



Jefferson Township High School Newsletter

# Jefferson Pride

## Pygmalion Rocks at JTHS! National Honor Society Inductions Held!

**JTHS Happenings:**

- The Music Lecture Series "The American Broadway Musical II" was held in November by Jim Wynne.
- Habitat for Humanity was held for several more students in the month of November.
- Our third Mini-College Fair was held at JTHS and was very well attended.
- The auditorium lighting and sound upgrades went into effect for the Fall Drama of Pygmalion.
- Teacher's Convention was held November 10 & 11
- 4 Select students were awarded their senior class ring as part of Herf Jones Ring Donation Project.

The students of JTHS should be very proud about their performance in the George Bernard Shaw play *Pygmalion*. The play opened with a matinee showing to local senior citizens in the community. The play then ran two more evening shows on consecutive nights. The content in the play was extremely challenging and many of our students spent months memorizing and rehearsing their lines. I would like to commend the entire cast and crew on putting together an outstanding performance.

The National Honor Society held its annual induction ceremony in November. With 56 new inductees, this prestigious fraternity

grew with highly qualified students. The students selected for this prestigious fraternity, have the highest academic standards and grade point averages. They are pillars in the community who focus on community service first and then put their own needs second. As part of the induction each student has to demonstrate the leadership that they are exhibiting as part of their character traits.

The evening was very well attended, and each student was able to light the candles as part of their induction.

Kudos to all our National Honor Society Members!!!



Cast of *Pygmalion*



## Science Connections

The various courses in the science department are working on a wide array of topics at this time. Walking into any science classroom will allow you to observe investigations, demonstrations and students hard at work exploring phenomena. Students in Mrs. Hopper's AP Biology class are finishing up a unit on cellular transport and creating their own investigations to answer research questions on diffusion, while students in Mr. Szwartz's Conceptual

Chemistry class are making observations following various demonstrations and building explanations for physical and chemical changes thereafter. These two snippets illustrate the shifts taking place in all science courses as we move away from science only as a body of knowledge and re-emphasize science as a way of thinking and doing.

-Students are making progress arguing from evidence and con-

structing explanations for phenomena in all science classes.

-Chemistry students got to witness the violent reaction of sodium metal with water first hand (outside). It went off with a "bang".

-Academy students had a successful trip to the Kean University Highlands Campus where they did a biodiversity sampling under the guidance of Kean professor



Academy of Environmental Studies Students working with Kean University at Mt. Paul!

## World Language, ESL and Music Connection



Service Night!!!

Students in Spanish 2 Honors are working on using the imperfect tense to talk about their childhood and things that they were in the habit of doing on vacations.

Students in Spanish 1 CP are working on telling time in Spanish.

Spanish 2 CP and Spanish 1 CP studied the Hispanic holiday Día de los Muertos and many of the symbols associated with the holiday.

Currently the students are completing a brief unit on the history

of Fidel Castro in Cuba and the Cuban immigrant experience.

The Jefferson Township Wind Ensemble performed on November 5 at the municipal complex as part of the Veteran's Day ceremony. This touching ceremony pays tribute to veterans who have sacrificed so much for us. We are honored to have taken part in the ceremony.



## Athletics Connection



Boys Senior Soccer Players and Parents!

Our Fall Athletic Season has officially concluded and I want to thank all our athletes and coaches for their dedication and commitment to Jefferson Athletics. We had a very competitive and successful Fall season and many of our athletes were rewarded for their hard work by being named to various All Conference teams.

Our winter sports seasons are officially underway. There are many sports teams our students can participate in including the following:

- Bowling (Coed)
- Boys' and Girls' Basketball
- Boys' and Girls' Indoor Track
- Boys' and Girls' Skiing

- Boys' and Girls' Swimming
- Competition Cheerleading
- Ice Hockey (Coed)
- Wrestling

We are looking for a very competitive and successful winter season, so come out and support our athletes. Our Winter Pep Rally is scheduled for December

## Instructional Technology Connections

Teachers are preparing for Hour of Code for December 5th through the 9th. Many classes will incorporate coding into the curriculum next week. The PC Lab reservation for the high school computers is being utilized on a daily basis. The past several weeks have been reserved throughout the language arts classes. This month the

teachers and students utilized Turnitin and Read and Write programs for different projects and activities.

The high school is using Google Classroom to post assignments and information. Google Classroom is allowing for more collaboration among the students. The teachers are able to give real time feedback to the

students on different assignments. Several social studies courses are using Glogster to create projects. Mrs. Kozlowski is using Wordle in her classes. The computers are being used on a daily bases throughout the classes. Mrs. Brown's students come in each day and grab a computer to access the online textbook. Mrs. Towers is

## Math and Other Connections

Mathematics Department is in the process of analyzing Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II 2016 PARCC results to identify areas of weaknesses and strengths. Using PARCC analysis, we identify the Evidence Statement for each question on the test and discuss the knowledge and skills that the task elicits from students. Consequently, we discuss the instructional practices used in the classroom and



Our video production crew at work!

## Fine and Studio Art, Related Arts & Social Studies

Our AP Human Geography, Sociology, and Current Issues students received a presentations from Maasai Chief Joseph from Kenya. He introduced the students to his wife and a warrior from his tribe. The students learned about the culture and their way of life in Africa. Together with student council, the social studies classes will fund

raise to build a kitchen for a school in Kenya for the Maasai



tribe.



Chief Joseph Maasai from Kenya!

## Language Arts & Media Connections

As Marking Period 1 comes to an end, the JTHS ELA Department has shifted into new literature titles including but not limited to *The Body*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Macbeth*, and *The Stranger*. Students are exploring themes such as self reliance, friendship, altruism, empathy, appreciation for nature, loyalty, trustworthiness, and honor. Beyond analyzing the literature, students are challenged to look across texts and digital media sources, including movies to make connections and develop a deeper understanding of the texts. The JTHS ELA Department continues to utilize

Google Classroom to facilitate learning. This has been especially successful for student collaboration and document sharing of written work. Finally, we would like to commend Miss Tinston, Mrs. Cantwell, the cast and crew on a successful fall drama *Pygmalion*.

The English 10 Honor students conducted the "Living With The Letter Assignment" to enhance their understanding of *The Scarlet Letter*. Students chose letters that represented self-perceived vices and wore their letter around their necks and journaled about their experience.



This activity was a tremendous learning experience for our student body in language arts.

JTHS Debate Team

First place at the Sussex County Vo-Tech

*Ryan Schmidt Displays Student Success at JTHS!*

*Article By: Amanda Ventre, Junior Student*

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**Ryan Schmidt: Student Success Story!**

**Were on the web! Visit us at  
[www.jefftwp.org](http://www.jefftwp.org), follow us on  
Twitter @jthsfalcons, & like us**

*Ryan Schmidt is a current junior at JTHS and is the president of our school's Stand Up to Cancer club. The club started in 2015 and this year, Schmidt rose to the presidential position and has made the club more successful than ever before. The size of the club has doubled due strongly to the amount of time and effort Schmidt puts into it by spreading more awareness to the community.*

*This year, the club has already raised over \$2,000 through donations at our school's sporting events. Schmidt organized a pink-out football game on October 7<sup>th</sup>, where the club raised around \$1,400. Enough money has been raised over the course of this school year for some club members to attend Morristown Hospital in December, which has been Schmidt's goal since the club began. He plans to have members stand in the lobby of the hospital, singing Christmas carols in order to spread holiday cheer to the patients as well as their families. On November 19<sup>th</sup>, Schmidt organized for members to collect change outside of our town's local food stores. The \$500 raised from this event went directly to the Sparta Cancer Center.*

*You can help out the Stand Up to Cancer club and their cause today by purchasing a cancer awareness bracelet from any current member for \$2.*

**Special Education Connection**

English 10

Students in Ms. Seader's English class created a Utopian society where they composed speeches to persuade citizens to join, posters to advertise, maps to show points of interest, and gave a speech (as a president) to their peers.

Transition Ed

The Transition class participated in two college tours: Berkeley College and County College of Morris. Students were exploring different career options and looking at the best

fit for their needs and interests. They met with admissions, students at the campus, professors, etc. They have also had Lincoln Tech come in to do a presentation. The classes (Transition and Career Ed) still have Team Building Thursdays to help students work together effectively as a team, to increase motivation, and promote cooperation.

Mrs. Vanderbok's Class

During the Election, students held a mock vote for President, choosing between Superman, Batman and Wonder Woman. They asked one hundred students and faculty mem-

bers and found that Superman was the number one choice, beating Batman by only four votes. They also did a blind taste test on brands of chocolate chip cookies.

The class was recently given all the unclaimed clothes from the Boy's locker room. They sorted the clothes and took the majority of them to the Laundromat to wash and fold. From there, they brought the clothes to the thrift store to be sold.