

# POLAR BEAR PRIDE

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## From the Superintendent

**Keeping the Main Thing, the Main Thing**  
Student Achievement • Resource Management • Communication & Collaboration  
CHRIS DILORETO, SUPERINTENDENT

### ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST BRINGS THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER

I hope you were able to attend our Unity in the Community Pancake Breakfast and Health Fair last month. For the past six years, this outstanding event has brought all age groups in our community together for a morning of visiting with one another, learning about health trends, and the pure enjoyment of a stack of pancakes with a side of sausage.

This year's breakfast was bigger and better than ever. We served about 7,500 pancakes to approximately 2,500 guests. Our cafeteria ladies began mixing batter the evening before the event and arrived at 5 AM on breakfast day to begin flipping the flapjacks and sizzling the sausage. Many volunteers from our staff and the community volunteered countless hours.



**Event originators: Jennifer Herold, Susie Gindlesberger, and Janelle Winkhart.**

I want to offer a special note of thanks to three women who are instrumental in making this event a yearly success. They are Susie Gindlesberger, Jennifer Herold, and Janelle Winkhart. Their original vision was to simply bring the community together for a morning of unity. These three ladies, with their enthusiasm and hard work, have inspired 500 students, staff and community volunteers to roll up their shirtsleeves and take part in this event.

The breakfast raises some funds, which are channeled right back to our students in the form of scholarships and essentials for students in need. These funds are made possible by the area vendors who donate all of the necessary items for the event. They are: Buehler's, Chick-Fil-A, Dairy Enterprises, Gordon Food Service,



**Continued on page 3**

## All 6 Jackson cafeterias win Food Excellence Award

The Stark County Health Department has awarded all six of our school cafeterias the Grade A Food Excellence Award for the highest level of commitment to food safety and sanitation. This award not only requires a track record of good sanitation, but also emphasizes the ability of the operation to educate its employees in food safety.

"The cafeteria staff at Jackson Local has demonstrated superior knowledge of food safety regulations. Thank you for taking food safety and sanitation to an excellent level," wrote Health Commissioner Kirkland K. Norris to Jackson Local's Food service Director, Marsha Escola.

"I am proud of our food service staff for their dedication to creating a safe and enjoyable experience for the children. I believe parents would expect no less from their top-rated school system," said Mrs. Escola. "We really guard our children, paying strict attention to cleanliness, food temperatures and preparation standards. We also work to keep lunch prices low and food quality high, constantly trying new items with reduced fats and adding more whole grains and more fresh fruits and vegetables."

The Food Service Department now serves double the amount of fresh, whole foods than it did just two years ago. This is a challenge, as fresh and whole costs more than canned and boxed, but it provides important nutrients for our students.



**Lunch Prices STILL ONLY**  
\$2.50 - JHS / JMMS  
\$2.35 - Elementary

## Nationally traveled Jackson Band about to become international sensation

Jackson's Marching Polar Bears have accepted a very special invitation to perform for their sister school in China. The students will travel to Beijing and Jiazhou, China over spring break in March of 2014.

In 2010, leaders from Jiaozhou No. 1 High School in Qingdao, China came to America to visit JHS. During the visit, the administrators from Jiaozhou were incredibly impressed with the Jackson Band Program. Because of the superior quality of the musicians in the Jackson High School Bands, the program received an official invitation from the leaders in Qingdao to experience an unprecedented opportunity for global education and performance in China.

**You can help the students get there.**

The students are actively raising funds for the trip, as no

**See BAND on back page**



**Purple Army during HOF halftime show.**

Photo by Scott Heckel, courtesy The Repository.



# Mercy Health Center and **STATCARE** of Jackson

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# FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Continued from page 1

Huntington Bank, J.M. Smucker Company, M-Creative Multi-Media, McDonald's Cicchini Enterprises, Miday's Nursery, Omni Orthopaedics, Sonic America's Drive-In, Starbucks of Noble's Pond, and The Shack.

Our guests also had the opportunity to visit 46 health fair vendors. They could get a chair massage, sample nutritional drinks and snacks, learn about local health agencies, have their vision screened, get a flu shot, sign up for fitness programs.

With complete gratitude for those who make this event so successful, I can't help mentioning a few ways in which our students participated.

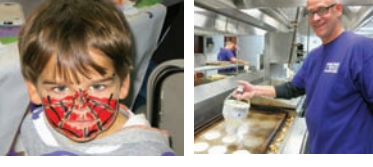
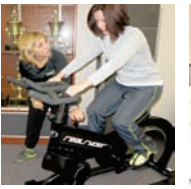
Our elementary students decorated every placemat with pictures and words about what they are grateful for in our community. This is always a crowd pleaser.

Our special needs students baked dog treats from natural ingredients and sold them to benefit Wags for Warriors, a program that pairs service dogs with injured soldiers of the Iraq/Afghanistan Wars. You can read about the program on page nine of this edition of Polar Bear Pride.

Our ISA students decorated the high school's front sidewalks with chalk and invited the public to join the fun.

Our Steel Drum Band entertained the crowd with Caribbean music.

Also volunteering in multiple capacities were students from our athletic teams (Wrestling, Boys and Girls Basketball, Boys and Girls Swimming, Baseball, Girls Softball), Key Club, Interact Club, IAGS, and Culinary Arts students.





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**Did You Know?**

*Jackson High School students interested in dance, drama, instrumental music, visual art, and vocal music can participate in Jackson School for the Arts. We call it JSA. These students experience all four of their high school years immersed in the arts.*

**JSA student Casey Murray is an Off Broadway star**

Jackson High School junior in the JSA (Jackson School for the Arts) program, Casey Murray, spent August and September in New York City, preparing for and starring in the award-winning Off Broadway musical, McGoldrick's Thread. The show opened to rave reviews from audiences and critics. Casey even got a positive mention from New York Times critic Ken Jaworowski who said she has an appealing stage presence, a gentle and pleasing singing voice and energetic dancing.

A 4.0 student, Casey was still required to complete her school assignments, even though she was putting in 12-hour days at the theater. Her JSA teachers emailed her lessons, and she did the same with her homework. In addition, some lessons were provided via Skype.



**Dancing with the pros**

JSA advanced dancers were invited by the University of Akron's Dance Department to learn from BalletX. This international dance company from Philadelphia combines the poetic fluidity of ballet with the movement of modern dance. Our students were privileged to be invited to dance with them when BalletX was in town to perform at E J Thomas Hall. These and similar artistic opportunities are made possible to students in Jackson's School for the Arts, a school within Jackson High School.



**President McKinley visits JHS students**

Sophomore American History students had the opportunity to meet and speak with the 25th president of the United States. McKinley impersonator Chris Kenney is the director of education at the William McKinley Presidential Museum. He has written two books about the president from Canton, Ohio – *The McKinley Monument: A Tribute to a Fallen President*, and *The William McKinley Presidential Library and Museum*.

Mr. Kenney told the students little-known facts about the president, bringing him to life in a more human, less textbook way. Did you know: McKinley had a parrot named Washington Post who could whistle to the tune of Yankee Doodle.



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

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## Big bears read to little bears

Jackson High School football players traveled to Strausser to read books to the students. Coach Balderson was the mystery reader Mrs. Megan Seeley's kindergarten classroom, thrilling the young learners. The first graders were so excited to encounter these celebrities that some even requested autographs.



Breakfast together in the Bear's Den Restaurant.

## Welcome to JHS

Forty-three students (new to Jackson) in grades 10-12 attended the New Student Breakfast on September 19 in the high school's Bear's Den Restaurant. Student ambassadors, counselors, and administration met with the students to familiarize them with their outstanding high school and welcome them to our student family.



Working in the shrub bed in Jackson's North Park.

## Hort students beautify school and community

JHS Horticulture students have been busily working in the community. They have done some landscaping at the high school, for local residents, and at the Jackson Parks. Some of their tasks include pruning, trimming, edging, and installing a paver patio.



## Jackson's National Merit Semifinalists

Samuel Sutton, Abigail Lyall, and Abhishek Bhargava have been selected as semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Approximately 1.5 million juniors in more than 22,000 high schools across the country entered the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2012 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, which serves as an initial screening of program entrants. The nationwide pool of 16,000 semifinalists—representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors—includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state.



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# Welcome to the Middle School

A group of 8th grade mentors guided the new 6th graders through their first day of school at JMMS. The new students and their mentors participated in class and community building activities such as individual and group sharing, characteristic bingo, learning and performing community cheers, learning about 6th grade camp, hearing from their principal, and playing games in the football stadium. The mentors helped prepare all of the activities and had even written and delivered personalized notes to each of the 6th graders.

Middle School



## Perfect Season

Congratulations to coach Samantha Hubbard and her team for winning the 8th grade Federal League Volleyball Tournament and ending the season with a record of 20-0. Go Bears!

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# Peace takes flight at JMMS

Annually, on September 21, Peace Day is observed around the world with special activities, festivals, concerts, moments of silence at noon in every time zone, and much more. Jackson Memorial Middle School students joined the peace wave this year by creating a piece of public art for their school. Art teacher, Lisa Ayres Surber, provided a variety of paper butterflies for students to color. She then applied hundreds of them to a large, wooden peace symbol in the style of artist David Kracov. The finished piece is displayed prominently at the school.

"This project brought together all ages of students, families and teachers to promote peace in our school and community through a collaborative art installation. We hope this work serves as a daily reminder to consider peace in all we do," said Mrs. Surber.

In 1981, the United Nations General Assembly, by unanimous vote, established the International Day of Peace, "...to devote a specific time to concentrate the efforts of the whole of mankind to promoting the ideals of peace and to giving positive evidence of commitment to peace in all viable ways." The first Peace Day was celebrated in September 1982.



Students wrote personal pledges for peace in their school, life, and world.

## FACEBOOK ALERT

Some of you may be missing out on our daily posts. Apparently, Facebook now sorts what goes into your feed based on what you have liked in the past. If you'd like to continue receiving information from us, please click the LIKE button occasionally on something we post. You can also go to your FRIENDS SETTINGS and make us one of your close friends. In addition to our daily posts, each Thursday, we post FLYERS FROM SCHOOL as a reference for upcoming events, and twice each week we post athletic notes. Thanks for your support.

**Jackson Local now has over 5,300 Facebook Fans**



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### JACKSON LOCAL SCHOOLS

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## DELAYED START SCHEDULE

Because staff and student safety is a priority, the district may need to delay the start of the school day because of a weather-related emergency. If so, the following schedule will be used unless otherwise notified.

- **Elementary students and their parents would not be impacted. Their starting time remains the same if the school day is delayed.**
- **Period 0 at JHS will be cancelled.**
- **Alert Now calls to cancel school go out between 5:30 and 6 AM.**
- **End of school day dismissal times would remain the same for all students.**

JHS DELAYED START	
Period 0	Cancelled
Period 1	9:40-10:16
Period 2	10:21-10:53
Period 3	10:58-11:30
Period 4	11:35-12:07
Period 5	12:12-12:44
Period 6	12:49-1:21
Period 7	1:26-1:58
Period 8	2:03-2:35

JMMS DELAYED START	
Homeroom	10:00-10:08
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

December	
3	Classes Resume
23	Winter Break Begins
January	
6	Classes Resume
10	<b>End 2nd 9 weeks - 41 days</b>
17	Waiver Day - No School (K-12)
20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School (K-12)
February	
12	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5) 4:30-7:30 PM
12	Parent/Teacher Conferences (Gr 6-12) 4:30-7:30 PM
14	Waiver Day - No School (K-12)
17	Presidents' Day - No School (K-12)
20	Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5) 4-8 PM
20	Parent/Teacher Conferences (Gr 6-12) 4:30-7:30 PM
March	
21	<b>End 3rd 9 weeks - 46 days</b>
24	Spring Break Begins
31	Classes Resume
April	
18	Exchange for Parent/Teacher Conferences No School (K-12)
May	
26	Memorial Day - No School (K-12)
29	Last Day for Students & Staff
29	<b>End 4th 9 weeks - 42 days</b>

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



## Your Board of Education



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## Board Meeting Schedule

November 19 ..... Lake Cable Elementary .....6:00 p.m.

December 17 ..... Amherst Elementary .....6:00 p.m.

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

# Character counts in Stark County

Annually, in October, Character Counts of Stark County sponsors a reception to present awards to outstanding Stark County school employees. This award is given to one individual from every public school in Stark County, each of whom exemplify the six pillars of character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.

**Meet this year's people of outstanding character, as described by the staff in their buildings.**

### Amherst Elementary Kathy Roberts

Kathy Roberts, our administrative assistant, is an excellent example of a Person of Character. She greets all visitors with a smile and goes the extra mile to help them out. She shows deep compassion and love for the children. Kathy is there to lend an ear, get people to smile when they are down, and give sound advice when asked. The children, parents, and staff are truly blessed to have Kathy Roberts at Amherst.

### Lake Cable Elementary Dave Maurer

Dave Maurer has been an asset to Lake Cable for 17 years. As a custodian, he completes his work with great care. However, his contribution to the school extends beyond his important work as a custodian. Each day, he assists with student dismissal, and he frequently escorts staff members across the dark parking lot in the evening. Dave is also quick to offer encouraging words to students and staff. He truly is an outstanding example of high character.

### Sauder Elementary Cheri Kress

As our school secretary, Cheri Kress is truly a saint. She serves as the front line greeter to our building as hundreds of students and parents pass through our doors. Cheri is extremely dedicated, patient, and kind. She



**From left are: Dave Maurer, Marian Beresh, Chris Davis, Kathy Roberts, and Polly Tentler.**

never appears flustered or upset, and always extends her kindness and generosity to everyone. Cheri also serves as a seamstress, creating over-the-chair organizers for classrooms, weighted blankets for students, and alterations for many Sauder staff members. Words cannot express how much she is valued and appreciated.

### Strausser Elementary Polly Tentler

Polly is the face of Strausser when parents, students, and staff enter the office. She has a calm, caring, and positive demeanor, all of which make her approachable and effective in handling any situation that comes her way. Polly has improved the lives of many with her words of encouragement, gentle smile, and respect towards others.

### Jackson Memorial Middle School Chris Davis

Students, parents and faculty members at J.M.M.S. are extremely fortunate to have the assistance of Mrs. Chris Davis. She is truly a remarkable person who enjoys walking into

our school every day. She is always willing to help out in any way and never fails to bring innovative ideas and solutions to the table. Mrs. Davis is truly an asset to our school community, and we are honored to nominate Chris as our recipient of the 2013-14 Person of Character Award.

### Jackson High School Marian Beresh

Marian Beresh helped many of our high school students navigate their way through a series of unfortunate events at our high school over a one and a half year period. She has expertise in grief counseling which she openly and willingly shared with her colleagues, taking on a personal burden to lighten the load of many. She organized several memorial events but more importantly helped students navigate the stages of grief so that they could understand and move forward in a healthy way. She is admired by her colleagues and respected by our students and parents. We sincerely congratulate her on being selected our 2013 Person of Character.

### First Band Show

Eleven-month-old Cecelia Grace, daughter of Les and Melissa (McGrew) Lehman, got her first glimpse of the Jackson Marching Band at the annual Band Show in September. CeCe's review – Well, just look at her expression. She's like the rest of us who just love those Bears!



### Alumni take the field again

The Jackson Alumni Band took the field with the current Polar Bears and JMMS band members on Friday, October 4 as part of the band's Past, Present, and Future half time show. It's our band's philosophy that once you are a marching Polar Bear, you are always a marching Polar Bear.



### Basketball coach speaks to Rotary

JHS head basketball coach, Tim Debevec, was the guest speaker at a recent Jackson Rotary Club meeting. He spoke about the individual qualities of his upcoming players and the life advice he gives to the them. "I tell them family, education, faith, health and then basketball," he said. Coach Debevec expects his players to win big in all five areas.



## 2013-2014 New Teachers

First Name	Last Name	Assignment
Debra	Archer	Guidance Counselor
Marcie	Ardman	First Grade
Cassi	Baugh	Social Studies
Craig	Brown	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math
Tyler	Carpenter	Instrumental Music
Timothy	Cavanaugh	Intervention Specialist
Jason	Converse	Industrial Arts
Catherine	Duffy	Fourth Grade
Brigitte	Fryan	Kindergarten
Lynette	Gabriele	Reading .5
Chelsea	Halter	English
Elizabeth	Justice	Third Grade
Roxanne	King	Spanish
Thomas	Lawver	Second Grade
Desiree	Lopez	Guidance Counselor
Erin	Mahaffey	First Grade
Jackie	Michael	Second Grade
Ashley	Michaels	Second Grade
Matthew	Monter	PLATO
Lisa	Price	6 <sup>th</sup> Language Arts
Timothy	Raddish	Fourth Grade
Lindsay	Reber	Fourth Grade
Cassandra	Roloff	Fifth Grade
Marie	Roth	Science
Kelsey	Royer	Second Grade
Marcella	Shafer	Intervention Specialist
Loren	Sharpe	Social Studies
Beth	Starrett	Guidance
Alyssa	Thomas	English
Jeff	Walter	Auto Tech Prep
Bonnie	Wiggins	Science
Brigid	Wolf	Fourth Grade
Alonzo	Yost	Art



JACKSON LOCAL SCHOOLS  
FOR TODAY + FOR TOMORROW + FOREVER

FOUNDATION

**WE IMAGINE** a school district free to enact lofty educational goals and innovative ideas that lift young minds to extraordinary heights.

**WE BELIEVE** outstanding communities are defined by the quality of the education they deliver to their youth.

**WE NEED** you to help us build a legacy that perpetuates Jackson's excellence and offers educational promise beyond what the school district can provide.

### OUR GOALS

The Foundation's goals begin with the establishment of permanent art programs in Jackson's four elementary schools, something the community has wanted for decades. Foundation members worked with the Jackson Curriculum Director and ArtsinStark to establish a third grade art program that is now a permanent part of the curriculum. Teachers have been trained by area artists, and students are currently receiving the benefits.

### Future goals include:

Classroom Grants • Special District Projects • Scholarships

THE FOUNDATION IS MANAGED BY AN INDEPENDENT, VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tracie Bailey	Paula Blangger	Jennifer Jones	Despina Paxos-Morgan	Ruthanne Wilkof
Katrina Barton	Susan Gardner	Paul Malesick	Marian Manns	Jim Williamson
Mark Belgya	Chris Holding	Jeff Moloney	Mark Wright	

## We need your help

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Work on Special Committees • Make a Monetary Donation

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The Jackson Local Schools Foundation is an independent, non-profit organization and is tax-exempt under 501(c)(3).

## JHS teacher is best selling textbook author



Parthena Draggett is not only a JHS Spanish and French teacher, the head of our World Languages Department, a college board consultant, and a National Board Certified teacher, but is also a best-selling textbook author. Her book, titled TEMAS, is currently the number one best-selling Spanish textbook in the U.S. The book is intended for high school advanced placement students, offering them a comprehensive, contemporary experience of the Spanish language, centered around six internationally recognized themes.

Mrs. Draggett served as lead author in association with Cole Conlin, Max Ehram, and Elizabeth Millan, all with impressive credentials in the field.

Although Mrs. Draggett receives no

royalties for her work, the publisher, Vista Higher Learning, has provided Jackson Local Schools with 45 copies of the book and six years of access to the book's extensive online components. Her students are thrilled to be studying from a book authored by their teacher.

AP students take a proficiency test that is ranked with scores from 1-5. Through Mrs. Draggett's efforts to complete the text, last year's students benefited from her research and Jackson AP scores rose significantly.

"I think I became a better teacher in the process of writing this book," Mrs. Draggett said, "and I love it that I am not only offering our students a chance at better outcomes but also offering the same to students all over the world."

## Wags 4 Warriors saves lives

JHS student groups, Community Matters, FACES, and Interact Club are making and selling all-natural dog treats to benefit Wags4Warriors, a group that provides therapy dogs for soldiers who are suffering from traumatic brain injury or PTSD. The goal is to raise \$3000 to save one dog and one veteran of the Iraq/Afghanistan wars. The funds pay for 220 hours of dog and veteran training. Nearly 70% of the dogs are rescues. To purchase or contribute, contact Christine McKay at JHS, 330-837-3501. They are one-third the way to their goal.



Student Lucy Rose with teacher Christine McKay, selling dog treats at the Pancake Breakfast.

## Would you know if your child was involved in risky business?

Jackson High School will host an interactive awareness program for parents and other adults about risky behaviors that young people may be engaging in. The program, **Hidden in Plain Sight**, includes a simulated bedroom that adults can walk through to try and pick out over 150

items which may indicate risky youth behavior. Copley and Bath Township Police, assisted by Jackson Township Police, will present this astonishing information. There will be a PowerPoint presentation followed by an open forum to ask questions. The topics of this presentation include substance abuse,

violence, eating disorders, juvenile crime, technology, risky games, and more. The program will be held January 22 at Jackson High School. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. to preview the bedroom scene. The presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. Students are NOT permitted to attend.

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**Teamwork Towers**

Jenna Tornabene's third grade students at Amherst were asked to build the tallest tower they could, using only uncooked spaghetti and marshmallows. The goal of the lesson was to work together, build communication skills, and demonstrate teamwork.



**Experimenting with nature**

The fourth grade students at Amherst have been learning about weathering, erosion, and deposition. JMMS science teacher, Dave Weisburn helped students conduct experiments on the ways that slow and fast processes of weathering and erosion change our earth's surface.



**First grade gets fit**

The first grade classes at Amherst invited the Jackson YMCA to school on a Friday in September. For the prior six weeks, they had been reading books and learning about healthy living as part of the first grade common core standards. The staff from the YMCA talked to the students about the importance of exercise and staying fit and healthy, then all first grade students participated in exercise activities including an obstacle course that spread over the entire gymnasium.



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### Worms create nutrient-rich soil

Lake Cable students in Mr. Stanley's science class observed composting worms as part of their Nature's Recyclers unit. Worms eat food scraps, which become compost as they pass through the worm's body. This compost can then be used to grow plants. vermicompost, as it is called, is good for plants because nutrient-rich fruit and vegetable scraps become nutrient-rich compost.



### First Grade Fitness Day

After weeks of reading about being fit and healthy, all Lake Cable first graders went outside to practice what they learned. They participated in several stations including hula hoops, jumping rope, basketball, swinging, monkey bars, throwing balls, and running and skipping through obstacles. It was a fun day topped off with a healthy apple snack.



### Mrs. Geisberger's POLAR Time and Mrs. Shimek's math practice have students excited to learn



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## CALL ME MAYBE



Please update your phone directory and speed dials with Lake Cable Elementary's new phone number: **330-834-4673**. Fax: 330-834-4528. Why the change?

We have identified a way to save tax dollars and increase efficiency by adding Lake Cable Elementary to the district's bundled phone lines. This was not technically possible before now. The old number will continue to work temporarily while the transition takes place, but will soon be permanently disconnected.

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## Jackson Branch Library Programs

Check out the possibilities at:  
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On the Web site, you can  
sort the many activities  
by branch location, type  
of activity, and age-  
appropriateness.

## Sauder TV Stars

Anna and Ava Wright and Hannah and Hayden Kemper are starring as Bus Stop Forecast Kids on Channel 3 weather segments. As the meteorologist talks about the day's outlook, our students appear, dressed appropriately for the weather predictions. The children traveled to the news studio to pre-tape the segments. They wore back-to-school attire for one shot, sporting backpacks and layered September styles. Then, Anna and Ava broke out the yard work look, using rakes and leaves as props. Another take had Hannah and Hayden sporting their Browns gear. Our little weather assistants made their television debut on Labor Day with their spots running alternatively with other weather kids through mid-November.



Channel 3 staffer Jon Hageali lines up the kids for their first take. From left: Hayden Kemper, Anna Wright, Hannah Kemper, and Ava Wright.



## Traveling back in time at Jackson's One Room School House

While studying how communities change over time, Sauder third grade students visited Jackson Center School (the one room school house located on Fulton Drive, just west of Jackson High School).

Mrs. Mary Aaby, from the Jackson Township Historical Society, gave students a taste of what it was like to be a student long ago. Instead of computers, students used hand-held chalk boards. All grade levels studied together in

one room. The teacher arrived early to warm the school by making a fire in the pot-belly stove. The teacher also acted as custodian, cleaning the school. There were no indoor restrooms and no school buses. Students walked to school or piled into the back of a farmer's pick-up truck for a ride to school.

The one room school is owned and operated by the Jackson Township Historical Society. The society relies on

volunteers, to help catalog documents, present programs, and write articles for the newsletter. They also welcome donations of artifacts related to Jackson Township history including photographs, yearbooks, sports programs, uniforms and other items.

To become a member or get involved, contact Greg Weekley at 330-494-2470 or Doris Wertz at 330-832-6905.

## So proud of our tie-dying skill

Mrs. Bly's Sauder second graders learned to tie-dye. Look at the colorful and artistic shirts they made for Halloween.

Pictured from left are: Megan Molnar, Kaelyn Smith, Luke Dysart, and Devin Werstler.



## Making new friends at school

Strausser second graders have a sports theme. Teachers use the theme to remind students to be team players because working together increases every second grader's chance for success. At the end of the first week of school each student created five duplicate rookie trading cards. They drew self-portraits on the front and wrote stats about themselves on the back (such as name, siblings, hobbies, future plans). The students traded their cards with classmates from the other second grade classrooms. "It was a great way to build unity within second grade, and the students had a ball," said teacher Jackie Michael, adding, "We are looking forward to an amazing year here at Strausser! Go Bears."



Did You Know?

Our students and staff collect funds and donate their own funds at holiday time to provide entire Thanksgiving and Christmas meals, gifts, and decorated trees for more than 60 families.

### Jackson seeks to serve children with disabilities

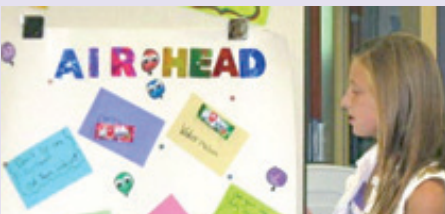
Within the intent of the federal statutes (Rehabilitation Act of 1973-section 504 and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act IDEA-public law 105-17), the Jackson Local School District continues its effort to locate and identify children with disabilities from birth through age 21. Children with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

### Jackson seeks federal grants for special education

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

## Tales of our fourth grade entrepreneurs

After reading *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*, Strausser fourth grade students in Mrs. Mashchak and Mrs. Agona's rooms studied different types of commercials. Students created an imaginary product and develop a commercial for it. Some students videotaped their presentations while others presented live to the class.



## Basketball Jones makes Strausser's day

Strausser students recently had the privilege of meeting Jim 'Basketball' Jones. Between basketball tricks galore, he communicated messages about bullying, being patient listeners, looking for the good in others, and accepting differences. Mr. Jones' performance also enhanced the school wide Strausser attitude of being Bucket Fillers and following the FISH Philosophy of Being There, Making Their Day, Choosing Your Attitude and Playing Everyday.



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Did You Know?

The Jackson Polar Bears own 175 Federal League titles and have won the Federal League All Sports Trophy 12 times – more times than any other Federal League school. Our next closest competitor is Hoover with 10 wins, followed by Perry with 6 and GlenOak with 1.

There are approximately 900 athletes at JHS. 250 of them have a 4.0 GPA.

Annually, our athletes participate in 850 contests with 153 different schools.

### LOOK WHO'S TWEETING

For Polar Bear fans who are interested in getting updated scores of JHS athletic events, follow Jackson High School Athletic Director Terry Peterson on Twitter @PolarBearAD.



## Cheer Champs

The Jackson High School Cheerleaders attended UCA (Universal Cheerleaders Association) Cheerleading Camp at Great Wolf Lodge in Sandusky and won first place in seven categories, including the important categories of Home Pom Dance Routine and Fight Song. The following girls were also named UCA All Americans. From left: Mikayla Aowad, Jacy Vassas, Sydney Stethem, Alaysha Matronia, Sophia Sponseller, Kylie Brzycki, Sarah Parish, and Hannah Bryan. They were first nominated to try out and then selected by members of UCA as All Americans to bear the title and have the opportunity to participate in various parades around the world as representatives of UCA All Americans. JHS English teacher Alyssa Thomas coaches the team.



### Our athletes practice hard

For example, cross-country team members ran a collective 45,000 miles this summer and will run about 83,000 miles during the school year. (128,000 total). That's like sending one person running in a straight line around the northern hemisphere from Jackson to San Francisco, continuing on to Beijing, then to Paris and back home to Jackson.....7 times.



# JHS Fall Sports Update

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

**Girls' Golf** completed the Federal League season unbeaten and won both the pre-season and post-season Federal League tournaments to take the Federal League overall championship. The Lady Bears were also Sectional champions, District runners-up and finish second in the state at the Division 1 Girls' Golf State Championships. The team has placed among the top three in the state in the past four consecutive years.

**Boys' Golf** completed the season with a 5-1 regular season league record, finished 4th in both pre and post season League tournaments and 4th overall in the Federal League.

**Girls' Tennis** completed the season with an overall record of 17-5 and 5-1 in the Federal League. They also finished 2nd in the Federal League tournament to finish 2nd overall in the league and advanced to the Regional semi-finals of the Ohio Coaches' Association Tournament.

**Boys' Cross Country** finished in 4th place in the Federal League meet and 4th place in the Division 1 NE District meet, qualifying them to the Regional meet for the 4th consecutive season.

**Girls' Cross Country** finished in 4th place in the Federal League meet and 2nd place in the Division 1 NE District meet, qualifying them to the Regional meet for the 20th consecutive season.

**Boys' Soccer** currently has a 14-2-2 overall record and finished the League season with a perfect 6-0 record to become Federal League champions.

The Bears won the Sectionals and have advanced to the District championship match.

**Girls' Soccer** currently has a 13-4-1 overall record and 4-1-1 record in the Federal League to finish 2nd. The Lady Bears won the Sectional tournament and have advanced to the District championship match.

**Volleyball** currently has a record of 23-3 and finished the Federal League season with a perfect 12-0 record. The Lady Bears are also Sectional and District champions and have qualified for the Division 1 NE Regional tournament for the 4th consecutive year.

**Football** currently owns a 5-3 overall record and 3-1 record in the League with 2 regular season games remaining. The Bears are currently ranked 15th in Division 1, Region 1. The top 16 teams in each region qualify for the state playoffs.



## 100 and 400 Career Victories

Jeff Walck, Jackson High School's head volleyball coach, was presented with a plaque on senior recognition night to mark two of his recent coaching milestones. Coach Walck reached his 400th career win on September 10, 2013 in the game against Hoover. He earned his 100th career Jackson victory on September 7, 2013 in the game against Lakeview.

# What in the world we did on our summer vacation

Jackson students are becoming globally proficient. There were four student cultural exchange trips over the summer. For the fifth year, Jackson staff and families in our community opened their homes for nine summer days to 26 Chinese students and two chaperones from Jiaozhou #1 High School as part of our ongoing effort to help our students become more globally proficient. Prior to their arrival in Jackson, the Chinese students visited Boston (and the campuses of Harvard, MIT, and Yale), New York City, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and Arcadia University. While in Jackson, they toured our high school, visited Kelley's Island, attended a cookout and bonfire at Willowdale Lake, and saw the Timken Hall of Fame Grand Parade. In addition, many of the host families treated their guests to local events and attractions such as the Canton Food Tour, an Indians game, Easton Village and Cedar Point to increase their cultural exposure. One Chinese student was featured in the Massillon Independent commenting on how much she liked the food at the Ribs Burn-off.

Eight students (Michael Markoff, John Mickley, Hannah Parish, Sarah Parish, Grace Taylor, Greta Taylor, Christina Grubb, and Samantha Sampson) traveled with their chaperone, JHS Assistant Principal Jeff Kracker to Jiaozhou #1 High School in China for two weeks of similar cultural exchange. They visited Beijing and Xi'an, China's last two remaining ancient cities with over 3,000 years of history, left untouched during the Cultural Revolution,

Four students (Emily Cao, Caleb Ternent, Taylor Rhorig, Ellen Baker) traveled to Beijing and Henan Province, China with JHS teacher Kathryn Stone and a group of 500 students/chaperones from across the USA for a three-week immersion in Mandarin martial arts at the Shaolin Wushu Vocational School.

Seven Jackson students (Cameron Emily, Nic Joy, Emily Rozmajzl, Jonathan McCormick, Lindsey Zinno, Taylor Weirtz, and Vinnie Yacono) spent three weeks in Costa Rica with our sister school families. While there, students zip lined, went to a volcano, white water rafted, went to beaches, spent time in schools, all while immersing themselves in the language and culture. Students from those families have traveled to Jackson, Smithville, and East Canton three times in the past. This was our first trip to visit them. Our tico friends and their teacher, Zulma Clavijo, will return to Jackson on December 26 for three weeks.

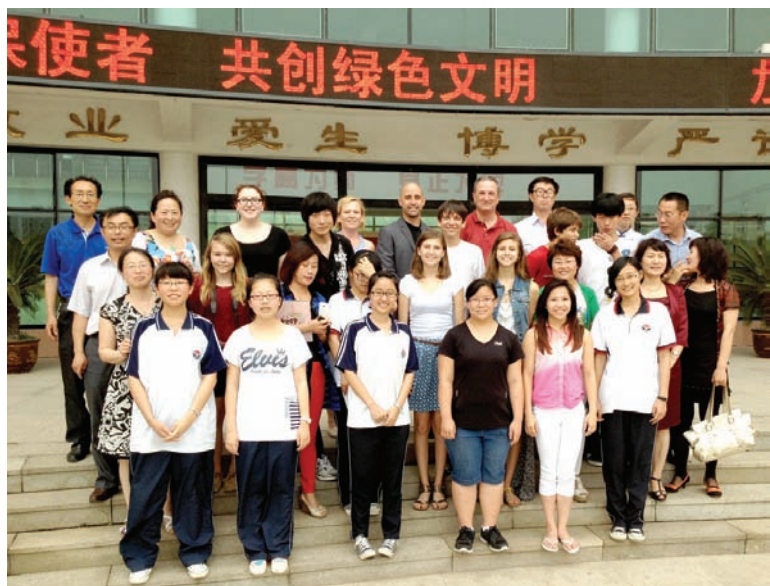
And it doesn't stop there. Upcoming trips are planned for Spain, England, and Puerto Rico. In addition, the Jackson Band will perform in China over spring break.



Did You Know?

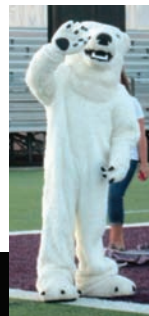
We have a new Jackson Academy for Global Studies (JAGS) for students interested in becoming more globally proficient in multiple languages, cultures, community service, leadership and worldwide business.

JAGS teachers and some students have traveled 225,000 miles, circling the globe nine times.



# FALL SPORTS BONFIRE

A community bonfire kicked off this year's fall athletic games. All fall sports, the cheerleaders and the marching band were represented and honored. There was food, games, prizes, and much enthusiasm as the community gathered to cheer the students on to a successful and satisfying season. **Photos by JMMS 7th grader, Alyssa Alexsonshk.**



## BAND Continued from page 1

school monies are allotted for this endeavour. All funds raised are tax deductible and will be divided equally among all band students going to China. If you would like to help, please see sidebar to the right of this article.

### The band's performance history:

- 1982 and 1998** Tournament of Roses
- 1999** Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City
- 1987 and 1991** Orange Bowl Parades
- 1989, 1993 and 2007** Fiesta Bowl Parades
- 1987, 1991, 1995** Walt Disney World
- 1998** Disneyland in California
- 2002** Gator Bowl Parade and Halftime Performance in Jacksonville, Florida.
- 2003** They performed a memorial concert at the USS Missouri in Hawaii and presented a wreath at the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor. The band also performed in the Waikiki Holiday Parade in Honolulu on the same trip.
- 2005** Macy's Holiday Parade at Universal Studios in Florida
- 2007** Fiesta Bowl Parade in Phoenix, Arizona



- 2010** Halftime show of the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans
- 2011** Walt Disney World for their Thanksgiving Parade of Bands.
- Annually** Professional Football Hall of Fame Festival Parade in Canton
- 2012** Halftime show for the Hall of Fame game at Fawcett Stadium
- 2013** Halftime show for the Hall of Fame game 50th anniversary at Fawcett Stadium

### NO SCHOOL FUNDS WILL BE USED FOR CHINA TRIP

Students are earning their way to China through various fundraisers. If you would like to help, donations are being accepted by the Jackson Band Boosters at Jackson High School, 7600 Fulton Dr. NW, Massillon, OH 44646. Monies received are tax deductible and equally shared by the students. Thanks you, as always, for your continued and generous support of our hard-working students.

## WALKING THE TALK

National Honor Society students volunteered at the Walk to Cure Diabetes event held recently at Kent State, Stark campus. They checked in teams, painted faces, painted signs, directed traffic, handed out water, monitored the big slide, and supported the walkers.



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