helping their peers with autism make corrections when social errors occur. Students on the Autism spectrum gain social acceptance and have opportunities to show their many talents in an arena of friendship and acceptance.

"I really like this group. Autism can make

you feel alienated, but in here we get to understand each other better and make new friends," said Joel McLain. "We get to have group discussions and practice social skills and have a really good time."

"There are advantages to being autistic," said Rebecca Obermeier. "I see things a different way. I'm good at drawing and designing things, and I can picture how things will turn out, kind of like Temple Grandin does."

"We are all finding out that we like a lot of the same things," said Shawn Elliott.

"It's a great way to learn about Autism," said JHS senior Kristen Bader who stops by the after-school meetings to lend a hand. "We all want to be considered equals, regardless of our differences because we *are all* equal on the inside."

Treasurer receives Auditor of State Award

Jackson Local Schools earned the Auditor of State Award based on its recently completed, clean and accurate financial audit. A "clean" report means that the recent, annual financial audit did not contain findings for recovery, material citations, material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, single audit findings, or any questioned costs.



Linda Paris Treasurer, JLS

work being accomplished by this school district with the resources available." Mrs. Paris said, adding, "It is a top-down operation. The Treasurer's Office works closely with the superintendent who has reduced spending and has set a belt-tightening tone.

Mrs. Paris praised her small staff that "pays close attention to details about what is being purchased and protocol is being followed."

"Clean and accurate record-keeping are the foundation for good government, and the taxpayers can take

pride in your commitment to accountability," Auditor of State Dave Yost wrote to Jackson Local Schools Treasurer Linda Paris in a letter.

"It is my job to protect the public's money. I feel obligated to manage the accountability of it to safeguard the outstanding





John McGrath, Eric Johnson, Ken Douglas, Tom Winkhart, Lisa Simon, Scott Gindlesberger, and Dawn Campanelli are pictured with students: Jake Holland, Patrick Martell, Sarah Wade, Dallas Lauper, Ashleigh Neff, J.T. Knoble, Josh Good, Chris Canfield, Elijah Joslyn, and Steven Janson.

Students develop business plans with local professional

Lisa Simon's JHS Junior Business Management class spent a semester working with Eric Johnson, financial advisor at Stifel Nicolaus. As a nine-year volunteer for Junior Achievement (JA), Mr. Johnson delivered JA business lessons to help students develop three business plans, one of which will be submitted to the Massillon Chamber of Commerce's local high school competition in February.

At no cost to the school districts, JA empowers young people to own their economic success. Its volunteer-delivered, K-12 programs foster work-readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy skills, and use experiential learning to inspire kids to dream big and reach their potential in the 21st-century global marketplace.

Mrs. Simon's students divided into three groups to develop three business plans. Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Simon instructed students on ways to identify a need, choose a product or service, crunch the numbers, and reach customers through marketing.

The completed business plans were presented to a preliminary panel of judges who would select the one most viable to be submitted to the Chamber contest. The judges were Jackson Local School Board members Tom Winkhart, Ken Douglas and Scott Gindlesberger. Also on hand to hear the

presentations were Dawn Campanelli, President of Junior Achievement of East Central Ohio, and John McGrath, Vice President of the Massillon Chamber of Commerce, in charge of the Business Education Advisory Committee.

The panel selected the student plan which proposed the creation of hydrogen power for vehicles. The entire class is now working on formalizing and finalizing that plan. They will develop mission, vision, values statements, SWOT analysis, competition, and price points. They will also appoint a CEO, COO and CFO, and CMO before submitting their plan.

"It's very gratifying to be in a classroom with these students," Mr. Johnson said. "They are curious. They want to learn, and they want to make a difference in the world. JA connects students to the real world."

"My students have entrepreneurship," Mrs. Simon said.

"Our Economy is screaming for entrepreneurs, and Stark County wants to keep these great kids in our community," said Mrs. Campanelli.

The JA goal is to teach 11,000 Stark County students. That's about 500 classes. The organization is currently teaching 478 classes.

Notes on next year's school calendar

Next year's calendar is very close to being a county wide calendar. School will start a week earlier (Aug. 21) and will end a week earlier (May 23). Superintendent DiLoreto met with superintendents from Lake, North Canton, and Plain to coordinate spring breaks and start/end dates that would create greater efficiency in transportation and energy use and also offer students and teachers up to eight days of extra instruction time before the Ohio Achievement Assessments and Ohio Graduation Test tests.

Because Jackson Local is required by state law to transport all of the township's children to their various schools, (currently, 30 buildings in and outside of Jackson Township, including our six buildings). It makes sense to coordinate as many dates as possible county wide, otherwise, we have to engage our bus fleet to deliver students, even when Jackson Local students are not in school.

When school ends in May, Jackson moves to a 4-day, 10-hour week for its year-round employees so that cooling systems can be shut down over a three-day period (Fri., Sat. Sun), reducing energy consumption significantly.

We will continue to work at refining this process in the interest of saving tax dollars and wisely using instruction days.

2011-12 School Calendar

Feb.	2	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12) 4:30-7:30 PM
	8	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12) 4:30-7:30 PM
	17	Teacher In-service No School - (K-12)
	20	Presidents' Day - No School (K-12)
March	2	Speech Debate State Tournament-No School (K-12)
	23	End 3rd 9 weeks
	26	Spring Break Begins
April	2	Classes Resume
	6	No School - (K-12)
May	28	Memorial Day-No School (K-12)
June	6	Last Day for Students & Staff



2012-13 School Calendar

Aug.	14	Gr.6 New Student Orientation/Open House 6:00-8:30 PM
	14	Gr 9 / New Student Orientation A-M - 7PM
	15	Gr 9 / New Student Orientation N-Z - 7PM
	16	Open House - All Elementaries - 4:30 PM
	21	1st day Students (K-12)
	31	Waiver Day - No School (K-12)
Sept.	3	Labor Day - No School (K-12)
	4	Open House JMMS Last Name A-M 6:30-7:30 PM Last Name N-Z 7:30-8:30 PM
	12	Open House High School 6:30-8:30 PM
Oct.	8	Columbus Day - No School (K-12)
	9	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5) 4-8 PM
	11	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5) 4-8 PM
	11	Parent/Teacher Conferences (Gr 6-12) 4:30-7:30 PM
	17	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5) 4-8 PM
	17	Parent/Teacher Conferences (Gr 6-12) 4:30-7:30 PM
	26	End 1st 9 weeks - 46 days
Nov.	21	No School - Waiver Exchange Day (K-12)
	21	Thanksgiving Break Begins
	27	Classes Resume
Dec.	24	Winter Break Begins
Jan.	2	No School
	3	Classes Resume
	11	End 2nd 9 weeks - 43 days
	21	Martin Luther King Day - No School (K-12)
Feb.	5	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12) 4:30-7:30
	13	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-12) 4:30-7:30
	15	Waiver Day - No School (K-12)
	18	Presidents' Day - No School (K-12)
Mar.	22	End 3rd 9 weeks - 47 days
	25	Spring Break Begins
April	1	Classes Resume
May	23	Last Day for Students & Staff

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



Snow Day Information

There are two types of weather-related changes that can be made to the school day.

- All Day Closing**
- Two-Hour Delayed Start**

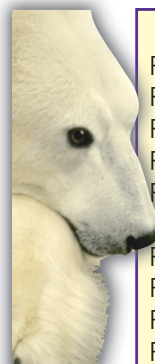
In either event, you will be notified by Superintendent DiLoreto via a phone call to each number that you have listed with the school. That call will come before 6 AM. You may also listen to WHBC Radio, or check our Web site at <http://jackson.stark.k12.oh.us>.

In the event of a delayed start, please see the bell schedules at right, or visit the school Web site for more information. Click on Emergency Delayed Start Information under the Parents Tab.

Elementary students and their parents are not impacted by delayed start. Their starting time remains the same.

End-of-school-day dismissal time for all students remains the same.

After school events may still take place. Please check our Web site for ongoing updates.




Middle School

Period 1	9:45-10:08
Period 2	10:13-10:36
Period 3	10:41-11:04
Period 4	11:09-11:34
Period 5	11:39-12:04
Period 6	12:09-12:34
Period 7	12:39-1:04
Period 8	1:09-1:34
Period 9	1:39-2:02
Period 10	2:07-2:30

High School

Homeroom	10 - 10:08
Period 1	10:11-10:31
Period 2	10:34-10:54
Period 3	10:57-11:17
Period 4	11:20-11:40
Period 5	11:43-12:09
Period 6	12:12-12:38
Period 7	12:41-1:07
Period 8	1:10-1:36
Period 9	1:39-2:04
Period 10	2:07-2:27
Period 11	2:30-2:50



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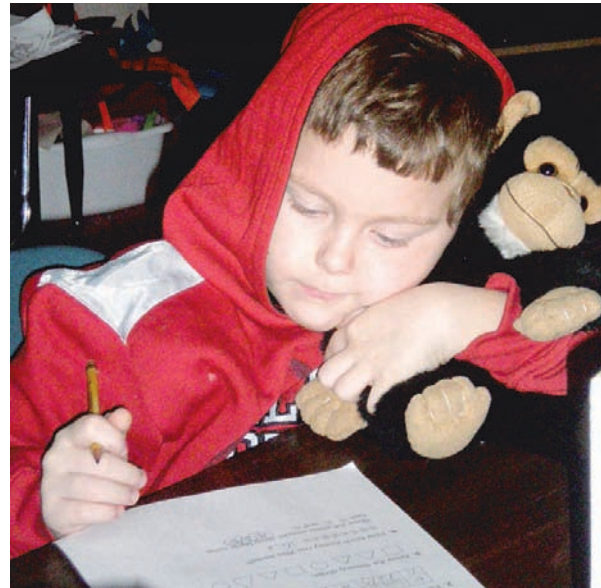
Learning to write sentences

Second graders Dante Weisser, NaMya Glover and Makayla Anderson show Miss Storch their sentence strips during Polar Time. Students write sentences that are dictated to them on the sentence strip using the correct mechanics.



Planet Exploration

Amherst 5th graders in Mrs. Brown's class compared the relative sizes of the planets by creating their diameters with marshmallows. Pictured are: Jonathan Uhl (front left) and Tara Johnson (front right). In the back are: Paige Brechtel, Audrey Yoder, Aaron Juergensen, Paul Lambo, Alexis Dretke, Desirae Webster, and Derrick Siu.



Monkeys are so smart

Amherst student Aidan Shollenberger takes a test with the help of a monkey. Aidan says the monkey helps him concentrate.



Jayvier Herring, Brooke Squibbs, and Cole Bolon.

Warm Snowmen

Miss Young's Amherst kindergarten class spent a bit of time squirting shaving cream onto paper and smearing it into the shape of snowmen. Lots of fun and very creative!



Ceremony kicks off walking track construction at Amherst

A dedication ceremony was held to mark the beginning of construction on Amherst's new school/community walking track. Building Principal Elaine Ferguson and two fifth graders (Ellie Mizener and Alex Roudebush) helped to cut the ribbon and break ground. The monies for this track were raised over the past few years during the school's Bears Being Fit Run and Walk-a-Thons. The dedication program was run and sponsored by the Amherst PTO.

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Lake Cable students care for hospitalized kids

The Lake Cable Student Council members campaigned throughout their school for donations to the children on the oncology floor at Akron Children's Hospital. They collected items such as stickers, coloring books, markers, crayons, character band-aids, crafts, books, and pencils.

"We hope this brought a little smile to all those children, during a not so happy time in their young lives," said parent volunteer Dawn Yaccano.

The Lake Cable Student Council has 20 members who meet twice each month. The group is advised by teachers Jordan Parks and Jaime Shively.

"Our Student Council is a hard-working group of kids who are always looking for projects that will help the community," said Mr. Parks.



Pictured are Jessie Kasper, Alicia Yacono, Kristen Perez, and Chad Yacono who helped deliver the items to the hospital.

Soldier/Counselor visits Lake Cable kindergarten

Ohio National Guard member, SFC Kellie Feciuch, visited Lake Cable students in Mrs. Shearer's Kindergarten class at Lake Cable Elementary. She used a luminating globe to show the students her journey from the U.S. to the Middle East. In the military, she worked on Hum-Vees as a wheel mechanic and also worked on other military vehicles.



SFC Feciuch uses a luminating globe to show Mrs. Shearer's kindergarten class her journey from the U.S. to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mrs. Feciuch had students march to a military cadence.

Mama Mama can't you see, what this army's done to me. They took away my faded jeans, and now

I'm wearing Army greens, Ain't no use in lookin' down, there ain't nothin' on the ground. Your left, your right, your out of sight,

Your left, your right, your dynamite.

After two tours of duty in Afghanistan (2003) and Iraq (2008-2009), Mrs. Feciuch enrolled at the University of Akron and is doing a simultaneous internship with Jackson Local Schools (as a guidance counselor) and Quest Recovery Services (as a clinical counselor). She will complete both programs by the end of this school year.

Mrs. Feciuch will complete her service of 20 years in the Army on January 6, 2016.

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Making Gingerbread Houses

Mrs. Milligan's and Mrs. Shimek's 3rd grade classes at Lake Cable made gingerbread houses.



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Sauder Elementary



Native American Projects

Sauder 4th graders display their Native American projects after learning about Paleo and Archaic Indians, the first to settle in Ohio. Projects included coup sticks, burden baskets, cradleboards, drums, rattles, fancy dance bustles, wigwams, longhouses, and various games like throw sticks and dice games. Pictured front from left are: Madison Canterbury, Anna Darrah, Brooke Fribley, and Lauren Redmond. Back: Madison Powell, Abram Sykora, Jennifer Medley, Ryan Rofe and Grace Dunn.



Feast of Gratitude

Sauder Kindergarten parents provided a delicious Thanksgiving feast for the children. Many parents stayed to help serve the students. The students made special headbands to wear to their feast. "Sauder is so lucky to have such supportive and wonderful parents," said teacher Marie Wenning.



I have so much; please give my share to another child

Sauder students in Tiffany Adkins' 3rd grade class decided not to exchange gifts with their classmates this Christmas. Instead, they used the funds to purchase hats, gloves, scarves, and food for children who will benefit from Canton Calvary Mission's Backpack Program which puts food items in children's backpacks on Fridays, so they are sure to have something to eat over the weekend. If you'd like to learn more about Canton Calvary Mission, visit: <http://www.cantoncalvarymission.net/416184>.



Love of animals leads to contest victory

"I love animals," said Cessily Crain, a Sauder 5th grader who fosters kittens. For the past three years, she has cared for nearly 100 kittens before they were placed with families. Cessily names each kitten and photographs them, "So I can remember them," she said, adding, "When they are adopted I feel happy because I helped to socialize them." Some kittens are underweight, and they hiss a lot at first, but after a few weeks with Cessily and her sister Olivia, they plump up and start purring. After dressing Aubrey-Kitty in a Webkins outfit, Cessily snapped a picture and entered it in the Jackson Branch Library Photo Contest where she won 3rd place, but her real prize is the purr. "It means they are really happy," she said.

MORE PICTURES AT www.facebook.com/jacksonschools

Good morning Strausser students

Two of Strausser's Cub Council Members: Sabrina Maghes (left) and Zhanri Desphy assist the Cub Council advisor Mrs. Neff



(not shown) with the daily morning announcements. Morning announcements consist of a daily character word or reading for students to reflect upon (topics such as friendship or bullying), student and teacher congratulations for accomplishments, and end with the entire school saying the Pledge of Allegiance which is led by Students of the Month.



Brainy Boys & Girls

JHS juniors from Mrs. Yale's psychology class wrote and illustrated books to teach Lake Cable 3rd grade students in Mrs. Geisberger's class about the brain.



Megan Molnar and her father. Behind is Ava DuPlain and her mother.

Pumpkins and Parents

In October, Sauder kindergarten students and their parents painted pumpkins together at school. Because of the monster theme the students had been using in their reading and math activities, they painted their pumpkins bright colors and added decorations to make them into monsters.



Max Moll with his Frankenstein.

Crowning Achievement

Strausser 3rd graders in Amy Walker's class read the book *Magic Tree House Knight at Dawn*, then learned about the five parts of a letter. They stained plain white paper with tea, then crumbled it and tore the edges to make it look old. Next, they used the paper to write a friendly letter to one of the characters in the book. Later, students read about castles and knights and concluded their study by making paper crowns.



Kind Kids forgo Christmas gifts

Instead of holding the traditional Christmas gift exchange, Strausser students elected to forgo the gifts and bring in the money for charity. Each grade level chose a charity. Representatives of each charity attended the school's holiday concerts where they gratefully received the checks. Kindergarten chose the Humane Society of Stark County. 1st grade chose Akron Women's Shelter. 2nd grade chose St. Nicholas Returns Project. 3rd grade chose Canton YMCA. 4th grade chose Stark County Hunger Task Force. 5th grade chose Pegasus Farms.

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Sports

Athletic Signing



Senior, Jeff Edwards, signed a national letter of intent and will continue his baseball career at Valparaiso University. Jeff is a three-year starting shortstop who helped the Polar Bears to a Federal League Championship in 2010.

Jeff is pictured with his coach Bill Gamble, and his parents Jeff Sr. and Renee.

THINK SPRING

Check out Polar Bear Baseball at www.jdcbaseball.org and the Diamond Club's banner fund-raising campaign. It is their second-largest fund-raiser for all three JHS baseball teams, providing summer ball opportunities for 40 boys and uniforms for both seasons.

Athletic Signing



Senior Ally Furbay signed a National Letter of Intent to continue her Lacrosse career at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA. Ally is a 4-year letter winner and was a team captain last year. She was selected twice for the Great Lakes National team and traveled to Maryland to represent the region's best lacrosse players in the National Tournament. Ally was named to the Division I Ohio North first team last year and was one of a handful of student athletes named to the All-Ohio second team. She has had the opportunity to travel and play with some of the country's best lacrosse players. Ally is also a talented volleyball player.

Ally is pictured with her coach Allison Schuring, and her parents Tim and Jean.

MORE FROM THE JHS CLASSROOM

Costa Rican students visit

Four exchange students from Costa Rica spent three weeks in the USA with our students, in our classrooms, and living with host families, then traveling to Disney World before returning to their country. This made for many opportunities to speak each other's language and to make comparisons between Costa Rica and the United States.



JHS students Karl Xia and Perry Billett invited the group to play a friendly game of soccer with their friends at the Dome and learned that there are differences in strategies and the way each other plays the game. "It was a great opportunity for cultural exchange and to extend some Spanish conversation in a realistic setting," said JHS Spanish teacher Parthena Draggett. Visiting student Daniel Felipe Fonseca López was hosted by Jamie Howie. Ever Eduardo Duarte Bustos was hosted by Linsey Grzeschik. Juan Pablo Gómez Naranjo was hosted by Emily and Anthony Rozmajzl, and Andrés Juárez Báez was hosted by Shanel O'Connor.

National French Week celebrated at Jackson High

Students in Vassa Delis-Parker's and Denise Harper's French classes celebrated National French Week. They created posters highlighting French culture and language, enjoyed French music, shared French poetry, and researched French companies in Ohio and throughout the world. For extra fun, students decorated friends' lockers and prepared French foods, which they shared with one another.



MORE PICTURES AT www.facebook.com/jacksonschools

Cory Irwin, autism's perfectly awesome ambassador

Cory Irwin, a JHS senior, was diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome when he was in 2nd grade, but he has consistently risen above the challenging diagnosis to become a highly successful student.

"On my good days, I am jolly, witty, optimistic, empathetic and diplomatic," Cory said. "On my bad days, I am indecisive, vane, closed-minded, maybe selfish, and can say things I don't mean."

Asperger Syndrome can involve mild to severe impairments in socialization, communication, cognition and sensation.

"Socially, I'm a work in progress," Cory said. "Flub-ups stack up sometimes."

When they do, Cory is quick to apologize and make amends. He told of an incident where he hurt someone's feelings because of an unfiltered remark he made. "But the person let me apologize and say what I really meant," Cory said.

That willingness to look squarely at his weaknesses has caused Cory to truly understand himself. "I am wired a different way, and I don't think people should be ashamed of who they are," he said.

Last spring, Cory was chosen to attend a youth leadership forum sponsored by the Governor's Council for People



With Disabilities, a four-day conference in Columbus. He returned from the conference with eyes wide open to the variety of challenges that students with special needs face, many even more challenging than his own. "I met people who were happy and productive despite their difficulties," he said.

Cory's message to young people with a disability is, "Don't feel ashamed of who you are and don't keep it a secret."

Because he wants to succeed, he is open about his condition. So open that he and his parents developed a Cory Irwin Operator's Manual—tips for his

teachers on ways to handle Cory-quirks. The manual seems to be working. Cory

recently earned his Eagle badge after transferring more than 200 videotapes to DVD for the MAPS Air Museum in North Canton.

Last June, he was sponsored by the Massillon American Legion Post #221 as a delegate to the 75th Annual Buckeye Boys State Conference. He is a member of the undefeated JHS Academic Challenge Team and has participated in a number of JHS theatrical productions. Last June, Cory was sponsored by the Massillon American Legion Post #221 as a delegate to the 75th Annual Buckeye Boys State Conference.

In addition to Cory's self acceptance, he said that a large part of his success is, "People have never given up on me."

He speaks of his father's constant support and encouragement in the Boy Scout program. "My father is a big part of why I earned my Eagle Award," Cory said. "He kicked my butt to the very end

nature, always there 100%," he said. "She monitors and guides my social situations and busts my chops when I need it. If the whole world boos me, she is there applauding. My greatest critic and biggest supporter. I am definitely a mama's boy.

He speaks highly of his JHS teachers, especially Mrs. Christine McKay who Cory said, "is always trying to find ways to feed me math. It is not my strong suit, but I will always practice it." His strong suit is history. Cory has lost track of the number of history books he has read and museums he has visited.

He is active and involved at school. His teachers say he is determined in his school work and respected by his classmates for his vast knowledge of history.

"He's a remarkable kid who, in his own words, 'Makes autism work for me, not against me.'" said his mother, Stephanie.

Cory has received a generous academic scholarship to Walsh University where he will work on a double major in Museum Science and education with a minor in history or political science.

"I want to do something that people will remember long after I am food for the worms," he said.

"I am wired a different way, and I don't think people should be ashamed of who they are."

—Cory Irwin, JHS Senior

Jacks-N-Jills thrill elementary students

The Jacks-N-Jills conducted their annual Christmas Caroling Tour of our elementary and middle school buildings, performing songs of the season. Our youngsters are thrilled when JHS students visit them, and we are proud of the fine examples the older students set for the younger ones. This visit had parents reporting that their children brought the enthusiasm home. "What did you do in school today?" was not met with the usual, "Nothing." Instead, several children told their parents they wanted to be in Jacks-N-Jills someday.

The Jacks-N-Jills also performed 21 times throughout the community at nursing homes, area businesses, Light Up Downtown, Jackson Parks Tree



Photo by parent, Amy Mast.

Lighting Celebration, private parties, the YMCA Breakfast With Santa Claus, and the Holiday Tree Festival in Akron.

2011-12 marks 50 years for what started as an all-girls group called the Jackson Jills.

Later when boys joined the group, the name changed to include them. For the past 24 years, the group has operated under the direction of Fred Locker. Prior to Mr. Locker, directors included Alexander Lewis, Richard McMullen

(deceased), William Sample (deceased), Lauren Veigel (now director of VOCl), and Basil Kochan (now a director at Copley High School). Retired Jackson teacher, Penny McMullen was one of the group's first singers.

Brick Fundraiser

The Jackson Mama Bears are selling bricks for the new entrance at Fife Stadium for \$100 for individuals and oversized bricks to individuals or businesses for \$300. Please visit www.jacksonturf.org for more information.

A+ Are we making the grade? You be the judge!
Stop by for lunch at the **Bear's Den Cafe'**



Jackson High School's Culinary Arts Program

Fresh Wraps • Salads • Sandwiches

Great Prices!

Open to the public

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 11:00 – 1:30

Separate entrance outside the front of Jackson High School



Soldiers at School

Sauder 3rd graders Clay Shirey and Julia Mikulla are proud to stand with their soldier fathers. Mr. Wade Mikulla and Mr. James Shirey spoke to Tiffany Adkins' 3rd graders on Veteran's Day. Mr. Shirey is currently training and will be deployed to Afghanistan.



Gingerbread for Senior Citizens

A group of Strausser second grade students, with their parents and teachers (Megan Seeley, Michelle Lancy, Emily Bryte, Scott Morton, and Paula Mohr) made an after-school visit to the residents at Gaslite Villa just before Christmas. They sang Christmas Carols and delivered 25 gingerbread houses made in class by the Strausser 2nd graders. You can imagine the delight expressed by the Gaslite Villa staff and residents and the warmth felt in the hearts of our staff and student visitors.



Flowers for Senior Citizens

The Jackson High School FFA group delivered mums to the residents at Altercare of Noble's Pond and Roselane. This was a community service project chosen by the students.

ALL ABOARD



Thomas Chevalier and the Conductor.



The Polar Express conductor came to Strausser Elementary and punched the golden ticket for Mrs. Mazzocca's class, then walked to each of the classrooms and called, "All aboard."

The conductor was Mrs. Mazzocca's daughter, Vivian.



Lily Wahl and the Conductor.



Taylor May



Megan Ferguson

Gingerbread architects earn culinary scholarships

Jackson culinary students Taylor May and Megan Ferguson took first and second place, the only two prizes, in the annual Gasser Jewelers Gingerbread House Scholarship Contest. Each won \$500 to be used at the culinary school of their choice. Taylor's house took 80 hours to construct. Details like a cat made from a caramel, a sugar-wafer roof and a fully decorated tree inside the house made it a sure winner.

Megan's house took 48 hours to construct using fondant for porch columns, sour sugar strips for the sidewalk, and royal icing snow and icicles that shimmered with edible pearl dust.

In the fall, Taylor will attend Sullivan University's culinary school, and Megan will attend Oklahoma State. Both girls are in the Culinary Program at JHS. The houses are on display in the Bear's Den Restaurant at the high school. Stop by for lunch or a business meeting and meet our fine student chefs and waiters.

A+

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